



WEST AFRICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
ORGANISATION OUEST AFRICAINE DE LA SANTE  
ORGANIZAÇÃO OESTE AFRICANA DA SAÚDE

**REGIONAL PROGRAMME TO SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHMENT  
OF HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS IN THE PERIPHERAL AR-  
EAS IN ECOWAS**

**CALL FOR PROJECTS FOR 2023**





## **1. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE**

The West African Health Organisation (WAHO), a specialized health institution of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) has been mandated to provide the highest level of healthcare delivery to the people of the sub-region.

As part of this effort, WAHO, in 2017, drafted a Regional Programme for the establishment of Health Professionals in Peripheral Areas with the following main objectives:

- strengthening the supply of healthcare and health services in rural and peri-urban areas
- improve coverage of health infrastructure and access to healthcare in rural and peri-urban areas
- reduce unemployment among trained healthcare professionals.

The surveys carried out in the countries when the Programme was being developed highlighted the willingness of healthcare professionals to settle in rural areas. However, these professionals require support to start up or grow.

This call for projects aims to support the various initiatives of the candidates for the installation of health facilities in the rural and peri-urban areas of ECOWAS countries.

## **2. Eligibility**

In light of the foregoing, WAHO hereby invites health professionals desirous of setting up in the rural and peri-urban areas of ECOWAS countries and wishing to receive support to start up/grow their initiatives to submit their projects. The grant per project may reach a maximum of eleven thousand (\$11,000) US or twenty thousand (\$20,000) US depending on the nature of the project: Maternity clinic or Nursing clinic (\$11,000) and Medical clinic (\$20,000). However, this grant will not cover the total eligible costs of carrying out the project. This means that the beneficiary must co-finance the project, in this case up to 20%. In accordance with the ECOWAS Grants Code, co-financing can take the form of: (i) the beneficiary's own contributions in cash or in kind; (ii) income generated by the project; (iii) financial contributions or contributions in kind from third parties, duly documented. In the case of contributions in kind, these must be presented separately in the provisional budget to reflect the total resources allocated to the project.

Applications are open to all healthcare professionals who are nationals of an ECOWAS state, and who wish to set up in rural or peri-urban areas. Also, with reference to the ECOWAS grants code, the health professionals concerned can set themselves up as co-applicants for the grant, indicating the project coordinator who will be WAHO's contact. However, anyone who has already received similar grants cannot apply for a cumulative grant.

In addition, the facilities of the health facilities must be environmentally friendly.

## **3. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

- Document describing the project/initiative
- Documents authorising you to open and practise as a healthcare professional or facility in accordance with the relevant national regulations. It should be noted that the disbursement of the grant is conditional upon an attestation of conformity from the country's health authorities, which are responsible for issuing authorisations to open and practise.
- Other documentary evidence of the applicant's financial and operational capacity to carry out the project.

## **4. SELECTION PROCEDURE AND CRITERIA**





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The projects collected will be analysed at WAHO by the Support Request Review Committee. The results of the application review will be communicated to the various applicants no later than two (02) months after the closing date for the submission of applications. The next step will be to sign the grant agreement and then disburse the funds to the beneficiaries.

Once the grant is in place, WAHO will set up a mechanism to monitor beneficiaries in collaboration with the Ministries of Health, in particular the WAHO Steering Committee on the support to countries. The selection criteria are:

- Relevance (the project addresses to a problem that really exists and is significant);
- Feasibility: (objectives that can be achieved in view of the context and the resources envisaged);
- Viability: (strategy considered to continue the activity once WAHO support is complete);
- Impact: (positive effects of the project on people's health).

With this in mind, applicants are invited to make a declaration of honour regarding the accuracy of the documents provided, attesting to their financial and operational capacity to carry out the project over the long term, with the proviso that any false declarations may result in financial penalties.

#### **5. FURTHER INFORMATION AND SUBMISSION OF PROJECTS**

Further information may be obtained during working hours from Monday to Friday from 08:00 to 16:00 at the following address: [procurement@diffusion.wahooas.org](mailto:procurement@diffusion.wahooas.org) with a copy to: [asani@wahooas.org](mailto:asani@wahooas.org)

This notice will be published on the WAHO website (<https://data.wahooas.org/tenders/tenders/list>), on the ECOWAS website, by the WAHO focal points in each of the 15 countries (websites of the ministries in charge of health), and at the ECOWAS resident mission in each country.

Interested candidates can access the notice of call for projects on the WAHO website at the following address: <https://data.wahooas.org/tenders/tenders/list>

Interested candidates can submit their project file (including the documents listed in point 3 above) to the following address: <https://data.wahooas.org/tenders/tenders/list>

The deadline for receipt of projects is **October 27, 2023 at 12:00 GMT.**

WAHO will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by the applicant in preparing or submitting the project file.

**Dr Melchior Athanase J. C. AISSI**  
Director General