

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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Grand Challenges Canada[®]
Grands Défis Canada

BOLD IDEAS WITH BIG IMPACT[®]

Stars in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Request for Proposals

Stars in Global Health, Round 10

July 2018

Executive Summary

Grand Challenges Canada, funded by the Government of Canada, seeks Bold Ideas with Big Impact® from the best and brightest talent, both in low- and middle-income countries and in Canada, to use scientific/technical, social and business innovation to save and improve lives in low- and middle-income countries. Per Canada's recently adopted ***Feminist International Assistance Policy***, Canada's vision is to “eradicate poverty and build a more peaceful, more inclusive and more prosperous world. Canada firmly believes that promoting gender equality and empowering women and girls is the most effective approach to achieving this goal”.

Sexual and reproductive health and rights are fundamental to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. Investing in sexual and reproductive health is cost effective and critical to boosting economic growth and advancing the health, rights, and wellbeing of women and girls, their families, and their communities. While women and girls are the center of this development agenda, engaging men and boys is also critical to achieving gender equality. To date, health and development initiatives have focused on particular components of sexual and reproductive health and rights (i.e. contraception, maternal and newborn health, and HIV/AIDS), and there have been considerable gains in tackling these issues. However, these advances have been inequitable across and within countries. Moreover, in many settings, people continue to have insufficient access to sexual and reproductive health services for particularly neglected, but essential, issues such as adolescent sexuality; sexual and gender-based violence; safe abortion; and child, early and forced marriage. These are all contributing factors that limit the ability of women and girls to realize their human rights and rights to health.

These factors collectively contribute to the staggering number of deaths and disabilities seen annually. Each year, more than 200 million women want to avoid pregnancy but do not use modern methods of contraception; more than 350 million men and women require treatment for one of the four curable sexually transmitted infections; 25 million women undergo unsafe abortions; nearly 2 million people become newly infected with HIV; and nearly 1 in 3 women experience intimate partner or non-partner sexual violence. Moreover, the burden of disease, death and disability is disproportionately felt by the poorest of the poor in low- and middle-income countries.

In order to build on the momentum created by other global initiatives and to sufficiently address the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), innovation is needed to efficiently focus, develop and test solutions that respond to these persistent, unsolved challenges in an equitable manner.

Through this **Stars in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights** Request for Proposals, Grand Challenges Canada seeks **bold ideas for products, services and implementation models** that could transform how persistent challenges in sexual and reproductive health and rights are addressed in low- and middle-income countries. The bold ideas are expected to **improve the provision and use of comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services** (e.g. contraception; comprehensive sexuality education; safe abortion, where legal; and menstrual hygiene management). Of particular

interest to Grand Challenges Canada are innovations that improve the **prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based violence**, and to **child, early, and forced marriage**, so that women and girls are empowered and have greater influence over their lives and futures.

We place a strong emphasis on supporting ideas that **use an entrepreneurial approach** to attain these improvements in the health of women and girls, as we believe they are best positioned to transition proven innovations to scale.

These bold ideas could originate from any recognized institution in Canada or in eligible low- and middle-income countries. All implementation activities must occur in eligible low- and middle-income countries.

Successful proposals will be awarded seed grants of up to \$100,000 CAD for up to 12 months to develop and test the proposed innovation. Assuming a sufficient number of proposals of merit are received, Grand Challenges Canada aims to award approximately 80 seed grants in this round. We anticipate that approximately two-thirds of the awardees will be from low- and middle-income countries, with one-third from institutions based in Canada.

By the end of the seed grant, innovators are expected to have demonstrated proof of concept of the idea, developed a plan for scale and sustainability, and attracted interest from key stakeholders and partners needed to proceed along a path to scale and sustainability. Successful innovators will be invited to apply for Transition to Scale funding.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 25, 2018, AT 3:00 P.M. ET

Applications MUST be submitted through Grand Challenges Canada's Community Portal (gcc.fluxx.io).

In order to gain access to the Portal, applicants must first create an account using the following link: [Create an account](#).

Once you have created an account, please allow at least one (1) business day for Grand Challenges Canada to process your account request. Therefore, **we suggest creating an account no later than Thursday, September 20, 2018.**

Once your information has been processed, you will be emailed login credentials to access the Portal to start your application.

For questions on the application process, please consult the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). If you require technical assistance with the online application, please contact fluxxsupport@grandchallenges.ca and provide your application number. Note this email is for technical support only. For questions related to this Request for Proposals or the application process that are not addressed in the FAQs, please contact stars@grandchallenges.ca.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 GRAND CHALLENGES CANADA

Since 2010, Grand Challenges Canada has committed \$69.7M to the Stars in Global Health program. Our vision is: **A world in which innovation accelerates the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals.** Our mission is: **To catalyze innovation that saves and improves the lives of the most vulnerable in Canada and low- and middle-income countries.**

Grand Challenges Canada is dedicated to supporting Bold Ideas with Big Impact®. Funded by the Government of Canada and other partners, Grand Challenges Canada funds innovators in low- and middle-income countries and Canada. The bold ideas Grand Challenges Canada supports integrate science and technology, social and business innovation – known as Integrated Innovation®.

One of the largest impact-first investors in Canada, and with a feminist investment approach, Grand Challenges Canada has supported a pipeline of over 1000 innovations in more than 80 countries. Grand Challenges Canada estimates that these innovations have the potential to save up to 1 million lives and improve up to 28 million lives by 2030.

Grand Challenges Canada focuses on innovator-defined challenges through its Stars in Global Health program, and on targeted challenges through its Saving Lives at Birth, Saving Brains and Global Mental Health programs. We help transition promising innovations from the proof-of-concept stage to scale. Grand Challenges Canada works with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to peer review and select innovations to fund.

Funding for Grand Challenges Canada's support of sexual and reproductive health and rights innovations is provided by the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada under the Innovation Platform for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (MNCH). This innovation platform is aligned with health challenges related to Canada's feminist development goals. The basis for the platform is to enable new innovations to drive improvement, renewal and change to bring about improved Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (RMNCH) outcomes in low- and middle-income countries.

1.2 BACKGROUND

The Problem

Sexual and reproductive health and rights are fundamental to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. Although substantive progress has been made in addressing certain components of sexual and reproductive health and rights, these advances have been inequitable across and within countries. Moreover, in many settings, people continue to have insufficient access to sexual and reproductive health services for particularly neglected, but essential, issues such as adolescent sexuality;

sexual and gender-based violence; safe abortion; and child, early and forced marriage. These are all contributing factors that limit the ability of women and girls to realize their human rights and rights to health. As specific examples:

- Over 200 million women in low- and middle-income countries have a desire to delay or prevent pregnancy, but are not using an effective contraceptive method and/or lack access to comprehensive family planning and sexuality education. Women and adolescent girls must be in a position to make decisions about their own sexual and reproductive health, as well as the timing and spacing of their pregnancies. Without information, access and agency, women are at risk of death and disability due to births that are spaced too closely, and that occur too early or too late in life.
- Over their lifetime, 1 in 3 women will experience intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence. Intimate partner violence occurs early in life and is the most common form of gender-based violence. 29% of adolescent women aged 15-19 years who have ever had a partner are estimated to have experienced intimate partner violence. These interpersonal interactions are influenced by gender inequalities and have severe impacts on women and girls' physical and mental health and wellbeing. Gender-based violence is a key barrier to women and girls' full participation in social, economic, and political spheres. While violence against women and girls has been a longstanding challenge to gender equality and empowerment, few effective solutions, particularly addressing preventative measures, have been implemented at scale.
- In low- and middle-income countries one in three girls are married by the age of 18, and one in nine marries before the age of 15. Worldwide, 15 million girls are estimated to be forced into marriage before the age of 18. This means that today there are over 700 million women and girls who were married as children. Gender inequality, poverty, insecurity and pervasive traditional and cultural norms are all contributing factors to child, early and forced marriage. Marrying at such a young age means that these young girls often get pregnant when they are neither mentally nor physically ready, putting them at increased risk of health complications. Childbirth is the leading cause of death among girls aged 15 to 19 in low- and middle-income countries. Child brides are also at increased risk of contracting HIV/AIDS and of experiencing domestic violence. As a result, these girls often drop out of school earlier and have less access to opportunities (i.e. securing non-domestic work). With less control over their own financial security and household financial decision making, girls who marry early, and their families, are more likely to live in poverty.

These factors collectively contribute to the staggering number of deaths and disability seen annually, which are disproportionately felt by the poorest of the poor in low- and middle-income countries. In order to build on the momentum created and to sufficiently address the Sustainable Development Goals, innovation is needed to efficiently focus, develop and test innovations to respond to these persistent, unsolved challenges in an equitable manner.

2.0 APPROACH

2.1 PROGRAM GOAL

The goal of this Stars in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights **Request for Proposals (RFP)** is to support **Bold Ideas with Big Impact**® on sexual and reproductive health and rights from innovators in eligible countries (as outlined in Section 4.1 of this RFP).

2.2 PROGRAM SCOPE

Grand Challenges Canada seeks bold ideas that can easily be implemented in low- and middle-income countries that focus on **sexual and reproductive health and rights**. These bold ideas could originate from non-profit organizations and for-profit organizations, as well as other recognized institutions. Social enterprises are encouraged to apply. **Female applicants, feminist organizations, and marginalized groups are strongly encouraged to apply.**

Proposed innovations must be bold, innovative, transformational and ‘outside-the-box’, and must have the potential to make a substantial, equitable impact on sexual and reproductive health and rights. **The innovations are expected to improve gender equality through enabling comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights.**

Of particular interest to Grand Challenges Canada are innovations that both **prevent** and **respond to**:

1. **Sexual and Gender-Based Violence**, including innovations that focus on:
 - Female genital mutilation and cutting
 - Sexual assault, including post-rape care
 - Intimate partner violence
 - Trafficking and exploitation

Pathways of particular interest are innovations that:

- Target men and boys, adolescent girls and/or young women
- Are designed by and for marginalized groups
- Integrate mental health promotion and/or care

- Address the financial autonomy and economic empowerment of women and girls
 - Address social contexts that drive violence against women
 - Target humanitarian or crisis settings
2. **Child, early, and forced marriage**, including innovations that focus on:
- Integrating economic opportunity, education, and social change
 - Addressing unequal power relations
 - Addressing context-specific cultural beliefs, customs, norms and practices
 - Services for girls already in union, such as:
 - Health and social support to improve sexual and reproductive health, as well as mental health, and to address the increased risk of health complications such as maternal mortality, obstetric fistula, survival of neonates, and vulnerability to sexually transmitted infections, including HIV
 - Improving opportunities for education, including non-formal education and livelihood training
 - Sexual and reproductive health education and negotiation skills training
 - Legal and financial support to leave marriages

The proposed innovations are expected to:

- Have a strong likelihood of achieving substantial and measurable gains to the lives of poor and vulnerable populations, including but not limited to fragile and conflict-affected settings
- Maximize delivery, uptake, acceptability, sustainability and impact by integrating scientific/technological, social and business innovation. We call this Integrated Innovation. (See the Integrated Innovation white paper available at <http://www.grandchallenges.ca/funding-opportunities/integrated-innovation/>)
- Demonstrate, where possible, alignment with relevant domestic country laws, regulations, national plans and interest of relevant institutions and organizations to the development, delivery and uptake of the innovation (i.e. local health systems).

Desirable attributes include:

- Approaches that provide autonomy to women and girls
- Solutions appropriate for settings with limited skilled human resources and infrastructure (e.g. lack of electricity or clean water, etc.)

- Solutions designed to address specific impacts of gender, age, poverty, and other sources of inequalities
- Approaches that reflect an understanding of the target user market and address the needs of this user
- Approaches that integrate with the existing health system
- Solutions that include a solid business plan to drive market penetration and uptake in poor countries that will lead to sustainable social enterprises
- Projects that shed light on potential for long-term financial and operational sustainability – relevant testing could include assessing user demand, willingness to pay, correct usage of products and services, viability of distribution channels, or documenting social outcomes and real world costs to implement the innovation.

2.3 SIZE AND LENGTH OF GRANTS

Successful proposals will be awarded seed grants of up to \$100,000 CAD for up to 12 months to develop and test the proposed innovation. Assuming a sufficient number of proposals of merit are received, we aim to award approximately 80 seed grants in this round. We anticipate that approximately two-thirds of the awardees will be from low- and middle-income countries, with one-third from Canada.

Please note: All successful applicants must take up the grant no later than September 30, 2019 due to the end date of Grand Challenges Canada's Contribution Agreement with the Government of Canada. Any deferral beyond this period may result in the forfeiture of the award.

Please note: All successful applicants must complete their project within 12 months. No-cost extensions will not be provided and exceptions are at Grand Challenges Canada's sole discretion.

Transition to Scale funding

A limited number of innovations funded through this RFP may have the opportunity to apply for transition-to-scale funding to support the refinement, testing and implementation for scale of innovative solutions that have already achieved proof of concept. Transition-to-scale projects are expected to demonstrate large-scale, real-world impact on sexual and reproductive health and rights and move towards scale and sustainability. Transition-to-scale projects require support from partners who bring both matched funding and the necessary skill sets to the innovations to operate sustainably at scale. Please visit <http://www.grandchallenges.ca/programs/transition-to-scale/> for further information on transition to scale funding.

While matched funding is not a requirement at the seed funding stage, all innovators are encouraged to secure co-funding. Initiating early strategic partnerships can improve the sustainability of an innovation by creating early buy-in, and providing resources and

expertise that may prepare teams for the transition to scale process, which requires matching funds through partnerships.

2.4 TARGET BENEFICIARIES

Innovations must directly benefit women and girls amongst the poorest of the poor in eligible low- and middle-income countries.

2.5 FOCUS ON RESULTS

Funded projects are expected to demonstrate impact on the health and rights of women and girls in eligible low- and middle-income countries. To this end, projects should have a monitoring and evaluation approach to clearly measure these outcomes, identify shortcomings and maximize impact. In the case where it is not feasible to measure lives saved or improved during seed funding, projects are expected to demonstrate measurable change in at least one of the following outcomes:

- Reduced sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), including child, early and forced marriage (CEFM) and female genital mutilation and cutting (FGMC)
- Improved use of sexual and reproductive health services by women and/or girls
- Improved use of contraception
- Improved access to safe abortion where legal, and post-abortion care

Innovators are expected to report against any indicators listed in Appendix A that are relevant to demonstrating success of their innovation.

Success for seed grants is defined as:

- Demonstrated proof of concept of the solution, i.e. provide on-the-ground evidence of improvement on sexual and reproductive health and rights and how the concept may be feasibly implemented, sustained and financially supported in the target region
- Secured interest, financing and/or commitments for uptake from key stakeholders, influencers and partners needed to enable transition to scale

Communicating Results

Communicating results is also an important part of the project's accountability. Proposals should include a brief overview of how they plan to engage stakeholders and disseminate results, the different audiences they intend to reach, and how this dissemination will contribute to the innovation's impact, scale and sustainability. While communicating results through scientific publications is important, this should not be the primary objective of funded projects without a well-articulated justification that this is on the critical path to impact.

Grand Challenges Canada has Global Access and Data Access Policies with open access considerations that must be followed; further information on these policies is available in section 2.9. Proposals should include adequate time within the funded period for analysis of results and drafting publications. Within this policy is a requirement that publications arising from Grand Challenges Canada funded research be openly accessible under a creative commons attribution (CC BY) license. Use of open platforms such as Grand Challenges Canada's gateway on [F1000 Research](#), which offers immediate publication of articles that go through transparent peer review, is encouraged where appropriate. Reporting to Grand Challenges Canada on dissemination of results is required past the funded period.

2.6 INTEGRATED INNOVATION

Projects are expected to take an Integrated Innovation approach, defined as the coordinated application of scientific/technological, social and business innovation, to develop solutions to complex challenges. This approach does not discount the singular benefits of each of these types of innovation alone, but rather highlights the powerful synergies that can be realized by aligning all three. Integrated Innovation recognizes that scientific/technological innovation has a greater chance of going to scale and achieving global impact and sustainability if it is developed from the outset with appropriate social and business innovations. Similarly, it recognizes that social or business innovations will not be effective on their own. (Please refer to <http://www.grandchallenges.ca/funding-opportunities/integrated-innovation/>)

Proposed solutions should therefore include a combination of:

- **Scientific/Technological Innovation:** Has a base in the psychological, natural, health or behavioural sciences or in engineering or economics; can be simple, i.e. there is no requirement for high-tech solutions
- **Social Innovation:** Recognizes and/or addresses the broader social, structural and/or political determinants of health, with a particular focus on gender and intersectional inequalities; addresses local and/or cultural contexts that factor into implementation and scaling
- **Business Innovation:** Maximizes the value, relevance and unique quality of the solution to create demand and financial sustainability; addresses barriers to affordability and accessibility

2.7 SCALE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Grand Challenges Canada expects that the most successful innovations it funds will eventually be scaled up through partnerships, either with the private sector, the public sector or a combination of both, and that scaling will be carried out with the goal of achieving meaningful health impact for the poorest of the poor in low- and middle-income countries. Applicants should convincingly show in their application how and why

they believe their projects will eventually be scaled by one or both of the following pathways:

- Private sector scaling paths are suitable for projects that are commercially viable or provide value to attract a private sector partner, either because production costs and sales prices are such that they are profitable, or beneficiaries demand the innovation and are willing to pay for it themselves.
- Public sector scaling paths are suitable for projects that are likely to compel host country government ministries and departments, multilateral donors or other public sector players to scale them. These should be aligned to, and have the ability to be incorporated into, the country's national health plan or strategy.

Seed funding should enable innovations to position themselves along a clearer path to scale, taking into account the following factors: the state of local infrastructure; social, political, and economic forces; the capacity of the institution and its leadership; potential strategic and implementation partners; available funding and revenue streams; and other potential barriers to scale. Projects are recommended to leverage local systems where this will lead to efficiencies and to meaningfully engage the women and men, and girls and boys who are meant to benefit to increase the likelihood of scale-up. This should include an understanding of: how the innovation relates to local priorities (e.g. national/regional health plans), why the innovation would be preferred over alternatives, and push/pull mechanisms supporting market formation and consumer demand. The plan should clearly define the geography or context of use at scale, as well as exit strategies from grant funding.

Social Entrepreneurship

Social entrepreneurs are strongly encouraged to apply to this RFP. Social entrepreneurs are individuals with innovative solutions to society's most pressing social problems. They are ambitious and persistent, tackling major social issues by offering new ideas for wide-scale change. Whereas business entrepreneurs typically measure performance in profits, social entrepreneurs seek a sustainable approach to achieve social returns to society. Grand Challenges Canada believes social entrepreneurship is a critical feature to enable scaling, sustainability and the ultimate achievement of impact.

Understanding of Local Context

To help ensure sustainable impact at scale, it is essential that projects have an understanding of the local infrastructure and governance context (including relevant laws and regulations) and the social, political and economic context. In doing so, projects can better understand the health status and needs of the community, and identify risks to project success. Innovators are encouraged to work within priority areas identified by local or domestic governments. Where they exist, innovations should build upon local systems which are able to reach the target population that support health and/or development, or address broader determinants of health. Determinants of health include: poverty, inequality (including gender inequality), and access to water and sanitation resources. Innovations should be relevant to low resource settings, and benefits of these

innovations must target poor, marginalized populations of low- or middle-income countries.

2.8 GENDER EQUALITY, ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, AND HUMAN RIGHTS AND INCLUSION

Grand Challenges Canada is committed to furthering the principles of gender equality, environmental sustainability, and human rights and inclusion. As such, innovators are required to commit to compliance with Grand Challenges Canada Policy on [Gender Equality, Environmental Sustainability and Human Rights and Inclusion](#) as follows:

1. **Gender Equality**: Grand Challenges Canada believes that supporting gender equality and the rights of women and girls is an important objective in and of itself, as well as a critical development objective, and therefore aims to contribute to achievement of equality between persons of all genders. Grand Challenges Canada's baseline is to do no harm. Innovators funded or under review for funding by Grand Challenges Canada must consider how the design, implementation and evaluation of their innovation could promote – or hinder – gender equality objectives, and must take actions towards realizing gender equality opportunities within the funding period. In addition, Grand Challenges Canada is committed to advance gender equality in the leadership and governance of innovation, and to that end, strives to source and promote support systems to ensure equal access to progressive levels of financing for all genders and diversity in governance structures. Gender equality objectives include, but are not limited to:
 - i. Advance women's equal participation and support women and girls in the realization of their full human rights: Grand Challenges Canada seeks to support processes and innovations that actively engage and empower women and their communities to further women's equal participation and status in their societies.
 - ii. Reduce gender inequalities around the access to and control over the resources and benefits of development: Innovators should strive to understand and mitigate gender gaps in the contexts in which they operate, to work towards the achievement of gender equality and other, broader goals of development.
2. **Environmental Sustainability**: Grand Challenges Canada is, in part, funded by the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada and aligns with its efforts in supporting environmental sustainability in developing countries, and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) 2012. The reasonably foreseeable environmental impacts of innovations funded or under review for funding by Grand Challenges Canada must be considered at the planning stage and, where applicable, monitored and evaluated throughout implementation. Efforts should be

made to identify and minimize negative impacts and enhance positive impacts, if any, on the environment(s) in which the innovation is deployed.

- 3. Human Rights and Inclusion:** Grand Challenges Canada is committed to furthering the integration of, and enabling conditions for, promoting the human rights principles of equality, non-discrimination, participation, inclusion, transparency, and accountability from proposal development through implementation. Grand Challenges Canada works with innovators to strengthen their focus on these key human rights principles in the design of the innovation(s) and in the systems and processes used in the implementation of the innovation(s) in the specific context in which they are working. More specifically, innovators who have submitted a proposal or are implementing an innovation must consider how the innovation will, at a minimum, 'do no harm' with respect to the human rights of project stakeholders and beneficiaries. In the design and implementation of the innovation(s), the innovator must take into consideration how the innovation will:
1. Identify ways in which the innovation can support poverty reduction in the local population, particularly for women and girls;
 2. Ensure equality and non-discrimination, including on the basis of gender, for project stakeholders and beneficiaries;
 3. Foster the participation and inclusion of more marginalized stakeholders and beneficiaries among the local population, with an emphasis on women and girls; and
 4. Promote transparency and accountability among stakeholders and beneficiaries of the innovation and its intended impact.

2.9 GLOBAL ACCESS, DATA ACCESS AND ETHICS

Grand Challenges Canada is committed to fostering meaningful access to supported innovations for the target beneficiaries of each funded project, particularly those beneficiaries among the marginalized and poor in low- and middle-income countries; to promoting prompt and open dissemination of research findings and data arising from funded activities; and to ensuring that funded research is conducted in a manner that complies with relevant ethical standards. These commitments are embodied in Grand Challenges Canada's [Global Access Policy](#), [Data Access Policy](#) and [Ethics Policy](#), which should be carefully reviewed by all applicants.

1. **Global Access:** Grand Challenges Canada is committed to ensuring that (1) funded innovations can be made meaningfully accessible, both in terms of price and availability, to the target beneficiaries of each funded project, particularly those among the marginalized and poor in low- and middle-income countries; (2) knowledge and information gained through funded projects are disseminated broadly and promptly to the global research community and beyond; (3) commercialization of funded innovations is encouraged, so long as it is consistent with these principles.
2. **Data Access:** Grand Challenges Canada is committed to ensuring that (1) data is shared as broadly and as promptly as possible to foster innovation and optimize

prospects for the translation of knowledge into life-saving solutions; (2) respect for attribution, cultural diversity, scientific integrity, and the privacy of individuals and communities that contribute data are appropriately considered in all data access activities; (3) collection, production, sharing and use of data are consistent with applicable laws, regulations and standards of ethical research conduct; (4) the individuals and communities who enable and support inquiry, particularly those in low- and middle-income countries, be they research participants or investigators, benefit from data to the extent possible.

3. **Ethics:** Grand Challenges Canada requires that (1) research involving human participants be conducted in a manner that demonstrates, protects and preserves respect for persons, concern for the welfare of individuals, families and communities, and justice; (2) research involving animals be conducted in a manner that ensures their humane care and treatment; (3) certain research endeavours, including but not limited to research with recombinant DNA, biohazards and genetically modified organisms, be subject to enhanced regulation and oversight, as appropriate.

Innovators are required to: (1) commit to compliance with the above policies; (2) ensure that intellectual property rights, including those of third parties, do not impede meaningful access to innovations and widespread dissemination of knowledge; (3) grant Grand Challenges Canada a limited, non-exclusive license to intellectual property rights in their innovations, applicable only in the event of an inability to secure meaningful access for target beneficiaries in low- and middle-income countries or in the context of a World Health Organization-declared Public Health Emergency of International Concern.

3.0 ACTIVITIES AND DELIVERABLES

Innovators funded under this effort will be expected to engage in the activities and provide the specific deliverables listed below, which will help to demonstrate project progress and success:

1. Quarterly or semi-annual financial reporting focused on utilization of funds and semi-annual reporting on performance and outcomes achieved. **Please note** that funds may only be advanced to innovators to cover budgeted expenses for a period of two quarters, and that advances to cover the budgeted expenses for a third quarter will be contingent on the first quarter being fully accounted for, and so on. The provision of funds to innovators is subject to the release of funds to Grand Challenges Canada from our funder, Global Affairs Canada.
2. Dissemination of knowledge in a timely manner, including through social media, open access publications, depositing of data into publicly accessible repositories, press releases, conferences, stakeholder engagement, etc. **Please note** that innovators will be expected to publish their findings in open access journals or through open access publishing platforms, e.g. [F1000Research](#), typically within 12 months of completing their seed grant.

3. A final report that accounts for financial expenditures and captures a clear assessment of the impact of the project, including progress towards achieving meaningful access to innovations and widespread dissemination of knowledge. **Please note** that a 5% holdback of funds will be applied to all funding under this program, to be released to innovators upon submission of satisfactory final report and full justification of costs.
4. Continued post-grant updates on impact, global access, data access and management of intellectual property rights in supported innovations.

Instructions for reporting will be provided to successful applicants. Written progress reports and conversations via teleconference may be required to satisfy reporting requirements.

In addition to the above-mentioned activities, innovators will be expected to:

1. Participate in public engagement activities
2. Contribute to the learning agenda for specific challenges, including through participation in meetings with other Grand Challenges Canada innovators, when invited.

Please note that funded innovators may be audited by Grand Challenges Canada, Global Affairs Canada, and/or the Auditor General of Canada at any time up until the end of 2029; associated requirements will be reflected in funding agreements.

4.0 RULES AND GUIDELINES

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research oversees the peer review process and Grand Challenges Canada's Board of Directors makes the final funding decisions.

4.1 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Eligible applicants include social enterprises and other recognized institutions (e.g. non-profit organizations and for-profit companies) that are formed in an eligible jurisdiction, as set out below, that can successfully execute the activities in their respective technical area, and are capable of receiving and administering grant funding.
2. **ONLY** applicants from the following list of countries and Canada are eligible to apply to this RFP. For the purposes of determining eligibility, Grand Challenges Canada may consider both the applicant's home jurisdiction and any other jurisdiction within which project activities will be implemented. For clarity, applicants must provide proof of legal incorporation in one of these countries to be considered eligible to

receive Grand Challenges Canada funding. Grand Challenges Canada reserves the right to determine whether an applicant meets its eligibility requirements.

This list is subject to revision by Grand Challenges Canada without notice. Notwithstanding inclusion below, all eligible jurisdictions remain subject to approval by Grand Challenges Canada on the basis of compliance with all relevant Canadian and international laws and policies. Whenever possible, Grand Challenges Canada will provide reasonable notice of a determination of ineligibility for applicants located within jurisdictions listed below.

List of Countries Eligible to Apply

Least Developed Countries	Other Low Income Countries (per capita GNI <= \$1 005 in 2010)	Lower Middle Income Countries and Territories (per capita GNI \$1,006 - \$3,975 in 2010)	Upper Middle Income Countries and Territories (per capita GNI \$ 3,976 - \$12,275 in 2010)
Afghanistan Angola Bangladesh Benin Bhutan Burkina Faso Burundi Cambodia Central African Republic Chad Comoros Congo, Dem. Rep. Djibouti Equatorial Guinea Eritrea Ethiopia Gambia Guinea Guinea-Bissau Haiti Kiribati Lao PDR Lesotho Liberia Madagascar Malawi Mali Mauritania Mozambique Myanmar Nepal Niger Rwanda	Kenya Korea, Dem. Rep. Kyrgyz Rep. South Sudan Tajikistan Zimbabwe	Armenia Belize Bolivia Cameroon Cape Verde Congo, Rep. Côte d'Ivoire Egypt El Salvador Fiji Georgia Ghana Guatemala Guyana Honduras India Indonesia Iraq Kosovo Marshall Islands Micronesia, Federated States Moldova Mongolia Morocco Nicaragua Nigeria Pakistan Papua New Guinea Paraguay Philippines Sri Lanka Swaziland Syria Tokelau Tonga Turkmenistan Ukraine	Albania Algeria Anguilla Antigua and Barbuda Argentina Azerbaijan Belarus Bosnia and Herzegovina Botswana Brazil Chile China Colombia Cook Islands Costa Rica Cuba Dominica Dominican Republic Ecuador Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Gabon Grenada Iran Jamaica Jordan Kazakhstan Lebanon Libya Malaysia Maldives Mauritius Mexico Montenegro

Samoa Sao Tome and Principe Senegal Sierra Leone Solomon Islands Somalia Sudan Tanzania Timor-Leste Togo Tuvalu Uganda Vanuatu Yemen Zambia		Uzbekistan Vietnam West Bank and Gaza Strip	Montserrat Namibia Nauru Niue Palau Panama Peru Serbia Seychelles South Africa St. Helena St. Kitts-Nevis St. Lucia St. Vincent and Grenadines Suriname Thailand Tunisia Turkey Uruguay Venezuela Wallis and Futuna
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3. It is the applicant's responsibility to obtain any necessary legal and/or regulatory approvals, consents or reviews required to accept foreign grant funds and/or conduct the project activities before executing a funding agreement with Grand Challenges Canada. Applicants planning to conduct project activities in India may be required to register with the Ministry of Home Affairs under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act of 2010 (FCRA). As part of the Grand Challenges Canada's diligence, successful applicants will be required to provide their organization's registration under FCRA or a written certification that FCRA registration is not required. Failure to comply with the requirements of FCRA may subject your organization to financial and/or criminal penalties. You should consult with your own advisors to determine whether FCRA applies to your organization or project.
4. Applicants from Upper-Middle-Income Countries (UMICs): Please note that a maximum of one (1) award will be made within each UMIC (i.e. to the top-ranked applicant from a given UMIC).
5. It is mandatory for all **applicants from Canada** to have a collaborator based in an eligible country other than Canada. (See Section 4.1.) Existing and new collaborations are equally encouraged, particularly those that will bring additional components of Integrated Innovation to your project: scientific/technological, social and business innovation. **Please note:** it is **not mandatory** for applicants from eligible countries other than Canada to have a collaborator; however, collaborations are likewise encouraged.
6. A project can only have one Project Lead who must be affiliated with the institution from which the proposal is being submitted.

7. A Project Lead may only be listed on one application to this Request for Proposals. An institution from an eligible country may, however, be the applicant on multiple applications, if all applications have different Project Leads.
8. Applications must include all required information and attachments. Only complete applications will be considered for peer review.
9. Proposed ideas must be aligned with the Program Scope. (See Section 2.2.)
10. Grand Challenges Canada may, at any time and at its sole discretion, modify eligibility criteria with respect to individual applicants, Project Lead and/or eligible countries, to the extent that such modifications do not materially undermine the review process. (See Section 4.3.)

What We Will Not Fund

We WILL NOT consider funding drug or vaccine development, discovery science, capacity-building initiatives, ongoing programmatic funding, or ideas that are not applicable to poor women, girls, children and families in low- and middle-income countries. **Proposals that do not have the potential to achieve proof-of-concept with the results mentioned in Section 2.5 within the 12 month project period will not be considered.**

We WILL NOT consider funding projects that involve establishing proof-of-concept of innovations for which the core intellectual property rights are owned by a third party institution, unless either (a) the third party institution has granted the applicant sufficient license rights to the innovation to permit eventual scaling in low- and middle-income countries, or (b) the third party institution is willing to sign an undertaking to Grand Challenges Canada committing to comply with Grand Challenges Canada's Global Access requirements.

We WILL NOT consider funding innovations that are similar to innovations previously funded by Grand Challenges Canada. See [our website](#) for a searchable database of innovations funded by Grand Challenges Canada.

4.2 APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applications MUST be submitted through the Grand Challenges Canada Community Portal (gcc.fluxx.io)

In order to gain access to the Portal, applicants must first create an account using the following link: [Create an account](#).

Once you have created an account, please allow at least one (1) business day for Grand Challenges Canada to process your account request. Therefore, **we suggest creating an account no later than Thursday, September 20, 2018.**

Once your information has been processed, you will be emailed login credentials to access the Portal to start your application.

For questions on the application process, please consult the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) posted on <http://www.grandchallenges.ca/programs/stars-in-global-health/>. If you require technical assistance with the online application, please contact fluxsupport@grandchallenges.ca and provide your application number. Note this email is for technical support only. For questions related to this Request for Proposals or the application process that are not addressed in the FAQs, please contact stars@grandchallenges.ca.

A **two-minute** video explaining the target sexual and reproductive health and rights problem, the proposed solution, and why it is a creative, bold and innovative approach should also be uploaded to the application website. The video must not exceed two minutes; any videos that are longer than two minutes will be truncated at two minutes before being reviewed. Please note you must get permission to use someone else's song, images or footage in your video. Please refer to the Stars in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights RFP [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#) for more information.

These videos will be submitted to Grand Challenges Canada as part of the application in response to this RFP. Grand Challenges Canada does not endorse the content of these videos and takes no responsibility for the accuracy of their content or the process by which they were filmed.

Both the application and the video can be submitted in either **English** or **French**. Applications in other languages will not be considered.

Please note: Applicants are required to seek and obtain sign-off from their affiliated organization/institution(s) before submitting their application.

Proposal Development Resource

Applicants are encouraged to access Grand Challenge Canada's online resource at <http://www.grandchallenges.ca/funding-opportunities/innovator-toolbox/>, which contains materials to help researchers and innovators around the world to develop their project proposals and to plan for how their innovation will go to scale, be sustained and have global impact.

4.3 REVIEW PROCESS

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) manages an independent peer review process, which follows an Eligibility Screen and Innovation Screen conducted by Grand Challenges Canada. The review process is outlined below.

Eligibility Screen

Applications will be internally screened on the basis of the eligibility criteria outlined in Section 4.1. Applications that do not meet the eligibility criteria may be removed from the competition at any time.

Innovation Screen

Applications will be internally scored for strategic relevance to the Stars in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights RFP. The innovation screen will evaluate only the proposed idea (not the feasibility or quality of the project plan) for novelty and potential to contribute uniquely to the problem (See Section 1.2.). Proposals that lack innovation and relevance will be removed from the competition at this stage.

Applications will be scored against the criteria below using the **project summary paragraphs** only (the criteria are equally weighted):

1. Innovation

- Is the proposed idea clearly articulated?
- Is the proposed idea more than an incremental improvement over current approaches?
- Is the proposed idea significantly different from innovations previously funded by Grand Challenges Canada?
- Is there a coordinated application of integrated scientific/technological, social and business innovation proposed, as defined in Sections 2.6?

2. Relevance

- Does the proposed idea address the problem, as described in Section 1.2?
- Does the proposed idea align with areas of particular interest, as described in Section 2.2?
- Does the proposed idea apply primarily to the poorest and most vulnerable populations in low- or middle-income countries?

Peer Review

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research manages an independent peer review of the applications that pass the Eligibility Screen and Innovation Screen. A review committee of external scientific, social and business reviewers, including experts from low- and middle-income countries, will advise on the merit of proposals and rate each application based on the evaluation criteria in Section 4.4.

Funding Decision

Upon completion of peer review, Grand Challenges Canada will receive a ranked list and ratings from CIHR. Selection decisions will be based on the ranked list and ratings received from CIHR, as well as Grand Challenges Canada's objective to fund approximately two-thirds of the awardees from low-and middle-income countries, and one-third from Canada. A maximum of one (1) award will be made within each UMIC (i.e. to the top-ranked applicant from a given UMIC). The final selection decisions will be

made by the Board of Directors of Grand Challenges Canada at the Board's sole discretion, including its reserved rights set out in Section 4.1.

4.4 EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. Impact – 18%

- Is the potential impact of the proposed innovation on sexual and reproductive health and rights important, both in terms of number of people reached and impact per person?
- Does the proposed idea apply to the poorest and most marginalized populations in low- or middle-income countries?
- Does the proposed idea aim to address inequalities, including gender inequality?

2. Integrated Innovation – 18%

- How bold, novel and/or a departure from incremental improvements is the innovation over current approaches?
- How well does the proposed idea integrate scientific/technological, social and business innovation?

3. Scale and Sustainability – 18%

- Does the proposed idea have a path to, and potential for, impact at scale? Markers of potential for scale and sustainability include: involvement of partners who can help the innovation to scale, potential to leverage or generate funding to sustain the innovation, and alignment to the health plan of the region in which it is being implemented.
- Does the applicant identify relevant laws, regulations, national plans, and interest of relevant institutions and organizations to the development, delivery and uptake of innovations (i.e. local health systems)?

4. Project Lead and Team – 18%

- Do the Project Lead and team have the skills to carry out the proposed activities?
- Do they demonstrate the commitment and leadership needed to transition ideas to scale?
- Is the Project Lead able to present their approach to the public in an engaging manner?

5. Technical Merit/Project Execution Plan – 18%

- Is the project designed to demonstrate proof of concept of the idea?
 - Does it provide on-the-ground evidence of improvement on sexual and reproductive health and rights, and how the concept may be feasibly implemented, sustained and financially supported in the target region.
 - Is there a commitment to disaggregate all indicators by sex?
- Is the project scientifically/technically sound and feasible within the seed grant funding and timeline?

- Does the proposal take into account and aim to address the gender equality, environmental sustainability, and human rights and inclusion objectives in Section 2.8?
- Does the location or condition within which the work will be performed contribute to the probability of success?
- Does the approach and budget represent an efficient use of resources?

6. Transformative – 10%

- Does the proposed idea have the potential to fundamentally transform how a sexual and reproductive health and rights challenge is addressed?

4.5 APPLICATION SCHEDULE

Completed applications must be submitted by Tuesday, September 25, 2018, at 3:00 p.m. ET.

Key Deadlines	Event
September 20, 2018	Registration deadline to <u>Create an account</u> on the Community Portal (gcc.fluxx.io)
September 25, 2018	Application deadline at 3:00 p.m. ET
April – May 2019	Notification of award
June 2019	Execution of award
September 2019	Latest possible start date for award

5.0 FINANCIAL TERMS

5.1 ELIGIBLE COSTS

The following costs directly related to the implementation of the project, as further set out in the [Eligible & Ineligible Expense Directive](#) are eligible:

Remuneration – Organization’s Employees

Daily rates actually paid to employees for time actually worked on the implementation of the project, based on a work day of seven and one-half (7.5) hours with a maximum of five (5) days per week. **A timesheet system must be in use.** Rates can include the following costs: direct salaries (excluding overtime pay and bonuses) and benefits in accordance with internal policies.

Fees – Subcontractors with an Arm’s Length Relationship to the Organization

The actual and justifiable cost of sub-contractors’ fees under a sub-contract concluded with the organization, where the organization and the sub-contractor have an arm’s length relationship. Individual rates or amounts negotiated shall not exceed the fair market value that applies to the specific type of service in the regular place of work of the sub-contractor or for similar work being performed under this agreement and shall exclude any increased rate for overtime. The total sub-contracting shall not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the total value of Grand Challenges Canada’s contribution.

Reimbursable Costs

The actual and reasonable costs directly related to the implementation of the project, such as:

1. **Travel costs**, including the following travel costs incurred by the organization, in accordance:
 - The cost of commercial transportation based on the lowest available fares, using the most direct routing
 - The cost of meals, incidentals and private vehicle usage
 - The cost of registration, photographs and courier services related to obtaining a visa
 - The actual and reasonable cost of a single room in commercial accommodation
 - All other actual and reasonable costs deemed legitimate project expenses
2. **Recipient country government employees**: costs (such as local transportation costs and living expenses while travelling) incurred by government employees of the recipient country who have been identified by the recipient country to work with project personnel for the purpose of the project.
3. **Goods and supplies**: Actual costs of publications and promotional materials directly related to the Project, such as business cards for Project personnel, posters and signage.
4. **Project administration eligible direct costs** related to the project:
 - Long-distance communications, including means of telecommunications (internet, fax, cellular), mail and courier costs
 - Printing and production costs associated with project reporting and production of reading material
 - Meeting, workshops and conference costs
 - Legal fees: legal costs directly related to sub-agreements
 - Due diligence prior to signing a sub-agreement
 - Bank transfer fees.

Indirect/Overhead Costs

Indirect/overhead costs are not eligible under Grand Challenges Canada’s agreements.

5.2 BUDGET

Grant funds may be used for the following cost categories. Budget categories should not exceed the allowable costs per category, as listed below. Total budget should not exceed \$100,000 CAD.

Category	Description	Maximum allowable cost
Remuneration – Organization’s employees	Daily rates actually paid to employees for time actually worked on the implementation of the Project, based on a work day of seven and one-half (7.5) hours with a maximum of five (5) days per week. Timesheet system must be in use. Timesheets shall be signed by the employee and the employee’s supervisor. Timesheets shall also indicate the Project, the name of the employee, the date, location, nature of the work, number of hours worked per day specifically on the Project, as well as the total number of hours worked per week on all projects. Rates can include the following costs: direct salaries (excluding overtime pay and bonuses) and benefits in accordance with internal policies.	\$ 40,000
Fees - Subcontractors	The actual and justifiable cost of Subcontractors’ fees under a Sub-contract concluded with the Organization, where the Organization and the Subcontractor have an Arm’s Length Relationship. Individual rates or amounts negotiated shall not exceed the fair market value that applies to the specific type of service in the regular place of work of the Subcontractor or for similar work being performed under this Agreement and shall exclude any increased rate for overtime. The total subcontracting (Fees - Subcontractors on main grant + Fees - Subcontractors on Sub-grants) shall not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the total value of Grand Challenges Canada’s Contribution.	\$ 20,000
Reimbursable Travel Costs	Travel Costs, including the following travel costs incurred by the Organization in accordance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cost of commercial transportation based on the lowest available fares, using the most direct routing. • The cost of meals, incidentals and private vehicle usage. • The cost of registration, photographs, and courier services related to obtaining a visa. • The actual and reasonable cost of a single room in commercial accommodation. • All other actual and reasonable costs deemed legitimate Project expenses. 	\$10,000



Reimbursable Goods and Supplies	Actual and Eligible Costs arising from the purchase, rental, maintenance and transportation of goods, and supplies (excluding office supplies), such as publications and promotional material (i.e. business cards for Project personnel, posters and signage), provided that such costs do not exceed the fair market value that applies to the specific type of goods, and supplies.	\$25,000
Reimbursable Equipment	All equipment that has a useful life of more than one year and costs more than \$1,000 CAD will need to be separately listed out. Costs may include the basic purchase price, freight, and installation of the equipment.	\$25,000
Reimbursable Project Administration costs directly related to the Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Long distance communications, including means of telecommunications (internet, fax, cellular), mail and courier costs;• Printing and production costs associated with Project reporting and production of reading material;• Meeting, workshops, and conference costs;• Legal fees: Legal costs directly related to sub-agreements;• Due diligence prior to signing a Sub-agreement;• Bank transfer fees.	\$25,000
Sub-Grants	<p>Sub-grants are grants made by you to other organizations to complete work for this project. The costs should not include Indirect/Overhead costs, as these are ineligible costs under the Project.</p> <p>The distinction between sub-grants vs. sub-contracts should be made primarily based on the following definitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sub-grants will be responsible for some of the research activities and will be compensated accordingly. The terms of the main grant with Grand Challenges Canada must be passed down to sub-grantees.• Sub-contractor will provide technical services (for example, a lab doing tests for the Project Lead/grantee) and will be paid based on services provided upon provision of invoices based on reasonable hourly rates.	\$20,000
Indirect Costs	Please note indirect costs will not be allowed.	0

At least some of the budget and activities **MUST** be spent/carried out in an eligible country other than Canada. (See Section 4.1.)

Grant funds must be used solely to fund the project, which shall occur during the project period and which shall be carried out in compliance with the terms of the Grant

Agreement and all applicable laws and regulations. The grantee may not, without Grand Challenges Canada's written consent, use grant funds to fund activities or reimburse expenses incurred outside the project period.

Proposals with thoughtful and efficient use of resources will be preferred over proposals representing comparable efforts that do not have the same value for the investment. In some circumstances (e.g. rapidly changing technologies), subcontracting specific project activities to an outside institution with the infrastructure and expertise to deliver results may be considered advantageous over establishing in-house capacity.

5.3 TERMS OF PAYMENTS

- 5.3.1. **Advance payments:** An initial advance equal to the estimated cash flow requirements for eligible costs forecasted for the first two quarters will be made upon signature of the Agreement. Subsequent payments will be made through quarterly or semi-annual advances, based on the estimated cash flow requirements for eligible costs. Advances will be subject to a 5% holdback on the amount forecasted.
- 5.3.2. All advance requests and financial reports submitted shall be signed by a senior executive holding a certified professional accounting designation.
- 5.3.3. **Outstanding advance:** Advance payments cannot cover more than two periods and at no time shall there be outstanding advances covering the cash flow requirements of more than two periods. For example, before an advance payment is issued for a third period, the first period must be accounted for.
- 5.3.4. **Separate bank account and interest earned on advance payments:** A separate bank account, bearing interest, shall be maintained for the project.
- 5.3.5. Final payment will be subject to the following conditions:
- i. The Project is completed in accordance with the Agreement.
 - ii. Grand Challenges Canada has received and accepted the Final Report.
 - iii. Grand Challenges Canada has received a certificate stating that financial obligations to employees, sub-contractors or suppliers in respect of Grand Challenges Canada's contribution to the project have been fully discharged.

5.4 AUDIT

Project costs will be subject to audit by Grand Challenges Canada, Global Affairs Canada and/or the Auditor General of Canada at any time up until the end of 2029.

6.0 SUBMISSION MATERIALS AND PRIVACY NOTICE

All proposals, documents, communications, including videos and associated materials submitted to Grand Challenges Canada in response to this Request for Proposals

(collectively, “Submission Materials”) may be shared with Global Affairs Canada, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and/or with other funding partners, and may be publicly disclosed.

By submitting any Submission Materials to Grand Challenges Canada, each applicant thereby grants to Grand Challenges Canada and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (“Her Majesty”) a worldwide, perpetual, irrevocable, non-exclusive, non-commercial, free of charge and royalty-free license to use, reproduce, adapt, modify, improve, develop, translate, publish, disseminate, distribute, communicate to the public by telecommunication and display the Submission Materials, in whole or in part, in any form, media or technology now known or later developed, including the right to authorize others to do such acts and the right to sublicense such rights to others on the same terms.

Each applicant also thereby waives any and all moral rights that it has in the Submission Materials in favour of Grand Challenges Canada, Her Majesty, and each of their sub-licensees, successors, representatives, assigns, employees and agents. The proposals will be subject to external review by independent subject-matter experts and potential co-funders (the results of which will be confidential), in addition to analysis by our staff.

Please carefully consider the information included in the Submission Materials. If you have any doubts about the wisdom of disclosure of confidential or proprietary information (including information related to inventions), we recommend you consult with your legal counsel and take any steps you deem necessary to protect your intellectual property. You may wish to consider whether such information is critical for evaluating the submission and whether more general, non-confidential information may be adequate as an alternative for these purposes.

Grand Challenges Canada expressly disclaims any and all liability that may arise from disclosure of confidential information contained in Submission Materials.

7.0 WARRANTY

By providing any Submission Materials, applicants represent and warrant to Grand Challenges Canada that they have the right to provide the information submitted and to grant the above licenses.

Applicants with questions concerning the contents of their Submission Materials may contact Grand Challenges Canada by email at stars@grandchallenges.ca.

8.0 RIGHTS OF GRAND CHALLENGES CANADA

This Request for Proposals is part of a discretionary granting program. Submission of an application does not create a contractual relationship between the applicant and Grand Challenges Canada.

Furthermore, all applicants acknowledge that this program is being tested through this Request for Proposals and that all terms are subject to change. In particular, Grand Challenges Canada reserves the right, in its sole discretion and without notice, to:

1. Cancel this Request for Proposals at any time and for any reason.
2. Amend and reissue the Request for Proposals at any time and for any reason. This Request for Proposals is valid commencing on July 31, 2018, and supersedes any previous Request for Proposals of this nature. The terms and conditions of this Request for Proposals apply to all applications submitted from July 31, 2018 going forward and may be replaced by a revised Request for Proposals in the future. We recommend checking for any revisions to the Request for Proposals prior to the submission of your proposal.
3. Accept or reject any application that is non-conforming because it does not meet the eligibility criteria, does not comply with the application instructions and/or does not comply with the instructions for allowable costs.
4. Not award an application based on performance on a previous Grand Challenges Canada grant or project, or based on the award of a grant to the applicant for the same or similar research by one of Grand Challenges Canada's partners or collaborating institutions.
5. Disqualify any application at any stage where there is an indication that the proposal was, in any way, plagiarized.
6. Accept or reject any or all applications, regardless of an application's rating, based on the evaluation criteria, with or without providing an explanation.
7. Award fewer awards than expected.
8. Award applications with different funding amounts, different durations and/or different conditions than set out above.
9. Verify any information provided by applicants through independent research or by contacting third parties deemed to be reliable by Grand Challenges Canada and use that information to inform Grand Challenges Canada's funding decision.
10. Modify eligibility and evaluation criteria, including but not limited to criteria assessed at the Innovation Screen, prior to the application deadline.
11. Use video, or other visual representation submitted by applicants, on Grand Challenges Canada's website for public engagement.
12. Not provide critiques or feedback regarding the reasons a proposal was or was not selected.
13. Design grant awards to link to possible funding partners, including private sector investors.

9.0 RESEARCH ASSURANCES

It is the policy of Grand Challenges Canada that research involving human subjects, research with animals and research subject to additional regulatory requirements must be conducted in accordance with the highest, internationally-recognized ethical standards. In order to receive funds from Grand Challenges Canada, initially and

throughout the course of a research project, researchers must affirm and document compliance with the guiding ethical principles and standards outlined below.

- Research involving human participants must be conducted in a manner that demonstrates, protects and preserves respect for persons, concern for the welfare of individuals, families and communities, and justice.
- Research involving animals must be conducted in a manner that ensures their humane care and treatment.
- Certain research endeavours, including but not limited to research with recombinant DNA, biohazards and genetically modified organisms, may be subject to enhanced regulation and oversight.

While not necessary for this application and as applicable to the individual project, Grand Challenges Canada will require that, for each venue in which any part of the project is conducted (either by your organization or a sub-grantee or sub-contractor), all legal and regulatory approvals for the activities being conducted will be obtained in advance of commencing the regulated activity. We will further require the applicant to agree that no funds will be expended to enroll human subjects until the necessary regulatory and ethical bodies' approvals are obtained and the clinical registration is complete. For further details, please see Grand Challenges Canada's [Ethics Policy](#).

Questions about the *Stars in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights* Request for Proposals or the application process should be addressed to stars@grandchallenges.ca. Responses to frequently asked questions will periodically be posted on our website at <http://www.grandchallenges.ca/programs/stars-in-global-health/>.

APPENDIX A

INDICATORS RELEVANT TO THE STARS IN SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Innovators are expected to report against any indicators listed below that are relevant to demonstrating success of their innovation.

Outcomes	Potential Indicators ¹
<p>Reduced sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), including child, early and forced marriage (CEFM) and female genital mutilation and cutting (FGMC).</p>	<p>Number of women and girls experiencing reduced SGBV, including CEFM and FGMC, through both preventative and responsive innovations. This can include (but is not limited to) any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Number of people who have experienced, or are at risk of, any form of SGBV that have received related services b. Number of women and girls, men and boys, demonstrating positive attitudes towards ending SGBV c. Number of women and girls receiving post-rape care services
<p>Improve the use of sexual and reproductive health services</p>	<p>Number of women and girls using sexual and reproductive health services. This can include (but is not limited to) any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Number of women and girls provided with access to sexual and reproductive health services, including modern methods of contraception b. Number of health care service providers trained in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights services c. Number of people treated with antiretroviral therapy d. Number of women and girls provided with menstrual health management services, products, and education

¹ These potential indicators are suggestions; however, Grand Challenges Canada will consider other indicators provided that they are strategically within scope of this Request for Proposals.

<p>Improved use of family planning and contraception.</p>	<p>Number of women and girls with improved use of family planning and contraception. This can include (but is not limited to) any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Number of people provided with modern contraception (by method) b. Percentage of primary service delivery points with at least three modern methods of contraception available c. Percentage of women who decide to use family planning, alone or jointly with their husbands/partners
<p>Improved access to safe abortion where legal, and post-abortion care.</p>	<p>Number of women and girls with enhanced access to safe and legal abortion services and post-abortion care. This can include (but is not limited to) any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Number of health facilities that provide care for complications related to unsafe abortion or, where it is not against the law, that provide safe abortion b. Number of health professionals trained to provide safe abortion and post-abortion care c. Number of women provided with a safe, legal abortion or post-abortion care
<p>Enhanced access to comprehensive sexuality education.</p>	<p>Number of women and girls, men and boys, with enhanced access to comprehensive sexuality education. This can include (but is not limited to) any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Number of teachers/facilitators trained on comprehensive sexuality education b. Number of school curriculums that integrate comprehensive sexuality education
<p>Enhanced advocacy and public engagement in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)</p>	<p>Number of people engaging in, or being reached by, enhanced advocacy and public engagement on SRHR. This can include (but is not limited to) any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Number of advocacy and public engagement activities completed which are focused on SRHR b. Number of national laws, policies and strategies relating to SRHR implemented or strengthened c. Number of women's rights organizations and networks (international and local) advancing SRHR