CENTER FOR GLOBAL HEALTH
EXTRAMURAL RESEARCH PROGRAM OFFICE

RFA-GH-23-001 - Enhancing Capacity for Strategic and Applied Research Activities in Support of Control and Elimination of Neglected Tropical Diseases

Amendment 1: Q&A

21-December-2022

1. Q. - The RFA requires applicants to attach letters of support from relevant Ministries of Health (MoH). Can the prime applicant use its consortium members to obtain this letter from a country where the prime has no presence?

   *In the 'Collaboration/Partnerships' section of 'Part 2. Approach', the Notice of Funding Opportunity states that, "*Applications are required to include a letter of support from the Ministry of Health or NTD programs (whichever is applicable) in countries in which they propose to work to verify previous and ongoing collaborations. Documentation of any Memoranda of Understanding/Memoranda of Agreement (MOU/MOA) should also be included in the appendix to the application*."*

   The prime applicant may use its consortium members to obtain letters from countries where the prime has no presence.

2. Q. - The RFA states that priority countries for year 1 include Liberia, Benin, Tanzania, Gabon, Ghana. Will CDC give the same weight to applications covering countries outside these?

   *Under 'Funding Preferences' in 'Part 4. Review and Selection Process' of 'Section V. Application Review Information', the Notice of Funding Opportunity states, in part, that "*While activities in all NTD-endemic countries in sub-Saharan Africa will be considered, activities that support onchocerciasis control in Benin, Ghana, Tanzania, Liberia and/or Gabon in the first year will be prioritized*".*

   Although applicants may propose working in countries outside of the listed priority countries, applications that cover the countries specified for year 1 activities will be prioritized for funding.

3. Q. - Will CDC give preference for applications that cover a larger geographic region and more diseases compared to an application covering only one disease?

   CDC will give preference to applications that propose work that meet the specified year 1 geographic priorities (i.e., Liberia, Benin, Tanzania, Gabon, and Ghana) and objective priorities (i.e., the 1st three bolded priorities). Onchocerciasis is specifically mentioned in all the bolded objectives, so projects that include onchocerciasis should be included in the application. Applicants with the ability to work in larger geographic areas and work on multiple diseases will be viewed more favorably, but only if they also

demonstrate their capacity to do this. However, this capacity would not be prioritized over the ability to address the specified geographic and year 1 priorities.