

Frequently Asked Questions (as at 29 March 2017)

Q1. Is there a Japanese version of the Call for Proposals available?

No, the Call for Proposals and forms for submission are only available in English, however, a summary of the call is available in Japanese language at http://www.who.int/kobe_centre/ja/

Q2. Can the proposals be submitted in Japanese?

No, the proposals must be submitted in English as they will undergo international peer review and processing in the global administrative system of the World Health Organization.

Q3. Does the research need to include an intervention?

No. Implementation research is empirical research on the implementation of a public health programme and can be descriptive, evaluative or even retrospective. It does not have to demonstrate effectiveness and efficacy of an intervention.

Q4. Does the research setting need to be physically located within the Kansai Region or can the research be anywhere in Japan as long as the lead institution is based in Kansai?

As long as the research institutions carrying the research proposal meet the three criteria of eligibility listed on page 2 of the Call for Proposals, research settings can be anywhere in Japan.

Q5. Should the lead PI be located in an institution in Kansai?

As mentioned in the eligibility criteria on page 2 of the Call for Proposals, the lead PI can be based in any institution in Japan with various degrees of priority. Priority orders are as follows:

1. Universities or academic institutions in the Kansai Region
2. Japan-based research institutions working with public health programmes, health systems or populations in Kansai region, Hyogo Prefecture or Kobe municipality
3. Universities in Japan working with other universities in the Kansai Region

Q6. Can the same PI or institution submit more than two proposals?

In principle yes, however, it is unlikely that both proposals would receive funding.

Q7. Can the proposed research include international partners/collaborators, or an international research component?

Yes, this is acceptable and encouraged.

Q8. Can the research proposal cover a 2-year period, with interim deliverables produced during the first year?

No. The proposals must be based on a one year plan, as described in the Call for Proposals.

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Q9. Can a researcher based in the private sector be part of the research team?

In principle, yes, if the PI is based in an academic or not-for-profit research institution. However, all investigators will be asked to declare their interests, upon which conflicts of interest will be assessed.

Q10. The Call for Proposals requests a “short one-page CV of PI”, but on the proposal form it says, “each CV should be maximum one page long, with the exception of PI’s CV which can be of maximum four pages”. Which is the official statement of WKC?

The Call for Proposal is correct. All CVs of the investigators, including the PI’s, should be maximum one page.

Q11. Regarding the Institutional endorsement, is an official seal impression (公印) accepted in lieu of the signature of the responsible administrative authority?

Yes, the official seal impression is acceptable. Next to the seal, kindly indicate name of the official.

Q12. Will overhead costs be covered in the budget?

No. WHO/WKC is not responsible for overhead costs.