



EUROPE



Community-based social innovations to support older people

Call for Expression of Interest (EOI) to identify case study sites in middle-income countries

The World Health Organization Centre for Health Development (WHO Kobe Centre – WKC) and RAND Europe would like to invite expressions of interest for the identification of case-studies on community-based social innovations (CBSIs) that support older people in middle-income countries (MICs).

Deadline for submission: 31 December 2016

What are CBSIs?

Community-based social innovations (CBSIs) are initiatives that seek to empower older people to improve self-efficacy in caring for themselves and their peers, maintain well-being and promote social cohesion and inclusiveness. They can also help older people to access, understand and navigate health and social care systems. While they have the potential to improve care and autonomy for older people, as well as transform healthcare systems, more evidence is needed on CBSIs to improve our understanding of best practices and service delivery models that engage communities and span a spectrum of health and social services.

What CBSIs are we interested in?

We are interested in community-based initiatives aimed at improving health and well-being among older people at a community level. These may include initiatives implemented in a community with older people at the centre of the initiative, aiming to assist older persons to increase autonomy and to maintain or enhance their health and quality-of-life for as long as possible. These could also be run by the older persons themselves. We are looking for a broad range of such initiatives to select from.

What will case studies involve?

The CBSIs identified will form the basis of a series of case studies which, together with an ongoing systematic literature review, aims to create a typology of CBSIs and examine their effectiveness and integration with the wider health and care system in MICs. Selected case studies will become the focus of primary data collection which will seek to understand the CBSI in depth, including how it operates, how it links to other health and social care services and what benefits it brings for participants. The research will be conducted by RAND Europe or partners. The data collection will take place between February and June 2017.

The findings of the case studies and wider research will be disseminated widely through academic papers, conferences and policy briefs with the aim of informing policy and planning to ensure greater sustainability and integration of services that are made to better fit the needs of older people.

Eligibility and selection criteria

In order to be considered as an eligible, the CBSI proposed must be:

- a) in line with the WHO definition of CBSIs, as outlined on page 1.
- b) conducted in one of the countries outlined in the box below. CBSIs submitted that are not from these countries will not be considered for this study.

Some of the aspects that the case studies need to address are the following:

1. The role and function of older people as a resource for themselves and for others (peers, family, community).
2. A description of health and social services delivered by those initiatives and referral processes when they exist.
3. Links made within these communities of support between health interventions and social health protection interventions (e.g., help with transportation, livelihoods, pensions, cash or in-kind transfers etc.).
4. Coordination mechanisms with formal health and social sector, including any formal connections with the health and social care system, and local community-based services.
5. Type of metrics (indicators, monitoring tools) implemented to assess the impact on the health of older adults.
6. Measures to understand and respond to health inequities in the population served.

We would also consider community-based initiatives for older people that have specific programmes which deal with health/well-being challenges, for example, NCDs. These types of endeavours may yield valuable information about how tracer outcomes for CBSIs can be measured and it may also help better understanding of the health and care services partnerships.

We are particularly interested in CBSIs in the following countries:

Europe and Central Asia (WHO European Region)

Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Georgia, Latvia (2012)*, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Russian Federation (2012)*, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine

East and South Asia

China, Viet Nam (WHO Western Pacific Region)
Sri Lanka, Thailand (WHO South-East Asia Region)

The Middle East and Africa

Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lebanon, Tunisia (WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region)
Mauritius (WHO African Region)

The Americas (WHO Region of the Americas)

Central and Latin America

Argentina (2012)*, Brazil, Chile (2012)*, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Panama, Uruguay (2012)*

The Caribbean

Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Dominica, Grenada

** While changes to the World Bank middle-income countries classification were made in 2012. We welcome applications from these countries as well.*

Selection process

The selection procedure will include:

1. verifying eligibility of the CBSI
2. assessing the CBSI against the selection criteria
3. shortlisting the most suitable CBSI

The submissions will be vetted by an expert group of academics, the appointed research team and the technical staff at the WKC and WHO regional offices. The goal is to identify the most promising 8 case studies covering all of the regions for research and reporting. It is hoped that at least 2 case studies per region (WHO regional grouping) will be retained.

All candidates applying to this call for Expression of Interest (EOI) will be informed of the outcome of the selection process. For more information please contact CBSI-WHO@rand.org.

How to apply?

Please complete the online application form at <http://www.randeurope.org/cbsi-application> or send the information requested below CBSI-WHO@rand.org by **31 December 2016**.

RAND Europe may at its discretion, cancel this call, change the closing date or revise some of the information provided in this call. Any amended version of this document will be posted at: http://www.who.int/kobe_centre/mediacentre/CBSI/en/

*Thank you for taking the time to read this call and we welcome your applications.
Your contributions are greatly valued by the research team.*

The WHO Kobe Centre is a global centre conducting research on the consequences of social, economic, and environmental change and its implications for health policies. The Centre further supports technical cooperation, capacity building and the exchange of information on evidence and best practices. While fulfilling its global mandate, it also responds to local interests and needs, utilizing international knowledge and experience where appropriate, as well as drawing on local and national expertise for global application. The Centre is fully part of WHO's Headquarters in Geneva. More information on the WHO Kobe Centre is available at: http://www.who.int/kobe_centre/en/.

RAND Europe is a not-for-profit policy research organisation that aims to improve policy and decision making in the public interest, through rigorous research and analysis. RAND Europe is committed to working with partners for the public benefit and improving health and well-being, using best available evidence and rigorous analysis. In particular RAND Europe has a long-standing strength and in-house capability in health and innovation evaluation. More information on RAND Europe is available at: <http://www.rand.org/randeurope.html>.

Expression of Interest (EOI) application form

Name,
affiliation and
relationship to
the CBSI

Email Address

Name of the
CBSI

Location of the
CBSI

Year
established

Please provide a general description of the CBSI including the activities that take place, approximately how many people it serves, the organizational structure, the funding structure as well as duration of funding and the stakeholders that are involved (max. 500 words):

Please provide a description of the relationship or positioning of the CBSI with the existing health and social care systems, and if available, health and social care policies implemented by local/national government (max. 500 words):

Please provide a description of the impact of the CBSI on the health and wellbeing of older people, and if available, what procedures are in place to monitor the effectiveness of the intervention (max. 500 words):