Breaking through stagnation: testing innovations in engaging communities in increasing immunisation coverage

Request for expressions of interest from researchers to participate in a consultative workshop in London, 9-10 April 2015

Issue date: 20 January 2015
Deadline: 23:59 GMT, 23 February 2015

1. Background

The International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie)’s new programme, Breaking through stagnation: testing innovations in engaging communities in increasing immunisation coverage, will generate policy-relevant evidence on initiatives that engage communities in innovative ways to increase immunisation coverage.

This is a call for expressions of interest (EOI) from researchers to participate in a consultative workshop for shaping the programme. A key objective of the consultative workshop is to bring together researchers and implementers for a possible partnership to submit an evaluation proposal for a grant under this programme.

The workshop will include consultation on the draft Request for Proposals (RFP), presentations of innovative programmes, and an opportunity for researchers to identify implementing agencies with whom they may submit an evaluation proposal. Researchers may submit an expression of interest to attend the workshop either individually or in collaboration with an implementing agency.

Attendance at the consultative workshop is not mandatory for an applicant to submit a proposal for evaluating a pilot or other programme. For more information on eligibility criteria for researchers, please see section 5 below.

2. About Breaking through stagnation: testing innovations in engaging communities in increasing immunisation coverage

The RFP for the Breaking through stagnation: testing innovations in engaging communities in increasing immunisation coverage programme will be launched in mid- April, 2015.
The programme will fund studies of new and existing approaches to community engagement for expanding immunisation coverage. The focus of evaluations will be on programmes in Gavi-eligible countries with low or stagnating immunisation rates. A list of priority countries may be indicated in the RFP.

The programme will fund two types of evaluations

- Formative evaluations of pilot programmes to test innovative approaches in engaging communities that may lead to increased immunisation coverage. If initial evidence is promising, these programmes will also be subject to an impact evaluation; and
- Rapid or full impact evaluations of new and existing programmes that use innovative approaches to engage communities in helping increase immunisation coverage.

3ie anticipates awarding 6-8 grants for these evaluations.

3. Geographic focus of the programme

The focus of this window is on Gavi-eligible countries:

- Afghanistan
- Bangladesh
- Benin
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Comoros
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Cote d’Ivoire
- Djibouti
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Gambia
- Ghana
- Guinea
- Guinea Bissau
- Haiti
- India
- Kenya
- Korea, DPR
- Kyrgyz Republic
- Lao PDR
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Mozambique
- Myanmar
- Nepal
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Pakistan
- Rwanda
- Senegal
- Sierra Leone
- Solomon Islands
- Somalia
- Republic of Sudan
- South Sudan
- Tajikistan
- Tanzania
- Togo
- Uganda
- Vietnam
- Yemen
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

A subset of priority countries may be listed in the RFP.

4. The consultative workshop

There are three objectives of the consultative workshop:

- Raising awareness amongst key stakeholders of the planned programme of studies for Breaking through stagnation: testing innovations in engaging communities in increasing immunisation programme
- Consultation for draft RFP
• Bringing together implementing agencies with research teams

The consultative workshop will be an opportunity for implementing agencies to identify and link up with researchers who can design and evaluate their programmes.

**The consultative workshop will take place in London, UK on 9-10 April 2015.**

The draft agenda for the consultative workshop is available here.

5. **Eligibility**

To be eligible to attend this workshop, a researcher should have experience working in immunisation or community engagement approaches in health or other sectors and preferably direct experience with conducting impact evaluations.

Researchers may submit an EOI to attend this workshop individually, or jointly with an implementing agency. In such cases, each must meet the respective eligibility criteria set out in this section and in the [Request for expression of interest from implementing agencies](#).

6. **Costs covered**

3ie will provide a US$ 500 honorarium to a researcher for his or her contributions to the two-day workshop. 3ie will also cover travel-related costs for all selected researchers, which includes economy class return air or train fare from their home country, meals, and hotel accommodation for the duration of the meeting, according to a maximum allowance set by 3ie. Any other expenses are the responsibility of selected researchers.

Successful applicants will be required to attend the entire two-day consultative workshop. They are expected to explore possible partnerships with immunisation programme implementers with whom they may submit an evaluation proposal.

7. **Instructions for applicants**

The application should consist of the following documents:

i. A signed declaration that the applicant can and will attend the consultative workshop, if selected, and

ii. *Curriculum vitae* of the researcher, that includes their current position, a summary of relevant skills and experience with respect to immunisation or community engagement type research, with emphasis on experience in conducting impact evaluations of health interventions.

If an expression of interest is being submitted jointly by a researcher and an implementing agency representative, the cover email should indicate it is a joint application.
Deadline for applications is 23:59 GMT, 23 February, 2015. The expression of interest should be sent in a single email with not more than two attachments.

Please direct any questions related to this EOI to TW10@3ieimpact.org by 23:59 GMT, 3 February 2015. By 5 February 2015, a single document with all questions and answers will be made publicly available here.

Applications and/or any questions regarding this expression of interest should be submitted to TW10@3ieimpact.org.