

Call for expressions of interest: accelerating national wasting treatment reform

Background

The Eleanor Crook Foundation (ECF) was founded in 1997 with a single goal: to eradicate global malnutrition. The Foundation invests in research that proves what methods work, policy analysis to drive systems reform, and advocacy that makes the case for urgent action to address this global crisis. Through this research, policy and advocacy, ECF aspires to support national and subnational governments to lead the scale up of high-impact and cost-effective nutrition interventions including (but not limited to) the “Power 4” interventions: wasting treatment, prenatal vitamins, vitamin A supplementation, and breastfeeding support.

ECF has invested in various projects aiming to increase global coverage of wasting treatment and improve the effectiveness of wasting treatment programs. ECF funds related activities including evidence generation on improved approaches to wasting, global guidance development, and the enabling environment for wasting treatment scale-up. ECF believes that new evidence and recent WHO guidance present opportunities to scale-up wasting treatment cost-effectively. [ECF was encouraged to see](#) CHW-led wasting treatment, guidance on high-risk, moderate wasting treatment, focus on under-six month infant care, and an opening for reduced dosage in the WHO guidelines, creating an opportunity to improve programs and reach more children with life saving treatment.

Since the guideline publication, ECF has heard great interest from government stakeholders interested in saving more lives through improved approaches to wasting treatment, while also hearing that progress will only happen when these approaches have been contextualized and incorporated into national policies, guidelines and strategies. Further, additional support may be needed for governments to take advantage of these opportunities in a timely manner.

Given the promise of the improved approaches and in light of new global guidance from WHO, the Eleanor Crook Foundation is interested in funding efforts to accelerate uptake of improved approaches into national policies.

Call for expressions of interest

The Foundation recognizes that designing a full proposal for policy support is challenging and time- and resource-intensive. For this reason, we are seeking brief expressions of interest from interested partners at this time for the first stage of the process. The Foundation anticipates working directly with select partners to develop fuller proposals, but may choose an alternative route if multiple partners express interest in working to support the same national government.

The expected outcome of a successful grant in a given country is: the national wasting treatment policy is updated to reflect new improved approaches to wasting treatment (including new WHO guidance), and the national system is prepared for rollout.

Structure of expression of interest

Please submit an expression of interest of no more than 1200 words, covering the following aspects:

- Country context
 - Status of national wasting treatment guidelines, policies, strategies, and plans
 - How wasting treatment is currently delivered, including any simplified/improved approaches already tested/implemented in country (what, where, when, by whom)
 - Roles of key institutions in funding and delivering wasting treatment
- Proposed activities to accelerate policy uptake of improved approaches. These should include (but are not limited to) the following:
 - Process by which policies¹ on wasting are updated
 - Process of preparing national system rollout
 - Activities a partner could implement to accelerate this process
 - Which improved approaches should be prioritized for inclusion in policies by key national stakeholders
 - Describe how this proposed scope of work would align with national priorities and put the national government in the “driver’s seat”
- Capacity to conduct work [*no more than 200 words*]
 - Experience of institution or team conducting similar support for policy changes in nutrition or health
- High level budget envelope and timeline required for the work [*exempt from word count*]
 - Total budget range anticipated (e.g. \$75k-\$125k, \$150k-\$200k, etc).
 - Timeline anticipated and any relevant milestones

Additional information

- Eligible countries for this EOI are limited to those included in a table below. EOIs for other countries are unlikely to be successful on this call, but will be reviewed if submitted.
- At a minimum, proposed activities should focus on improvements in wasting treatment. Other aspects including other components of the new guidelines can also be included.
- Each expression of interest should be limited to a single country. However, institutions and individuals are eligible to participate in more than one expression of interest.
- Successful candidates should demonstrate:
 - strong technical knowledge of wasting treatment
 - strong relationship with the national government and other key stakeholders
 - Approaches to support and empower national governments
- The current call is for projects lasting 12 months or fewer, specifically to accelerate the policy uptake of improved approaches into national policies for wasting treatment. In some cases, additional funding to support implementation of these improved approaches may be available as a follow-on grant, but this is not guaranteed at this time.
- ECF anticipates final contractual arrangements to take the form of a standard restricted grant, with an additional performance related bonus.
- While not required in the initial EOIs, the subsequent proposals will need to include:

¹ Including subnational policy changes, if applicable

- A letter of endorsement from the relevant duty holder in the partner government, endorsing the request for support
- Clear articulation of how proposed activities will complement/expedite any other ongoing efforts for guideline updates (including those led by WHO or UNICEF in some countries)

Submission instructions

Please send your expression of interest to info@eleanorcrookfoundation.org with the subject line “EOI: Accelerating national wastewater treatment reform”, by end of day Friday September 29th.

Please feel free to submit any clarifying questions you may have about this work to info@eleanorcrookfoundation.org by end of day on Friday September 15th. Any questions submitted by Friday September 15th will have responses no later than Tuesday September 19th. Questions submitted earlier will be responded to on a rolling basis. Questions submitted after Friday September 15th may or may not be responded to in time to inform an EOI submission.

At ECF’s discretion, answers to submitted questions may be shared publicly in a document hyperlinked [here](#). It is recommended to check this link before submitting a question.

Table of eligible countries

Afghanistan	Congo, Rep.	Madagascar	Somalia
Angola	Cote d'Ivoire	Malawi	South Sudan
Bangladesh	Djibouti	Malaysia	Sri Lanka
Benin	Egypt, Arab Rep.	Mali	Sudan
Bhutan	Eritrea	Mauritania	Syrian Arab Republic
Botswana	Ethiopia	Mozambique	Tajikistan
Burkina Faso	Gambia, The	Myanmar	Tanzania
Burundi	Guinea	Niger	Timor-Leste
Cabo Verde	Guinea-Bissau	Nigeria	Togo
Cambodia	Haiti	Pakistan	Uganda
Central African Rep.	Indonesia	Papua New Guinea	Yemen, Rep.
Chad	Kenya	Philippines	
Comoros	Lao PDR	Sierra Leone	
Congo, Dem. Rep.	Libya	Solomon Islands	