

CwPAMS 2: Expression of Interest Information Sheet

[The Tropical Health and Education Trust \(THET\)](#) and [Commonwealth Pharmacists Association \(CPA\)](#) are pleased to notify the health partnership community of a further round of grants under the Commonwealth Partnerships for Antimicrobial Stewardship Scheme (CwPAMS) with support from UK Department of Health and Social Care's [Fleming Fund](#).

CwPAMS aims to leverage the expertise of UK health institutions and Commonwealth country technical experts to strengthen the capacity of the national health workforce and institutions in Commonwealth countries to address antimicrobial resistance (AMR) challenges. Running since 2018, grants focus on antimicrobial stewardship (AMS) and on developing pharmacy expertise and capacity, whilst developing infection prevention and control (IPC) initiatives and strengthening capacity through the generation and use of clinical microbiology data. More information on CwPAMS and the 26 projects funded in the first round of the grant programme is available [here](#).

In the second phase of CwPAMS, Health Partnerships will be invited to submit applications for funding to deliver projects in 8 priority countries (Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia) focusing on some or all of the below:

- Improving antimicrobial stewardship, including surveillance;
- Building antimicrobial pharmacy expertise and capacity;
- Enhancing infection prevention and control;
- Improving the use of clinical microbiology and antimicrobial prescribing data to inform clinical decisions;
- Enhancing the detection and reporting of substandard and falsified antimicrobial medicines;
- Supporting community pharmacy

Next steps:

The call for **Expressions of Interest** ([via this form](#)) is now open. Please complete the form no later than Friday 23rd September 2022.

Key information:

- THET is conscious that a number of partnerships lack the capacity to engage with work of this nature at this time and so will be unable to submit an EOI. Please note that those who are unable to submit an EOI will still be eligible to apply for the programme once the full application process is open, and will not be disadvantaged as a result of not submitting an EOI.
- Applications will open in early October 2022. Grants will be awarded in March/April 2023, with projects beginning in May 2023. Up to 24 grants will be awarded in total.
- Grants will run until January 2025.
- Partnerships will have up to 21 months to undertake projects.
- Funding caps are yet to be confirmed, but grants of £50,000 to between £120-150,000 will be available.

Applicant eligibility

Applications must be submitted by existing or new [Health Partnerships \(HPs\)](#). Long-term institutionalised relationships between UK health institutions and Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) health institutions, Partnerships aim to improve health services and systems in LMICs through the reciprocal exchange of skills, knowledge and experience. Partners co-develop programmes that address organisational and national priorities, including National Action Plans (NAPs). Partnerships that apply to be a part of CwPAMS must include an NHS institution.

Those not currently part of a Health Partnership (or those who are but require additional expertise) and would like THET's support to form one can provide their details in the [Expression of Interest form](#). THET also has a wide range of resources on [our website](#), to be used by those considering starting a Health Partnership.

Grant categories

The programme will be split into three application categories:

Category A	Category B	Category C
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HP that has already received funding under CwPAMS • Use a Centre of Excellence model (see below for details) • Funding cap tbc, but in the range of up to £120-150,000 per grant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any established HP that has worked together for more than 6 months • Has previously been funded through CwPAMS, OR is new to CwPAMS • Must incorporate national engagement • Funding cap tbc, but in the range of up to £80-120,000 per grant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New HP that has not worked together before, or have been working together for less than 6 months • Funding cap tbc, but in the range of up to £50-80,000 per grant

Previous CwPAMS grant holders are invited to apply to be a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for their country or region (they are also welcome to apply under Category B instead). These CoEs will embody a hub and spoke model, with the larger hub institution responsible for disseminating training and capacity building to other local health facilities (spokes).

The focus will be on long-term sustainability, gradually reducing the reliance on UK expertise by supporting in-country experts to provide relevant local knowledge and expertise with regards to AMR/AMS through a culture of behaviour change and quality improvement. More details of this will follow with the call for applications.

NHS involvement

The UK NHS plays a critical role in CwPAMS and if you are unsure whether this is the right thing for you, please get in touch with us at grants@thet.org so we can explain the programme further.

As well as the improved AMS the NHS can contribute towards in sub-Saharan Africa, the NHS benefits in numerous ways from its involvement. The programme offers a number of training opportunities, including behaviour change methodology, project and financial management, and a fellowship scheme for pharmacists. First round CwPAMS partnerships reported the following benefits:

1. Improved leadership skills: promotions to management positions and opportunities to contribute to senior working groups
2. Opportunities to develop global networking opportunities and share bi-directional learning
3. Professional skills development, including project management, negotiating, teamwork, networking, and improved technology skills
4. Involvement in global health fellowships
5. Improved enthusiasm and motivation for pharmacy work, contributing to increased staff wellbeing
6. Adding to the international research portfolio and reputation of the NHS institution, as well as increased awareness and understanding of AMS and AMR

Additional THET support

As well as the usual project management advice THET provides to all grant holders, following learning from CwPAMS 1 THET is offering grant holders the option of accessing draw-down support directly from a consultant employed by THET who can provide aspects of project administration on behalf of the partnership. Funds for this support would need to be budgeted for by the applicant, and THET will outline the level of costs required within the Call for Applications. The delivery of these project management activities could include (though is not limited to):

- Project coordination including meeting organisation and facilitation
- Volunteer management
- Stakeholder engagement and management
- Support with monitoring and evaluation including data collection and analysis
- Reporting (narrative and financial)
- Financial tracking and re-budgeting
- Policy drafting (e.g., safeguarding, gender equality and social inclusion)
- Risk management
- Procurement

CPA technical support

The CPA will provide tailored technical support to partnerships, including the following:

- Providing GPPS training, resources and advice regarding the best tools to use for different settings / situations.
- Providing guidance / signposting to existing tools / resources / education and training material for adaptation to reduce duplication.
- Supporting the utilisation of data into clinical practice.
- Facilitating the Global Health Fellowship in AMS leadership for both UK and African pharmacists.

The Fleming Fund

The Fleming Fund is a UK aid programme, helping low- and middle-income countries tackle antimicrobial resistance (AMR). Its aim is to improve the surveillance of AMR and generate relevant data that is shared nationally and globally.

Commonwealth Pharmacists Association (CPA)

An accredited organisation of the Commonwealth, the CPA is a registered charity (CIO) and membership body; leading and developing the pharmacy profession to benefit the people of the Commonwealth. The CPA works towards its core charitable objectives to build strong and diverse collaborations between pharmacists and health networks; develop and improve the quality of Pharmacy Practice; strengthen health systems, improve safe and effective use of medicines, promote healthier lifestyles and reduce health inequalities.

Tropical Health and Education Trust (THET)

The Tropical Health and Education Trust (THET) is a global health organisation managing programmes across low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) to strengthen health systems working to achieve better access to quality healthcare. We do this through a model of Health Partnerships, i.e., partnerships between health institutions from the UK and LMICs, working together to co-develop responses to locally identified health system priorities. THET has been managing programmes to strengthen health systems and Human Resources for Health (HRH) for over 30 years.