

# Q&A Global Health EDCTP3 – WP 2025

26 02 2025

## 1. General questions across topics:

### 1.1 Some countries are listed in table 4.2 on p96 IKAA. Are these the countries that are expected to provide the co-funding or are associated countries (not beneficiaries) being looked for here to join the consortium as contributing partners?

Table 4.2 does not relate to calls for proposals but is a list of the value of the additional activities which are planned to be initiated in year 2025 by the constituent countries, members of the EDCTP Association. These additional activities are different and separate from the proposals which will be submitted in response to the calls.

It is important to note that a public entity cannot be a contributing partner, unless it is linked to a country that is not a member of the EDCTP Association. In cases where it is linked to a country that is a member of the EDCTP Association, this entity cannot be considered as contributing partner.

### 1.2 We are planning to submit a proposal to a two-stage EDCTP call. Is it possible to modify or add partners between the first and second submission stages?

Changes in consortium composition (including the coordinator) are allowed between stage 1 and stage 2 submission. However, the full proposal submitted to stage 2 must be consistent with the outline proposal submitted to stage 1 and may not differ substantially (i.e. obvious change concerning a substantial part of the proposed project) — otherwise it will be inadmissible. The aim of this rule is to ensure fair and equal treatment of competing proposals. It should prevent applicants from deliberately setting out false promises in the first stage that are not reflected in their second stage proposals. The evaluation of full proposals during Stage 2 is independent from the evaluation of the outline proposals submitted to Stage 1. At Stage 2, all three award criteria are evaluated for every full proposal submitted.

### 1.3 The European Commission has fully activated the transitional arrangement which enables researchers in Switzerland, Republic of Korea and Morocco to participate in calls for proposals of Horizon Europe as beneficiaries. Does this apply also to the EDCTP3 calls 2025? Can Swiss/Korean/Moroccan entities also coordinate projects? Is the coordination and participation as beneficiary possible for Swiss/Korean/Moroccan entities in the 2025 calls?

These changes do apply to Global Health EDCTP3 and transitional arrangements are in place.

Swiss/Korean/Moroccan entities would be treated as potential beneficiaries during the process of proposals' eligibility and admissibility checks, and evaluation. In case Switzerland, the Republic of Korea or Morocco are not associated at a mature stage of the grant agreement preparation, the status of the Swiss/Korean/Moroccan entities as beneficiaries will be revised; they may still participate in projects as associated partners (not eligible for funding). Where relevant, the consortium may have to change its coordinator and add a participant based in the EU or a country associated to Horizon Europe that is a member of the EDCTP Association to fulfil the consortium composition requirements. Therefore, the

situation of entities established in Switzerland, the Republic of Korea or Morocco will be reassessed during grant agreement preparation and at the moment of grant agreement signature

Consequently, applicants established in Switzerland, the Republic of Korea or Morocco will be treated for such award procedures as entities established in an associated country, subject to their association agreement to Horizon Europe being applicable at the time of signature of the grant agreement. Therefore, grant agreements with beneficiaries established in Switzerland, the Republic of Korea or Morocco on the basis of the association agreement can only be signed if the association of the country to Horizon Europe has started producing legal effects, i.e. the association agreement started to apply.

We therefore recommend that any consortium applying with entities based in Switzerland, in Morocco or in the Republic of Korea make sure to have a back-up plan, in case Switzerland, Morocco or the Republic of Korea is not associated to Horizon Europe later this year.

**1.4 As mentioned in the Work Programme 2025, "entities established in low- and middle-income countries that are not members of the EDCTP Association and listed in the Horizon Europe List of Participating Countries on the Funding & Tenders Portal are not eligible for funding unless the specific country in which the entity is established, is associated to Horizon Europe or if the participation of the entity is considered essential for implementing the action by the granting authority". We wonder if an entity based in Central African Republic will be eligible for funding in case it applies for EDCTP3 calls as a partner?**

The Central African Republic is not a member of the EDCTP Association. The entity based in the Central African Republic can be an associated partner in a project, but to be automatically eligible for funding, the Central African Republic must be a member of the EDCTP Association at the time of signature of the grant agreement. It may also be eligible for funding if considered essential for implementing the action by the granting authority, however this assessment is in principle based on the recommendations of independent experts and is therefore performed during the evaluation phase.

**1.5 We wonder if in case our Institute is a partner, we could benefit from funding as our participation will be considered essential for implementing the action (as mentioned in the Work Programme)?**

In case your entity is not based in a country that is eligible for funding, it may be eligible for funding if their participation is considered essential for implementing the action by the granting authority. The "essentiality" of an entity is assessed by the independent experts during the evaluation and decided by the granting authority. Participation should be considered essential for carrying out the action if there are clear benefits for the consortium, such as outstanding competence/expertise, access to research infrastructure, access to particular geographical environments, access to data, etc.. Note that this assessment is in principle based on the recommendations of independent experts and is therefore performed during the evaluation phase.

**1.6 Please confirm that entities from the USA are eligible as contractors and subcontractors.**

Entities from the USA may be eligible as contractors (beware that contractors may not perform action tasks of a project, only provide goods or services) but in principle not subcontractors. Allowing them as subcontractors would in general result in circumventing the rules on eligibility for funding. We could nevertheless consider such an option in exceptional circumstances, if it is really essential to involve a given entity for a project to be viable. Such an assessment would be made in an analogous way to the

one we make for entities that request funding as beneficiaries whereas they are not eligible for it in principle.

## 2. Global Collaboration Actions:

**2.1 It is noted that four of the calls of the 2025 WP (i.e. TB, Malaria, Networks of Excellence and Fellowships) require in kind or financial contribution from contributing partners at the level of the proposal. Do you have some extra information about this? Are contributing partners identified or the applicant consortia should seek on their own?**

For four actions of the Work Programme 2025 (TB, Malaria, Networks of excellence and Fellowships), it is expected that the requested funding from Global Health EDCTP3 would be matched equally or with greater financial and/or in-kind contribution from partners. The contributions can consist of financial contributions and/or in-kind contributions.

Both for stage 1 (short) proposals and stage 2 (full) proposals, proposals should define the activities of their project in its entirety, including details of the component(s) for which Global Health EDCTP3 funding is requested as well as the component(s) that are to be financed by contributing partners.

This is not an eligibility requirement, which means that it does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal with a different contribution profile.

For the first stage evaluation, the proposals will be evaluated and ranked against the following award criteria in General Annex D (see annexes to the call in F&T portal). While not an eligibility criterion, additional activities (as financed by contributing partner) may have a favorable effect on the evaluation. For the second-stage evaluations, the evaluation of the proposals will be done against the award criteria included in General Annex D, and additionally, the following aspects of “Impact” and Quality and efficiency of the implementation” criteria:

(1) for the ‘impact’ criterion: “production of meaningful and significant effects enhancing the impact of the relevant research activities via the inclusion of effective in-kind and/or financial contribution of contributing partners”;

(2) for the ‘quality and efficiency of the implementation’ criterion: “leveraging of financial and/or in-kind contributions from contributing partners that are equal or greater than the requested JU contribution, in order to ensure the necessary resources and effort for the action”.

As explained in the 2025 WP, note that for the second stage, the applicants’ contributing partner(s) must submit the endorsement letter for approval by the Global Health EDCTP3 Governing Board before the deadline for submission of the second-stage applications. It is recommended that the draft letter is submitted to the Global Health EDCTP3 Programme Office sufficiently ahead of deadline for submission of proposals to allow the review.

The contributing partners are not identified in the topic texts. It is for the applicant consortia to seek these partners. On top of what has been mentioned in the call/topic text, more information about contributing partners can be found on our website, specifically on this page.

Please note that the “Tackling Diarrhoeal Diseases in the context of Climate and Health -HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2025-04-CH-01-two-stage topic” does not include such a condition regarding additional contributions from contributing partners.

**2.2 We are planning to apply to the topic of TB vaccines in the forthcoming call. In the topic text it is mentioned that: “Proposals are expected to include the effective in-kind and/or financial contribution of contributing partners, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the impact of the related research activities.” How is this achieved when preparing a proposal? Is there an expected amount of in-kind contributions, such as a fixed % of the requested budget?**

The applicant consortia should seek potential contributing partners. It is expected that the requested funding from Global Health EDCTP3 would be matched equally or with greater financial and/or in-kind contribution from partners. As this is a Global Collaboration Action, please also see above question 2.1.

**2.3 Regarding the following statement under the topic: Development of vaccines for reducing the disease burden of Tuberculosis in sub-Saharan Africa- HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2025-01-TB-01-two-stage:**

Specific conditions to the topic	
<b>Expected JU contribution per project</b>	Global Health EDCTP3 estimates that a JU contribution of up to EUR 15.3 million per project to be matched by an equal or greater financial and/or in-kind contribution from contributing partners, would allow the outcomes of this topic to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless,

**Does this mean that we have to match the 15.3 million contribution from Global Health EDCTP3 with an additional 15.3 million? The specifications of this topic call indicate a guided budget ceiling of 15.3 million EUR per project; while this is a suggested amount, how would Global Health EDCTP3 JU review funding requests above that guided amount?**

The applicant consortia should seek potential contributing partners. It is expected that the requested funding from Global Health EDCTP3 would be matched equally or with greater financial and/or in-kind contribution from partners.

For the first stage evaluation, the proposals will be evaluated and ranked against the award criteria in General Annex D (see annexes to the call in F&T portal). For the second-stage evaluations, the evaluation of the proposals will be done against the award criteria included in General Annex D, and additional aspects of “Impact” and “Quality and efficiency of the implementation” criteria, detailed in the topic text.

As this is a Global Collaboration Action, please also see above question 2.1.

### 3) Topic calls specific questions:

#### 3.1 Global collaborative action for strengthening the Regional Networks of Excellence and Epidemic Preparedness Consortia -HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2025-03-NETWORKS-01-two-stage

3.1.1 We understand that EDCTP3 seeks to improve preparedness networks in Africa to undertake rapid evaluation of interventions in clinical trials when future outbreaks occur of emerging or re-emerging diseases and to strengthen the pre-established Networks of Excellence and Epidemics Networks, leveraging previous investments into these networks.

After close reading of the conditions and specifications of this topic call under the Workplan 2025 published, I'd like to seek clarification with you, if possible, whether this topic call is solely seeking to strengthen the pre-established NoEs (by expanding their remit and members for instance) or whether the topic call is also open to applications from new consortia (which intend to leverage strong capabilities of existing EDCTP-funded Networks of Excellence, adding key new capabilities and new member organisations and/or countries) that offer an added value to the existing networks and that find synergy with those networks. We welcome guidance.

While strengthening of Networks of Excellence and Epidemics Networks funded in earlier programmes is encouraged, it is to be noted that prior EDCTP funding is NOT a condition for funding under this topic.

### 3.2 Tackling Diarrhoeal Diseases in the context of Climate and Health -HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2025-04-CH-01-two-stage and Transformative Innovations in global health -HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2025-04-ACCESS-02-two-stage

3.2.1 The topic EDCTP3-2025-04-ACCESS-02 includes the following text: "Scope includes infectious diseases in scope of the Global Health EDCTP3 including HIV/AIDS. Proposals are to generate beyond proof-of-concept data. Out of scope: infectious diseases not in scope of the Global Health EDCTP3, potential solutions tackling chronic diseases potentially caused by infections, and non-communicable diseases." However, this topic is part of a call titled 'Tackling Diarrhoeal Diseases in the context of Climate and Health and Transformative Innovations in Global Health (HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2025-04-two-stage)'. Would a proposal focusing on innovation for post-tuberculosis care fall within the scope of topic EDCTP3-2025-04-ACCESS-02, since it is not a diarrhoeal disease?

Note that the call consists of two **separate** topics:

- 1.HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2025-04-CH-01-two-stage Tackling Diarrhoeal Diseases in the context of Climate and Health, and
- 2.HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2025-04-ACCESS-02-two-stage Transformative Innovations in global health

We confirm that innovations for post-tuberculosis care do fall within the scope of topic HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2025-04-ACCESS-02-two-stage. Applications should therefore be submitted against the Transformative Innovations topic.

2.4 Global Collaboration action for Tackling Diarrhoeal Diseases in the context of Climate and Health -HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2025-04-CH-01-two-stage:

The topic text does not refer to this topic being a Global Collaboration Action yet the title does. Can you clarify?

The topic text including the conditions on ‘Tackling Diarrhoeal Diseases in the context of Climate and Health’ is correct. The topic does not request contributing partner contributions at proposal level.

### **3.2.2 There is a potential mistake in the name of the topic 04 as includes transformative innovations.**

It is not a mistake. The title of the Call 04 is “Tackling Diarrhoeal Diseases in the context of Climate and Health and Transformative Innovations in Global Health (HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2025-04-two-stage)”

This title embeds the 2 topics it addresses:

- Global collaborative action tackling Diarrhoeal Diseases in the context of Climate and Health
- Transformative Innovations in global health

When you navigate in the Funding & Tenders portal on each of the two topics, the Call title will be shown. The Call is just a container of multiple topics; clicking on the Call name will show all the topics within that Call.

*Note: 2<sup>nd</sup> version of Q&A document will be published as soon as possible*