

#### Research Funding Opportunity: Collaboration Accelerator Award

**Division of International Affairs and Language Development** <international@nu.ac.th> ร่างจดหมาย

21 มิถุนายน 2567 เวลา 08:17

จาก: RGHI <grants admin@mail.rghi.org>

Date: พ. 19 มิ.ย. 2024 เวลา 20:00

Subject: Research Funding Opportunity: Collaboration Accelerator Award

To: Professor Ngourungsi <international@nu.ac.th>

กองพัฒนาภาษาและกิจการต่างประเทศ มหาวิทยาลัยนเรศวร รับที่ 2 1 มิ.ยื. 2567 (0.3 o

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# Reckitt Global Hygiene Institute

Research Funding Opportunity: RGHI Launches Collaboration Accelerator Award

Reckitt Global Hygiene Institute (RGHI) has launched its latest round of research funding: the Collaboration Accelerator Award.

RGHI has created this latest award in recognition of the substantial resources needed to develop successful collaborative research proposals that address locally identified policy and practice needs. Researchers, already constrained by limited time and funding, must invest significant effort to build strong relationships across different sector actors and disciplines. This process involves identifying and articulating policy and practice challenges that require evidence, assembling a team, designing a study to address the evidence gap, and developing proof of concept or demonstrating the feasibility of the proposed work.

Through this investment, RGHI aims to support consortia that can develop the right relationships and work plans to be well positioned to apply for large scale funding to support work in hygiene and health.

Grants of up to \$200,000 will be available to support collaborative teams working to advance hygiene research, policy, and practice.

### 💈 เรียน อธิการบดี

ด้วย Reckitt Global Hygiene Institute (RGHI) ขอประชาสัมพันธ์การเสนอชื่อเพื่อรับรางวัล RGHI Collaboration Accelerator Award 2024 โดยเป็นรางวัลที่มอบให้แก่โครงการวิจัย ที่มุ่งเน้นการพัฒนาสุขอนามัย โดยเฉพาะอย่างยิ่ง โครงการที่มุ่งเน้น ไปที่กลุ่มเปราะบาง โดยผู้ที่ได้รับการคัดเลือกจะได้รับทุนสนับสนุน ในการดำเนินโครงการในระยะเวลา 2 ปี เป็นจำนวนเงิน 200,000 เหรียญสหรัฐ โอกาสในการก่อตั้ง หรือก่อตั้งหรือพัฒนากลุ่ม ความร่วมมือในด้านการวิจัย และการเข้าร่วมเครือข่ายกับนักวิจัย ขั้นนำ โดยผู้สมัครจะต้องมีคุณสมบัติดังต่อไปนี้

- 1. ทีมวิจัยต้องประกอบไปด้วยนักวิจัยจากสถาบันต่างๆ อย่างน้อย 2 แห่ง
- 2. ข้อเสนอวิจัยต้องมุ่งเน้นไปที่ประเด็นด้านสุขอนามัย ที่สำคัญ
- 3. โครงการวิจัยต้องมีความเป็นไปได้และสามารถ นำไปประยุกต์ใช้ได้จริง
- 4. ทีมวิจัยต้องแสดงให้เห็นถึงศักยภาพและความมุ่งมั่น ในการทำงานร่วมกันอย่างมีประสิทธิภาพ

ทั้งนี้ ผู้ที่สนใจสามารถศึกษารายละเอียด และส่งผลงาน ได้ตั้งแต่บัดนี้ จนถึงวันที่ 4 กันยายน 2567 เวลา 22:00 น. (British Summer Time) และมีการสัมมนาออนไลน์เกี่ยวกับ รายละเอียดของรางวัลดังกล่าวในวันที่ 3 กรกฎาคม 2567 เวลา 16:00 น. (British Summer Time) (รายละเอียดตาม เอกสารแนบ)

จึงเรียนมาเพื่อโปรดพิจารณา และเห็นควรเวียนแจ้ง กลุ่มวิทยาศาสตร์สุขภาพเพื่อประชาสัมพันธ์ต่อไป



**RGHI Apply** 



RGHI Webinar

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ลงชื่อ ......

(นายจักรกฤษณ์ เพื่องปรางค์) ผู้อำนวยการก่องพัฒนาภาษาและกิจการต่างประเทศ

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ลงชื่อ ......(ดร.พิสุทธิ์ อภิขยกุล)

รองอธิการบดีฝ่ายวิเทศสัมพันธ์และการถ่ายทอดเทคโนโลยี ปฏิบัติราชการแทน อธิการบดีมหาวิทยาลัยนเรศวร

วันที่ 24/6/17

#### Key Details:

- Awards of up to \$200,000 over a period of up to 24 months.
- Open to academics seeking to establish or further develop consortia across research, policy, and/or practice.
- Applications must be submitted by an academic institution and include at least one academic partner and a policy or hygiene intervention delivery institution.

#### **Important Dates:**

- Application Deadline: September 4, 2024 (10pm BST)
- Foundant Application System Opens: July 3, 2024
- Informational Webinar: July 3, 2024 (4pm BST)

For full details, eligibility criteria, and application templates, please refer to the Collaboration Accelerator Award Call Specification on our website.

For updates, including webinar details, follow us on LinkedIn.

Have questions? Visit our FAQs page or contact us at grants\_admin@mail.rghi.org.

Best regards,

Sarah Roberts

#### **Executive Director**

Reckitt Global Hygiene Institute

LEARN MORE



# RGHI Collaboration Accelerator Award 2024

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#### Overview

The Reckitt Global Hygiene Institute (RGHI) is pleased to announce the launch of the Collaboration Accelerator Award (CAA).

The RGHI Collaboration Accelerator Award is designed to support transdisciplinary partnerships that accelerate global progress towards improved hygiene. Awards of up to \$200,000 over a period of up to 24 months will support the development of collaborative teams that include researchers, policy actors and/or practitioners that will deliver research that is locally relevant and globally resonant to advance hygiene evidence, policy and practice and improve health and wellbeing for the world's most vulnerable communities. Funding is available to develop strong collaborative teams across disciplines, sectors and geographies (where needed), to identify and address knowledge gaps that directly relate to local hygiene policy and/or practice needs.

To be eligible, the consortium must include at least one academic partner and a nationally or internationally active policy institution and/or institution responsible for the delivery of hygiene interventions at scale (district level or above). Applications addressing hygiene challenges in any low resource setting (within a HIC, UMIC, LMIC or LIC) are welcome. Applications must include at least one research institution from the country in which the policy or practice need has been identified; additional collaborators (academic or otherwise) from other countries are welcome if the unique value add in terms of knowledge/skills can be justified in relation to the proposed work. Applications must be submitted by an academic institution, the institution that submits the application will be referred to as the prime institution.

# All applications must:

- Include details on how the transdisciplinary team will be built and strengthened through the lifetime of the award.
- Include details on how a hygiene policy and/or practice need will be identified by the team and aligned research area and questions articulated.

• Outline proposed pilot/feasibility work and potential scientific and/or technical outputs that will result from this research and inform longer term research plans.

All successful applicants will be required to:

- Organize and hold a stakeholder engagement event in the country of focus for the work within six months of the start date, involving all collaborating institutions and any additional relevant stakeholders.
- Within 18 months of the start date, submit a plan for future research
  activities and funding, and detailed Theory of Change for the proposed
  research. Fundraising plans, a Theory of Change and document
  outlining the collaborative process followed to develop these must be
  submitted to RGHI. These will be reviewed by the RGHI Research and
  Advocacy Advisory Committee.
- Within the lifetime of the award, submit at least one significant funding application to progress the research beyond the Collaboration Accelerator Award funding.

The CAAs will be issued via a competitive, independent peer-review process to transdisciplinary consortium that submit complete and high-quality applications. The funding will be administered through the prime academic institution in a manner consistent with global academic funding practice.

Guidance for applicants can be found in Appendix 1.

# Background

Founded in 2020, RGHI aims to support high-quality scientific research addressing the links between hygiene and health. RGHI funds research which generates practical, high-quality scientific evidence and behavioral insights that will lead to the adoption of global sustainable hygienic practices and achieve enduring behavior change.

RGHI is funded by a grant from Reckitt Benckiser plc to provide funding for a multi-year portfolio of research grants which contribute to advancement, innovation, and knowledge sharing of hygiene research and practices.

More information about RGHI's current and past research portfolio can be found <u>here</u>.

# RGHI research scope and areas of interest

RGHI aligns to the WHO definition of hygiene: "hygiene refers to conditions and practices that help to maintain health and prevent the spread of diseases" and the WHO definition of health: "health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity". Applicants to the RGHI CAA should consider both the definition of hygiene and the definition of health as it relates to their proposed consortium and research.

Within the field of hygiene, RGHI's current funding priorities are hand hygiene, food hygiene, personal hygiene, menstrual health, domestic and surface hygiene. RGHI funds hygiene research in domestic, institutional and public settings.

The focus of the Collaboration Accelerator Awards is on locally identified policy and/or practice needs; these should guide the focus of the research. Applications are welcome that respond to hygiene research relevant to one or more of the following thematic areas:

- Hygiene behaviors and behavior change
- Planetary heath and climate change
- One Health including Zoonosis and Antimicrobial Resistance
- Gender equity and social inclusion
- Research specific to the economic and policy dimensions of hygiene

Applicants will be asked to select *one* of the above thematic areas in their application.



# Equitable partnerships

Ensuring awardees of the RGHI CAA are in an equitable consortium will be assessed in the review process. Addressing power imbalances when conducting research between collaborating institutions is essential for ensuring mutual respect and fair allocation of resources. The aim of supporting equitable collaborations is to bridge knowledge and resource gaps in hygiene research, support the ongoing development of global hygiene research networks, and support research uptake through engagement with relevant communities and policy actors.

Successful applications will demonstrate their commitment to equitable partnerships by providing a statement that outlines how the collaborating institutions will ensure the principles of equitable partnerships are upheld.

Further guidance and resources to support equitable research partnerships can be found here.

# Theory of Change and future funding plans

Within the first 18 months of the award start date, successful consortia are required to develop an overarching Theory of Change for the research area to be addressed by the team and of relevance to the funding opportunities the consortium will be applying to. The Theory of Change must demonstrate how the proposed research will lead to improved hygiene and impacts on health and well-being and outline the pathways between activities, outputs and outcomes of the research. It must be co-developed by consortium partners and should be used to support proposal development for future funding to continue the research started by the CAA. Applicants must submit at least one major funding application before the end of the award.

The Theory of Change development process should build on discussions with end users and stakeholders in the consortium as well as building on the current evidence base and any initial findings form pilot/feasibility work that is being undertaken within the CAA.

After 18 months, the Theory of Change, along with a description of the process followed, must be submitted to RGHI for review. Guidance on developing a Theory of Change for research can be found <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.

# Eligibility criteria

# Who can apply?

The RGHI CAA is an open call for academics looking to either establish or further develop a consortium of institutions from across research, policy and/or practice to engage in policy or practice-relevant hygiene research. Applications must be submitted through a recognized research institution, e.g. universities or renowned academic research institutes anywhere in the world.

# Eligibility

- Applications must be submitted by an academic institution. The institution that submits the application will be referred to as the prime institution.
- The consortium must include at least one academic partner and a nationally or internationally active policy institution and/or institution responsible for the delivery of hygiene interventions at scale (district level or above).
- Applications addressing hygiene challenges in any low resource setting (within a HIC, UMIC, LMIC or LIC) are welcome.
- Applications must include at least one research institution from the country in which the policy or practice need has been identified, additional collaborators (academic or otherwise) from other countries are welcome if the unique value add in terms of knowledge/skills can be justified in relation to the proposed work.



# Cost and budget guidance

The CAA will provide up to \$200,000 for up to a 24-month period.

A budget template (found within the application page) demonstrating equitable resource allocation between consortium partners and representative of the respective inputs of partners must be provided with the application.

#### Eligible costs include:

- Principal and co-investigator costs from all collaborating institutions/organizations
- Reasonable costs associated with the inclusion of policy and/or practice partners\*
- Fieldwork/lab staff and expenses
- Training
- Stakeholder/community engagement costs
- Travel related to consortium development and/or research
- Associated research administration costs

# The following costs are not eligible for funding:

- Equipment over \$2,000
- Office furniture, such as desk
- Tuition and student fees
- Utilities such as water, electricity, or gas costs

\*RGHI defines reasonable costs as the per diem or daily rate necessary for government or other civil society members to participate in meetings or other activities. Note that salary costs for policy and practice partners will need specific justification.

# Review process and criteria

RGHI CAA awards will be made after a rigorous peer-review process with reviews conducted by independent scholars skilled in RGHI research topics. An independent expert panel will review all applications and will score applications based on the following criteria:

- Evidence that the proposed CAA aims to identify and address a locally relevant hygiene policy and/or practice need.
- High-quality, collaborative and transdisciplinary project plan and proposed activities to inform future funding plans.
- Researcher's track record to date and suitable skills and experience of policy/practice partners.
- Proof of mutual commitment to equitable working.
- Value for money.

As outlined in the above, the following are mandatory conditions of awarded applications:

- 1. Within the first 6 six months of the grant, award holders must commit to organizing a consortium meeting involving policy actors from the country or countries in which the work will take place.
- 2. Within the first 18 months of the award applicants are required to submit their plan for future funding and Theory of Change for the proposed research and to RGHI for review by the RGHI Research and Advocacy Advisory Committee.
- 3. Within the lifetime of the award applicants must submit a significant funding application to progress the research beyond the seed funding activities

Following the notification of an award, successful applicants will be required to liaise with the RGHI scientific advice and support team at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine to ensure the project work plan and timelines are acceptable prior to the contract being issued.

# **Timeline**

• June 12, 2024: Launch call for application to the RGHI Collaboration Accelerator Award

- July 3, 2024: RGHI's Grant Management System (Foundant) opens for applications
- July 3, 2024: Information session for applicants
- September 4, 2024: Deadline for submissions
- Early September 2024: RGHI office will check applications for eligibility and completeness
- October 2024: CAA panel meeting
- November 2024: Notification of funding decisions and award process commences

# Contracting

The award will be issued to the prime institution which will be responsible for reporting and managing the funds. Contracting will comply with US requirements for scientific grants to institutions.

The prime institution must agree to a due diligence process and meet US non-profit grant eligibility requirements.

#### Contact

Please direct questions to <a href="mailto:grants\_admin@mail.rghi.org">grants\_admin@mail.rghi.org</a>

Please ensure you have read our <u>FAQs page</u> for more information.

Further guidance can be found in Appendix 1 - 'Guidance for Applicants'.

There will be an information session for applicants on July 3, 2024, at 4pm BST with further guidance including an overview and Q&A. Information on joining this session will be made available on the RGHI website and social media channels.



# APPENDIX 1: Guidance for Applicants

The application deadline is September 4, 2024 (5pm EST).

All applicants are required to submit their application within Foundant, the RGHI grant management system. Applicants are encouraged to register and create an account as soon as possible to avoid any delays in the application process. Details of all elements required for an application to the RGHI Collaboration Accelerator Award scheme are provided below.

#### Lay Summary (text box in Foundant)

Applicants should provide a summary of the proposed consortium, including name, key goals and outcomes of the consortium for a general audience. Please include specific objectives of any planned research or other consortium activities. Please note that summaries of funded consortia may be made public on the RGHI website, therefore applicants are asked not to include any confidential information.

#### Case for support (upload attachment to Foundant)

This can be up to six pages (references can be included on a seventh page) and should include the following sub-headings:

- Background and rationale for the consortium
- Aim and objectives
  - In this section, applicants should clearly articulate the aim and specific objectives of the proposed consortium
- Brief summary of key personnel
  - In this section, applicants should provide a brief (one paragraph) overview of the key personnel and their contributions to the consortium.
- Policy and practice relevance
  - In this section, applicants should explain how the proposed consortium and research aims to identify and respond to locally articulated hygiene policy or practice needs.
- Scientific relevance

o In this section, applicants should explain how the proposed research aligns with specific RGHI areas of interest and thematic areas. Applicants should clearly position the focus and work of the proposed consortia within the scientific literature and articulate how the proposed work addresses a stated knowledge gap. RGHI understands that the exact focus of the research will evolve through the specific activities of the consortia.

### • Proposed activities:

- o In this section, applicants should clearly articulate the specific activities that will be completed as part of the consortium, mapped to the proposed aims and objectives and addressing the policy and scientific relevance of the proposed work.
- Where pilot or feasibility work is proposed, sufficient detail must be provided on the proposed methodology and analysis plans so that the rigor of proposed research can be assessed.
- Theory of Change development process
  - In this section, applicants should outline the consultative process they will undertake to develop their Theory of Change.
     This should include a timeline which ends after 18 months when the theory of change is submitted to RGHI to review.

#### • Future funding

- In this section applicants should clearly articulate future funding strategy for proposed research and/or implementation.
   Please identify specific funding organizations, the timeline and application process, and why they are an appropriate fit for the proposed research.
- Project plan and timeline outlining how the work will be organized over the period of the award and how the roles and responsibilities will be shared between the consortium partners.
- Outputs and pathways to impact: Summaries plans for peer reviewed research papers, future funding applications and any other interim outputs that will result from the consortium and proposed pilot or feasibility work.

CVs of participating applicants (upload attachment to Foundant)

The application will require CVs from:

- The PI from the prime academic research institution and up to 2 additional researchers from this institution
- The research/project lead from all other collaborating institutions and up to 2 additional team members from each collaborating institution

CVs must not exceed 3 pages. Items should be listed in reverse chronological order with the most recent first. CVs must be submitted in the RGHI CV template available from within the Foundant application. The RGHI CV template can be found <a href="here">here</a> (or at www.rghi.org/caa2024). Sections of the CV that are not relevant to applicants outside academia can be deleted as necessary.

#### Consortium statement (Text boxes in Foundant)

Equitable partnership statement

This should be co-authored by the consortium applicants outlining the approach to partnership working and commitment to equitable working. (maximum 3500 characters, including spaces).

• Transdisciplinary research statement

This section should highlight how the consortium will integrate diverse disciplines and describe the expertise of key members of the consortium from across academia, government, implementing partners and beyond, as applicable. Please explain how this integration will enhance the potential for implementation and scalability of the research. This section should not exceed 3500 characters (including spaces).

Letters of support from each Head of Department (or equivalent) (upload attachment to Foundant)

All participating institutions/organizations should submit a letter of support from their Head of Department (or equivalent) confirming support of their commitment to the consortium and endorse plans for further funding to be secured within the 24-month timeframe.

Justification of resources (text box in Foundant)

A detailed justification of resources must be provided with all applications. The justification of resources must not exceed 7000 characters (including spaces). Each item listed in the budget should be explained and justified within this section. Value for money is an assessment criteria and budgets must be fully justified and commensurate with the awards objectives.

#### Budget template (Upload attachment in Foundant)

Applicants must use the <u>budget template</u> (also available at www.rghi.org/caa2024) and upload it to the relevant section within the grant management system. Please review the 'Costs and budgets guidance' on what Collaboration Accelerator Award will cover.

#### Additional notes on Applications

 All consortium activities using RGHI budget must be complete on or before January 31, 2027

Applications should be submitted through Foundant, RGHI's grant management system, by 5pm EST on September 4, 2024.