

**Submitted questions on Unitaid’s Call for Proposals: “Accelerate demand and adoption of tools and integrated delivery strategies for elimination of vertical transmission of HIV, syphilis, hepatitis B and Chagas in endemic areas”**

Questions	Key points of answer
<p>1. What is the <b>budget</b>?</p> <p>2. And <b>how many awards</b> does Unitaid expect to make?</p>	<p>Unitaid does not specify minimum or maximum grant sizes. The Unitaid Board considers funding size in light of Unitaid’s strategy and existing portfolio of projects, which are described on our website. Proponents are advised to consult these documents to have a sense of how their ideas for an intervention may fit with Unitaid’s funding model and strategy. As a general principle, Unitaid aims to fund projects that are ‘lean’ – that is, scoped at the minimum size required to achieve the desired market impact and public health effects, while demonstrating value for money. Our calls for proposals involve competitive selection process with the budget being one of the assessment criteria. Therefore, submitting large budgets may work to the disadvantage of your proposal.</p> <p>That said, depending on the submissions and the scope, we anticipate funding <b>1-2 projects</b> with an estimated <b>total</b> envelop of <b>approximately USD 25 million</b>.</p>
<p>3. What is the <b>expected grant/project duration</b>?</p>	<p>Unitaid makes catalytic investments. The timeframe is typically 3 to 5 years, including transition and sustainability plan.</p>
<p>4. Is it possible to have a <b>French translation</b> of the Call scope?</p>	<p>Yes, the French version is available on our website:  <a href="https://unitaid.org/call-for-proposal/accelerate-demand-and-adoption-of-tools-and-integrated-delivery-strategies-for-elimination-of-vertical-transmission-of-hiv-syphilis-hepatitis-b-and-chagas-in-endemic-areas/#fr">https://unitaid.org/call-for-proposal/accelerate-demand-and-adoption-of-tools-and-integrated-delivery-strategies-for-elimination-of-vertical-transmission-of-hiv-syphilis-hepatitis-b-and-chagas-in-endemic-areas/#fr</a></p> <p>A Spanish version is also available:  <a href="https://unitaid.org/assets/Convocatoria-de-Propuestas-ETMI.pdf">https://unitaid.org/assets/Convocatoria-de-Propuestas-ETMI.pdf</a></p>
<p>5. What are <b>eligible organizations</b> for this Call?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A government, government agency/organization?</li> <li>• UN agency?</li> <li>• Research institutions?</li> <li>• Community based organization?</li> </ul>	<p>All these organizations are eligible and can submit proposals. There are no restrictions on the type of entities that can submit proposals or participate in proposals. UN agencies can submit proposals, except for WHO in most cases, including regional and country offices. We have special enabler grants with WHO that are channeled through the corresponding departments in HQ. Please reach out to us with specific queries on WHO eligibility at <a href="mailto:proposalsunitaid@who.int">proposalsunitaid@who.int</a>.</p>
<p>6. Can a consortium member, a service provider or a collaborating partner <b>participate in several proposals</b> under the same call for proposals?</p>	<p>Yes, consortium members, service providers and collaborating partners can participate in several proposals under the same call for proposals.</p>

<p>7. Is there a limit of <b>collaborating institutions</b>?</p>	<p>There are no limits. You can include as many collaborating institutions as desired, but the lead institution must demonstrate capacity to manage all included. Standard policies, such as limits on overhead, should also be adhered to for consortia members. We encourage well-defined consortia, with clear roles and responsibilities for each consortium member. Consortium structure should be well-tailored to the Call scope and expertise required.</p>
<p>8. Which <b>countries</b> are eligible? Is there a set of prioritized countries?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work funded by Unitaid can target / benefit LIC, LMIC, UMICs as defined by World Bank</li> <li>• Applicants are encouraged to consider implementation in countries in a range of geographies, but prioritizing settings with high disease burdens. Delivery models should focus on how to reach the most vulnerable, including those accessing care at lower levels of the health system and the community level. Projects should generate scalable and sustainable implementation models that are transferable to other settings and enable scale-up potential in non-project countries.</li> </ul>
<p>9. Can we submit a proposal to work in a <b>single country</b>?</p>	<p>For this particular call scope, proposals that include work in only one country are out of scope. We are looking for proposals that have regional and global impact. If your organization works in one country only, you may want to consider joining forces with others, and applying as a consortium. Note that we have outlined what we are looking for and what we hope to achieve – it is now for proponents/you to convince us that what you propose to do would have such impact.</p>
<p>10. Are <b>multi-country consortium</b> (e.g. South-South partnerships) eligible?</p>	<p>Yes, multi-country consortia are eligible and desired, and South-South partnerships are encouraged. Unitaid sees value in proposals from South-based lead implementors with experience in leading the implementation of large-scale multi-country projects that support access to health products. We also support the meaningful inclusion of South-based sub-implementers, where feasible and relevant, in proposed project implementation consortia.</p>
<p>11. It is mandatory/suggested to <b>include the MoH</b> of the countries?</p>	<p>Unitaid believes that by actively involving government stakeholders in all phases of planning and implementation, projects will gain valuable insights into local contexts, policy frameworks, and stakeholder priorities. This collaboration will lead to more informed and effective project design, increased buy-in from government partners, and greater sustainability of project outcomes beyond the grant funding period. Proponents should clarify the key stakeholders with whom they will engage, and how this will be achieved. In addition, it is important to include a country engagement model that outlines coordination and cooperation with countries in decision making around tailoring the</p>

	design of elimination programs, monitoring introduction, and assessing impact.
12. Will the project <b>fund CBOs</b> at the community level?	Yes, Unitaid encourages applicants to engage local CBOs and CSOs. These activities should be clearly funded and budgeted in proposal submissions. Unitaid considers working with communities a critical part of generating demand and strongly encourages adopting inclusive approaches, and the early and continued meaningful engagement of communities towards improving the lives and health of the most vulnerable people. The role of affected communities and planned collaborations with other relevant groups including grassroots community organizations and Civil Society Organizations at all stages of a project/programme including ideation is essential, with this engagement a key determinant for success.
13. Is Unitaid expecting an application to <b>cover all four diseases</b> ?	A focus on all four diseases is not required but this will be considered during proposal selection. Through this call for proposals, Unitaid expects to make awards that as a portfolio cover all four diseases. Unitaid encourages proponents to right size the budget, country selection, and consortium composition to the disease focus. In addition, the proposal focus should reflect the expertise of the lead proponent and consortia.
14. Is addressing <b>Chagas a requirement</b> for the application submission?	It is not a requirement, but this will be considered during proposal review. Please see the response to question 7.
15. Is it possible to do specific projects on each of the diseases or is it a single project document which will plan the overall implementation in the execution and integrate the themes addressed and in a complementary manner?	It is the latter. Single projects for each disease are not desired. The focus of this call for proposals is on integrated elimination programming.
16. Unitaid's <a href="#">2022 Landscape report on eliminating vertical transmission</a> includes several dozen products, while only a subset are mentioned in the Call for Proposals. Should we assume the scope is exclusively the 10 mentioned products?	While the landscape report is a helpful reference document, applicants should focus on what is included in the Call scope when preparing their submission. That said, the product focus is not exclusive of others deemed to be important by key stakeholders and in line with the objectives of the call.
17. <b>How important is market shaping</b> in proposal evaluation?	Unitaid considers market shaping to be central to its mandate. The proposed activities should aim to achieve all three objectives specified in the call scope, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting countries to design and deploy integrated elimination programming and generate evidence on effective and scalable implementation models in diverse settings;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overcome market barriers that limit access to critical commodities, including availability and affordability challenges impacting diagnostic and treatment products; and</li> </ul> <p>Building demand for integrated elimination programs through people-centered and locally tailored approaches</p>
18. Does Unitaid take intellectual property ownership rights or exclusive licensing rights for anything developed within the scope of a funded project?	Unitaid has standard terms and conditions which are included in grant agreements that support access. Normally Unitaid/WHO would not hold the intellectual property rights related to a product. However, in some circumstances Unitaid may seek licensing provisions to help ensure access to products.
19. Is it <b>mandatory</b> to display <b>co-funding</b> ?	<p>Co-funding is not a mandatory requirement; however, proponents are encouraged to include this information in the proposal.</p> <p>Please note that Unitaid defines co-funding as funding secured from other funding sources in addition to the Unitaid project funding to accomplish the Unitaid project outputs. Other funding sources that will be used to finance activities which will support but not directly contribute to the achievement of the outputs should not be treated, and therefore not included, as co-funding.</p> <p>Please note that the budget form asks you to indicate the co-funding source (Section 2 of the form), if applicable, and if the co-funding is confirmed or anticipated.</p>
20. Do we have <b>word limits</b> for the proposal or for each section of application?	Please tailor the content length to the physical size of the text boxes in the proposal form. The text needs to be visible without scrolling. Sections do not include a word count restriction, but there are limits on the character input.
21. Up to which year, may the last audited financial accounts be required for grant applying organizations?	Unitaid requests audits for the last 3 years available.
22. Is Unitaid open to extending the deadline due to the winter holidays?	Unfortunately, this is not possible.
23. Does the grant permit commodity procurement? Will RDTs need to be WHO PQ?	Yes, these grants will include commodity procurement. Conditions on procurement within Unitaid grants may vary according to the commodity purchased, and detailed procurement conditions are typically finalized during grant development. Regarding quality assurance, as a general rule, Unitaid has harmonized its policy with those of other major partners, such as the Global Fund or PEPFAR. As a result, Unitaid typically requires that products be WHO Prequalified, authorized for use by a Stringent Regulatory Authority (SRA), or reviewed and permitted for use by the Expert

	<p>Review Panel (ERP) as described in the Unitaid Quality Assurance guidelines: <a href="#">UNITAID QA-of-health-products August2014.pdf</a></p> <p>If you include activities on a product that does not have PQ approval, for example, in research settings under protocol or for a product class that is not regulated by the above authorities, please provide a clear case for the product's inclusion and explain your approach with regards to quality assurance.</p>
24. Could Unitaid please clarify its stance on funding service delivery of commodities?	<p>Commodity procurement as part of implementation research and work to develop effective and scalable implementation models is within scope of this Call for Proposals. Unitaid does not fund normal programmatic service delivery like the Global Fund, for example. Investments from Unitaid are tailored to be catalytic and aimed at increasing access to targeted health commodities and services. Where it is possible to leverage commodity procurement from other sources of funding, this is encouraged.</p>