

IHP+ Country Grants Guidance Note - Updated August 2013

Background & Purpose

The International Health Partnership (IHP+) seeks to achieve better health results by mobilizing donor countries and other development partners around a single country-led national health plan, guided by the principles of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (2005), the Accra Agenda for Action (2008), and the Busan Partnership Agreement (2011). Launched in September 2007, the IHP+ aims to better harmonize donor funding commitments, and improve the way international agencies, donors and developing countries work together to develop and implement the national health plan.

To help catalyse movement on the aid effectiveness agenda, IHP+ country grants are flexible funds to improve coordination and support the development and implementation of national strategies. They are meant to fund locally discussed and jointly agreed activities, in support of assessing, developing, implementing monitoring and evaluation of the national health plan. This guidance note incorporates recommendations from a May 2009 review of country grants and subsequent discussions of the core team based on experience with country grants from 2011 to 2013.

Scope of Activities

IHP+ country grants can be used for mutually-agreed activities that are designed to:

- (i) improve coordination across all health partners in country, and/or
- (ii) support the process of developing, implementing, monitoring and evaluation of national health strategies and plans.

IHP+ funds cannot be used on salaries.

Funds Available

Requests for grants ranging from USD50,000 to USD100,000 will be considered, with some additional funds possibly available, based on identified needs and (grant) performance.

Preparation of Grant Proposals

Country grant activities should be defined and approved by the existing country-level coordination mechanism, which normally includes representatives of governments, development partners and civil society.. Facilitation of information flows between country level and the IHP+ core team is provided by WHO and the World Bank.

Grant proposals should be a brief summary (e.g. 2 pages) of the following major elements:

- 1. Background information** - short description of the composition of the coordination mechanism, current coordination and planning processes, communication mechanisms etc.
- 2. Proposal objectives** - statements outlining what the country aims to achieve in relation to processes of effective development cooperation, including planning, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of national health plan.
- 3. Proposed activities** to meet objectives - short description of broad activities and how they relate to the proposal objectives, emphasizing in particular the expected

deliverables, proposed timing, and how these contribute to the overall country processes

4. **Budget** - table outlining requested funds summarized against broad activities and against a rough timetable
5. **Monitoring implementation** - short description of how activities will be monitored

Grant Submission, Management & Reporting

The grant management process is flexible and light. Basic ingredients are the following:

- The existing country team / equivalent partner coordination mechanism submits the proposal in English or French to the IHP+ Core Team (contact details below).
- The IHP+ Core Team reviews proposals and provides a decision (or any request for modification/clarification) within 5 business days.
- The IHP+ Core Team releases a first instalment of funds to the WHO country office, which holds the funds on behalf of IHP+ at country level.
- Any agreed future instalments are released when a request, together with a brief report on implementation of the first instalment, is agreed by the country team and sent to the IHP+ Core Team.
- The IHP+ Core Team will contact countries for brief progress reports every six months if no update has been received, and will put together a short synthesis report on all country grants (technical and financial) at the end of each year, as part of the IHP+ Annual Core Team Report.

To submit a proposal or to request clarification, please contact the IHP+ Core Team:

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