



**University of South Carolina
Arnold School of Public Health
Columbia, South Carolina**

BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation





The DFC Team

- Christine Blake
 - Principal Investigator
- Edward Frongillo
 - Co-Principal Investigator
- Shilpa Constantinides
 - Program Coordinator
- Kristen MacNaughtan, MPH –program officer
 - The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Alan Dangour and Rachel Lambert
 - U.K. Department for International Development (DFID)
- Technical Advisory Group (TAG)



Questions during Webinar?

- Questions can be submitted any time during the webinar using the Chat box on the left side of the screen
- We will address as many submitted questions as possible at the end of the presentation
- Answers to all submitted questions will be posted on the DFC website (www.driversoffoodchoice.org) after the webinar



Agenda

- DFC Team Introductions
- General overview of DFC program
 - Objectives and Scope of Work
 - Funding available
 - Eligibility
- Full Proposal Submission Process
 - Formatting guidelines
 - Section details
 - Assessment Criteria
 - Proposal submission timeline
- Questions



Objectives and Scope

- Aim to provide a deep understanding of the drivers of food choice among the poor in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa
- Fund projects that
 - Align with the goals of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the U.K. Department for International Development (DFID)
 - Examine key aspects of individual food choice in the targeted regions but have potential applications in different countries/settings
 - Strengthen country-level leadership in nutrition
 - Use a gender-transformative or gender-aware approach



Funding

- Grant request should be for two-year projects
 - Second year of funding is contingent upon satisfactory progress by the recipient during the first year
- ~15 grants total will be awarded for up to \$300,000 USD each
 - 8 were awarded in the first round (2016-2018)
 - An additional 7 expected from the second RFP (2017-2019)



Eligibility

- Research organizations, NGOs, public institutions, and private sector organizations with a demonstrated interest and commitment to improving food and nutrition security in LMIC.
- Prior experience conducting relevant research
- Prior experience in efficient and effective fiscal management
- For partnerships - lead organization that meets these criteria submits the proposal as the primary applicant
- *Ineligible activities:* simply identifying drivers of food choice, without demonstrating the relevance of potential findings to nutrition and agriculture practitioners and policymakers

Proposal Formatting Guidelines



- 11 point Arial font
 - Tables or other data may be in 10 point font
- 2.5 centimeter or 1 inch margins on all sides of the paper
- Printable on A4 or 8½ x 11 inch paper
- Single-spaced
- Sections 1-4 and 6-8 of the proposal as one document
 - Word documents (.doc or .docx)
- The budget (section 5) as a separate Excel file (.xls or .xlsx) using the template provided.

Proposal Formatting Guidelines



- The submission should include ONLY two documents
- **Proposals that do not follow the Proposal Guidelines will not be reviewed.**

Proposal Formatting Guidelines



- Page Limits
 - 1 1/2 pages - cover page using the template, including the project abstract (see Appendix B)
 - 10 pages - proposal narrative
 - 1 page - project timeline
 - 4 pages - references
 - 3 pages - overall project budget
 - 3 page limit for each subcontract budget (if applicable)
 - no page limit - budget justification
 - 2 page limit per biosketch for each investigator or collaborator

Proposal Section Details: Cover Page

- Use the template provided in Appendix B
- Project abstract (≤ 200 words) on following page



Appendix B: Cover Page/Project Abstract

Title _____

Department/Office of _____

For name of your organization _____

Estimated total cost of project (with) _____

Requested amount from the (F) Competitive Grant Program (with) _____

Project start date _____

Anticipated end date _____

Continuing interest _____

Principal Investigator

Name _____

Title _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

E-mail _____

Department _____

City or Postal Code _____

State/Postal Service _____

Administrative Contact (if separate)

Name _____

Title _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

E-mail _____

Department _____

City or Postal Code _____

State/Postal Service _____

Proposal Submission Details: Proposal Narrative (10 pg. limit)



- Background and rationale
 - compelling case for why the project is important and innovative
- Objectives
 - specific objectives and how they provide a deep understanding of the drivers of food choice in LMIC
- Project design and methods
 - the design of your study and the specific activities that you will undertake to address the objectives
- Evaluation
 - how you will measure whether your project is successful
- Development relevance, sustainability and potential for scaling-up
- Organizational capacity and key personnel



Proposal Submission Details

- Timeline (1 pg. limit)
 - Show key activities for the total duration of the project.
 - Describe activities necessary to produce the principal results.
 - Estimated projected dates for completion of key activities with relevant milestones.
- References (4 pg. limit)

Proposal Submission Details: Budget



- Detailed Overall Project budget (3 page limit)
 - Additional budgets for any subcontracts
 - Each subcontract budget has a 3 page limit
- Use the Excel template provided for the budget and each subcontract

Date		Time		Location		Weather	
10/10/2023	10/11/2023	10/12/2023	10/13/2023	10/14/2023	10/15/2023	10/16/2023	10/17/2023
08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00
09:00	09:00	09:00	09:00	09:00	09:00	09:00	09:00
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24:00	24:00	24:00	24:00	24:00	24:00	24:00	24:00

Proposal Submission Details: Budget Justification (no pg. limit)



- Explain the major costs and how these relate to planned activities and target outcomes.
- Include relevant information for how you arrived at the unit cost (e.g. estimate, purchasing history, quote)

Proposal Submission Details: Biosketches (2 pg.'s each)



- Submit biosketches for ALL investigators and partners listed in the application
- Should include
 - Education/training
 - Positions and Honors
 - Relevant publications
 - Current and recently completed research support

Proposal Submission Details: Additional Materials



- Contact sheet for Co-Investigators/Collaborating Partner(s) (Appendix C)
- Letter(s) of partnership/collaboration - 1 page each
- Please do not submit any additional materials beyond what is requested in the full proposal guidelines



Evaluation Criteria

- 1) Innovative nature of the research proposed, relative to existing approaches
- 2) Scientific excellence and originality of the research proposed
- 3) Development relevance of the research and its potential for application in LMIC
- 4) The collaborative, intersectoral, and/or interdisciplinary nature of the research proposed



Innovation

- Portray new and innovative perspectives
- Use innovative methods to investigate changes to traditional food environments and food systems
- Use innovative methods to evaluate the impact of nutrition-sensitive agricultural interventions



Scientific Excellence

- Consistent with the highest international standards of scientific excellence in all of the sectors and included disciplines
- Add value to the existing body of knowledge about food choice in general and specifically in LMIC
- Methods well-defined, realistic, and feasible
- Use rigorous study designs and top quality research methodologies



Development Relevance

- Potential to benefit those with highest need, specifically in one or more of the 41 countries with the highest burden of undernutrition
- Potential for uptake of research findings in program and policy settings, particularly as this is related food and nutrition security in LMIC
- Gender-sensitive or gender-aware
- Potential to provide actionable recommendations



Collaboration

- Demonstrate integration of relevant expertise across multiple sectors, particularly nutrition, agriculture, marketing, and/or economics
- Involve, and have the potential to empower, LMIC researchers

Proposal Submission and Selection



- **Full Proposals must be submitted by email to info@driversoffoodchoice.org by 11:59 PM EDT. August 31st, 2017.**
- File naming
 - Main file named as follows
 - [LAST NAME OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR]_[NAME OF ORGANIZATION].doc
 - Budget named as follows
 - [LAST NAME OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR]_Budget.xls



Timeline

Submission of concept memos	COMPLETED
Notification of invitations to submit full proposals	COMPLETED
Submission of full proposals	August 31 st , 2017
Notification of awards	October 2017
Grants begin*	Within 30 days of receipt of signed funding document

*Applicants with grants awarded will receive further details regarding the funding schedule.



Questions?

Email: info@driversoffoodchoice.org