

## **Stop TB Partnership's Challenge Facility for Civil Society**

The Stop TB Partnership Secretariat proposes to establish a Challenge Facility for Civil Societies (CFCS) in line with its approved work-plan under the component: "TB affected community empowerment and mobilization". The necessary approval from the WHO Controller and legal Counsel were obtained after contracted negotiations. This Facility would provide financial support to small groups of civil society organizations such as NGOs, self-help groups and women's groups seeking to make the collective voice of the TB community heard. It would be targeted at civil society groups that are seeking to shape policy-making at local and national levels by giving a voice to people living with TB and those involved in their care and it is expected to increase awareness among the policy makers.

The pilot stage of the CFCS would have duration of one year with a total budget of US\$200,000. The proposals would be selected by a committee made up of representatives from the WHO Stop TB Department, an NGO from a developing country, an NGO from a developed country, and the community affected by TB and NTP Managers.

A grant in the range of US\$5,000 to US\$20,000 would be provided to the selected entity through a simple Letter of Agreement (LoA) whereby the grantee would agree with the stipulated terms and conditions to carry out the work specified in their proposal. The grantee would also agree to provide a one-page report to the Stop TB Partnership Secretariat on the outcome of their activities, together with a short statement of funds received and spent. In the event that the approved activities as set out in the Agreement can not be carried out, the grantee should immediately inform the Secretariat of this and the fund would become returnable with immediate effect.

Once the concept for this new mechanism has been tested and operating procedures refined, new rounds of the Facility, each for duration of one year, would be held, subject to the availability of funds. Current members of the Selection committee are:

- Dr Jeremiah Chakaya, National Leprosy and TB Programme, Kenya.
- Ms Lucy Chesire, Clinical Nutritionist - TB/HIV Advocate and Community, Kenya
- Dr Haileyesus Getahun, WHO/THD, Switzerland
- Mr Javid Syed, Treatment Action Group (TAG), USA

Any organisation that satisfies the following criteria can apply:

- Has documentation to confirm that they are a registered organization, either nationally or provincially;
- Has been operating for at least one full year;
- Has a basic management structure and processes in place;
- Is solvent, current funding sources for the organization clearly stated;
- Represents and serves a clear community e.g. women, children, poor community, people living in remote rural areas, etc;
- Has a track record of carrying out activities with tangible outputs and outcomes in the area of social mobilization;

- Has a clearly defined vision and mission;
- Has a clearly defined set of objectives;
- Has links with other development initiatives.

To make funding easily accessible to grass root NGOs a greatly simplified process has been agreed with WHO. The funding mechanism entails submission of a one or two page proposal indicating: Introduction, objectives, and expected outcomes and time frame. Three or four activities that can be completed within one year in the area of ACSM aimed at giving the affected communities a voice to influence policy making and national resource allocation. There are two categories of Grants:

1. Below US\$10,000. In this case all funding approved is released in a single payment.
2. Above US\$10,000 in this case money is released in two tranches, of US\$10,000 each. First installment on signature of a grant agreement the second on completion of all activities.

A very short project report indicating the outcomes of activities conducted with the funds provided and a brief financial report on how the grant was used is to be submitted after the end of the grant period.

An evaluation of the CFCS will be undertaken after the pilot phase has ended and a second round of grants may be announced depending on resources available with the Stop TB Partnership.

### **Assessment of Proposals**

Criteria for assessing a proposal submitted by a Civil Society Organization (CSO) are as under:

- Experience of CSO in providing community support at grass roots level for engaging in the local and national decision making process;
- Clarity of proposal with respect to objectives, activities and expected results;
- Out reach of the CSO;
- Commitment of CSO to bring about change;
- Links with other development initiatives;
- Operate in difficult environments;
- Innovative use of funds for ACSM activities.

### **Timeline:**

- Launch of CFCS 22 March 2007
- Last date for acceptance of proposals 22 May 2007
- Selection completed 22 June 2007
- Public announcement of winners 28 June 2007
- Disbursement of all funds 7 July 2007
- Completion of Pilot Phase 6 July 2008
- Evaluation of outcomes August/September 2008