

## **Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking**

### **Frequently Asked Questions on Work Programme 2023**

*Last updated 24 May 2023*

#### **General questions on Work Programme 2023**

##### **What is the deadline for applying to the calls under Work Programme 2023?**

The deadline for single-stage topics is 29 June 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time

The deadline for stage one of the two-stage topics is 28 September. The deadline for stage two of the two-stage topics is 28 March 2024.

To check the deadline of a particular topic please check the topic-specific pages in the Funding & Tenders Portal. Proposals for all topics should be submitted by that day. To avoid any last minute issue, we advise you not wait until the last minute to submit a proposal.

##### **When will grants be signed and start their work?**

Evaluation of the proposals submitted to the single-stage topics will be carried out by September 2023. Grant agreement preparation will follow and grants are expected to be signed by the end of 2023 or the start of 2024. Evaluation of the proposals submitted to the two-stage topics will be carried out end of 2023 / start of 2024.

##### **What is the expected duration of projects?**

There is no predefined maximum duration of the project. Applicants are free to propose a duration that optimally matches the expected outcomes and scope of the topic they plan to apply to. The exception is topic two, where a maximum duration of 54 months is defined in the call topic.

##### **Can proposals request higher or lower budgets than the expected budget per project mentioned during the Info day sessions?**

For each topic under Work Programme 2023, Global Health EDCTP3 has estimated an amount that would allow the outcomes of the topic to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.

##### **Can proposals applying for Global Health EDCTP3 calls also require funding from other sources for the same proposal?**

Yes. If additional funding from other sources are to be sought or have been obtained, this needs to be described in the proposal. The independent expert evaluators need to be convinced that the

proposal is feasible with the resources requested from Global Health EDCTP3 and the funding from other sources.

**Is the involvement of a small or medium-sized (SME) pharmaceutical company viewed more favourably than that of a large pharmaceutical company?**

SMEs as well as large companies are generally welcome within proposed consortia. Independent experts will evaluate the proposals and will assess the role of the consortium partners, including possible industry partners. They will thereby focus on what the partners contribute to the consortium, the proposed activities, and their impact.

In the specific case of topic HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2023-02-02-two-stage, involvement of industry, notably of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), especially African SMEs, is expected.

**Are there specific conditions for certain topics?**

Yes. There are specific conditions and rules to be followed for each topic. Please check the Funding and Tenders Portal for the topic you wish to apply to for these conditions - <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/horizon> and search for "EDCTP".

**What are the target diseases of Global Health EDCTP3?**

Generally speaking, the target diseases as specified in Global Health EDCTP3 [Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda](#) include: HIV, TB, malaria, neglected infectious diseases (NIDs), diarrhoeal diseases, lower respiratory tract infections, and emerging/re-emerging infections affecting sub-Saharan Africa.

This also includes antimicrobial resistance, climate crisis-provoked changes in infectious disease incidence, and co-infections and co-morbidities.

Each topic under the Global Health EDCTP3 Work Programme 2023 may specify which diseases are included in the scope of such topic. Please check the topic description and conditions for the topic you wish to apply to in the Funding and Tenders Portal.

**What are Neglected Infectious Diseases (NIDs) are under the scope of Global Health EDCTP3?**

NIDs in the scope of the Global Health EDCTP3 include: Buruli ulcer, dengue and chikungunya, dracunculiasis (guinea-worm disease), echinococcosis, foodborne trematodiasis, human African trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness), leishmaniasis, leprosy (Hansen disease), lymphatic filariasis, mycetoma, onchocerciasis (river blindness), rabies, schistosomiasis, soil-transmitted helminthiasis, taeniasis/cysticercosis, trachoma, and yaws.

Global Health EDCTP3's remit will not cover chromoblastomycosis and other deep mycoses, scabies and other ectoparasites, and snakebite envenoming.

Each topic under the Global Health EDCTP3 Work Programme 2023 may specify which diseases are included in the scope of such topic. Please check the topic description and conditions for the topic you wish to apply to in the Funding and Tenders Portal.

### **What are emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases under the scope of Global Health EDCTP3?**

Emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases with epidemic or pandemic potential included in the scope of Global Health EDCTP3 include those in the World Health Organization's list of priority diseases. This list can be found [here](#). This list is non-exhaustive. Other mosquito-borne diseases with epidemic potential that are endemic to Africa will also be considered, including Dengue virus, West Nile fever virus and Chikungunya virus. Please also refer to Global Health EDCTP3 [Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda](#) for information on emerging/re-emerging infectious diseases (Section 7.8).

Each topic under the Global Health EDCTP3 Work Programme 2023 may specify which diseases are included in the scope of such topic. Please check the topic description and conditions for the topic you wish to apply to in the Funding and Tenders Portal.

### **How will the Global Health EDCTP3 select the independent experts for the evaluation of proposals?**

Global Health EDCTP3 will appoint external independent experts to carry out the evaluation of grant applications. If you are interested in being an expert, please register at Funding & Tenders Portal, under the section on ['Work as an expert'](#).

### **What entities can be coordinators of the projects? What role does the scientific project leader have?**

Legal entities established in an EU Member State or an associated country to Horizon Europe can be coordinators of projects. According to Article 110(2) of the [Council Regulation 2021/2085](#), as regards entities from other third countries, only those established in a country that has concluded a bilateral Science and Technology (S&T) agreement with the EU can be assigned as (financial) coordinator of a project in the sense of Article 7 of the Model Grant Agreement (MGA).

For the moment, South Africa is the only member of the EDCTP Association (that is not an EU Member State) with a S&T agreement with the EU. See more on this [here](#).

To ensure that all partners in the funded consortia, including sub-Saharan African entities, have equal opportunities to lead the scientific work of the project, the Governing Board of the Global Health EDCTP3 has approved a new approach that would establish a "Scientific Project Leader" within each consortium. If the coordinator is not established in a country in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), the designation of a scientific project leader established in a SSA country member of the EDCTP Association will be mandatory. A work package on 'scientific project leadership' must be included.

Tasks of the Scientific Project Leader could include:

- Acting as the key contact point for the Global Health EDCTP3 alongside the coordinator on scientific governance & leadership actions including external communication;

- Monitoring that the scientific tasks are implemented properly;
- Collaborating with the coordinator on the project monitoring and the adoption of appropriate internal measures to ensure that beneficiaries are fulfilling their obligations.

### **Questions on eligibility for funding**

#### **What is the minimum number of legal entities needed for a proposal to be eligible?**

To be eligible for funding, the consortium must be comprised of at least three independent legal entities (as beneficiaries) established in three different countries, where legal entities are eligible to receive funding, including:

- At least one independent legal entity established in an EU Member State or an associated country
- At least one independent legal entity established in a sub-Saharan African country that is a member of the EDCTP Association

#### **Which countries are eligible to apply for funding under Global Health EDCTP3?**

To be eligible for funding, applicants must be established in one of the following countries:

- The Member States of the European Union, including their outermost regions: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden;
- The Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) linked to the Member States: Aruba (NL), Bonaire (NL), Curaçao (NL), French Polynesia (FR), French Southern and Antarctic Territories (FR), Greenland (DK), New Caledonia (FR), Saba (NL), Saint Barthélemy (FR), Sint Eustatius (NL), Sint Maarten (NL), St. Pierre and Miquelon (FR), Wallis and Futuna Islands (FR);
- Countries associated to Horizon Europe; Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine. Considering the Union's interest to retain, in principle, relations with the countries associated to Horizon 2020, most third countries associated to Horizon 2020 are expected to be associated to Horizon Europe with an intention to secure uninterrupted continuity between Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe. In addition, other third countries can also become associated to Horizon Europe during the programme. For the purposes of the eligibility conditions, applicants established in Horizon 2020 Associated Countries or in other third countries negotiating association to Horizon Europe will be treated as entities established in an Associated Country, if the Horizon Europe association agreement with the third country concerned applies at the time of signature of the grant agreement. The list is correct at the time of adoption of this Work Programme. Please see the Horizon Europe List of Participating Countries on the Funding & Tenders Portal for up-to-date information on the current list.
- The following low- and middle-income countries which are constituent states of the EDCTP Association. These currently include: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea Conakry, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, The Gambia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The list was correct at the time of adoption of

Work Programme 2023. For the updated list of EDCTP Association members, please check [this EDCTP page](#).

Legal entities which are established in countries not listed above will be eligible for funding if provided for in the specific call conditions, or if their participation is considered essential for implementing the action by the granting authority.

**Why is the list of countries automatically eligible for funding different for Global Health EDCTP3 in comparison to Horizon Europe calls?**

Article 17(2) [Horizon Europe Regulation](#) provides that 'In duly justified cases, funding bodies may depart from the rules (including the ones of the legal entities eligible for funding), (...), if: (a) such a departure is provided for in the basic act setting up the funding body or entrusting budget implementation tasks to it...'

Such a departure of the rules in the case of the Global Health EDCTP3 on legal entities eligible for funding is provided for in Article 110(1) of the [Council Regulation 2021/2085](#) establishing the Joint Undertakings (and Global Health EDCTP3): 'In accordance with Article 17(2) of the Horizon Europe Regulation and by derogation from Article 23(1) thereof, funding from the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking shall be restricted to legal entities established in Member States or associated countries or in the constituent states of the EDCTP Association. Exceptionally and if provided for in the Work Programme, entities established in other states may be eligible for funding from the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking in specific call topics or in the event of a call addressing a public health emergency'

This eligibility rule for the Global Health EDCTP3 was introduced in the legal text to encourage sub-Saharan Africa countries to be part the decision making of the Global Health EDCTP3, because the decisions of the Global Health EDCTP3 decisions can affect them.

**For legal entities that are established in countries that are not automatically eligible for funding, when is the deadline for the corresponding country to be part of the EDCTP Association to be able to apply for the current open calls for proposals?**

Countries can apply to be a partner in the EDCTP Association at any point in time. However, for legal entities to be eligible for funding under the 2023 calls for proposals their respective country must be a member of the EDCTP Association by the time of grant signature at the latest (usually 5 to 8 months after call closure).

Please note that even if not eligible for funding, participation in a project is open to any legal entity established in any country, except Russia and Belorussia.

**Can the UK legal entities be eligible for funding under Global Health EDCTP3? Can a UK-based entity be coordinator of a Global Health EDCTP3 project?**

The EU and the UK have been discussing the association of the UK to the Horizon Europe programme. Before an association agreement is concluded, entities based in the UK may be neither beneficiaries nor coordinator of a Global Health EDCTP3 project as they are not eligible for funding.

However, until the moment of grant signature consortia may apply and include UK-based entities as beneficiaries and also coordinators. UK-based entities would be treated as potential beneficiaries during the process of proposals' eligibility and admissibility checks, and evaluation.

In case the UK is not associated at a mature stage of the grant agreement preparation, the status of the UK entities as beneficiaries will be revised; they may still participate in projects as associated partners (not eligible for funding). Where relevant, the consortium may have to change its coordinator and add a participant based in the EU or a country associated to Horizon Europe to fulfil the consortium composition requirements.

Therefore, the situation of entities established in the UK will be reassessed during grant agreement preparation and at the moment of grant agreement signature.

**If Switzerland provides the funds for a Swiss participant in a Global Health EDCTP3 project, could the Swiss participant be the coordinator of such project?**

Coordinators must be established in the EU, a country associated to Horizon Europe or that has a S&T agreement with the EU. This is not the case of Switzerland at the moment and entities based in Switzerland may therefore not participate as coordinators.

According to article 110(1) of the [Council Regulation 2021/2085](#) establishing the Joint Undertakings, as Switzerland is not a Member State, associated country nor a constituent state of the EDCTP Association, and as none of the specific call topics exceptionally allow for Swiss entities to be eligible, they cannot be eligible for funding. Therefore, they cannot be considered as beneficiaries in Global Health EDCTP3 JU projects. However, Swiss legal entities can still participate in Global Health EDCTP3 project in other roles, for example as associated partners.

**What is the difference between the EDCTP Association and the bodies of the Global Health EDCTP3?**

The EDCTP Association, together with the European Union, is a founding member of Global Health EDCTP3.

The EDCTP Association, representing European and African countries, and the European Commission, representing the European Union, are in the Global Health EDCTP3 Governing Board of the Joint Undertaking which is the decision-making body.

Other bodies of Global Health EDCTP3 provide input: scientific advice (Scientific Committee), other sectors views (Stakeholders Group) or implement the decisions of the Governing Board (Executive Director and Staff), but they are not part of the decision making.

Other partners (e.g. philanthropies, industry, other third countries) can join on 'ad hoc basis' as contributing partners in concrete calls for proposals to develop synergies.

About EDCTP Association application procedure, timing and fees, contact directly the EDCTP Association (<https://www.edctp.org/>).

Below is a figure with the governance of Global Health EDCTP3.

