

The Challenge

Over the past few decades, Ghana has made considerable progress in reducing maternal and newborn mortality. However, several key challenges remain, including:

- Poor access to quality maternal and newborn health services, especially in rural δ underserved areas.
- Low levels of skilled birth attendance and emergency obstetric care;
- Limited availability of essential medicines, medical supplies and equipment.
- Weak referral linkages between health facilities for maternal and newborn health services.
- Inadequate emergency transportation for maternal and newborn health services.

Ghana aspires to eliminate avoidable maternal and neonatal deaths and recognizes the role innovations can play to improve maternal and newborn health.

The Country Innovation Platform Ghana Pilot

In support of this goal, the Ghana Health Service has partnered with USAID's Center for Innovation and Impact (CII) and USAID/Ghana, Grand Challenges Canada and AMP Health to launch the Country Innovation Platform Ghana Pilot. This pilot program aims to identify and support African innovations in maternal and newborn health in six priority regions of Ghana.

Requests for Proposals

The CIP-Ghana partners are launching a request for proposals to fund innovations that will increase access to quality maternal and newborn health services in Ghana. They will support Ghana's ultimate goal of reducing maternal, perinatal and neonatal morbidities and mortalities, reducing direct obstetric case fatality rates, and reducing the rate of stillbirths.

Innovations should address key challenges in the accessibility and delivery of maternal and newborn health services at the sub-district level within the Networks of Practice in six target regions in Ghana:

- Western
- North East
- Upper East
- Northern
- Upper West
- Savannah

Successful proposals will be awarded seed grants of \$200,000 CAD to \$250,000 CAD for a period of 12 to 18 months to develop and test the proposed innovation in Ghana. Proposals should address at least one of the following priority areas:

- improved communication and real-time tracking of information along the patient referral journey for mothers and newborns:
- increased accessibility and availability of emergency transport
- improved skills for healthcare workers to deliver high-quality emergency maternal and newborn health services;
- increased availability of essential medicines and supplies for mothers and newborns

View the full Request for Proposals, FAQ & more at: www.grandchallenges.ca/programs/stars-in-global-health/

All applicants must register for a <u>Grand Challenges Canada</u> <u>Fluxx account</u> no later than Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at 11:59 pm EDT (July 27, 2023, at 3:59 am UTC). The application submission deadline is Wednesday, August 2, 2023, at 12 pm EDT (4 pm UTC).











