

# **Challenge Facility for Civil Society Round 13**

## **Information Note**



**Call for Proposals:**

**Communities driving ambition and accountability for a TB-free world by 2030**

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## Background

The Challenge Facility for Civil Society (CFCS) is the Stop TB Partnership’s program for TB civil society and communities to end TB by 2030. It is a unique mechanism that provides grants, technical assistance, tools and resources to support TB-affected communities and grassroots civil society organisations to promote and protect human rights and gender equity, and end TB stigma and discrimination. The ultimate goal is to champion community leadership to overcome the barriers that prevent access to essential TB care and support services in order to achieve an equitable TB response.

For more information on CFCS and previous rounds of funding, please visit: <https://www.stoptb.org/prioritize-people-human-rights-gender/fund-tb-communities-civil-society>

## Vision for Round 13

During the 2023 United Nations High Level Meeting on TB, countries committed to realising an equitable and rights-based TB response. [CFCS Round 13](#) aims to support organisations of people affected by TB and civil society organisations to reduce barriers to quality TB care and support services to end TB by 2030. This will be achieved by securing political will, reducing the TB financing gap, increasing demand for new tools and approaches, enhancing ambition and accountability, strengthening engagement of key partners and establishing supportive legal and policy environments. Indicative activities that will be supported are included in section “Indicative Activities for Funding”.

*The Stop TB Partnership’s Challenge Facility for Civil Society Round 13 is funded by the United States Agency for International Development and L’Initiative implemented by Expertise France.*

## Eligibility Criteria, Available Funding, Timelines and Request for Clarifications

**Before applying for CFCS Round 13, please read the following information carefully.**

### Eligible Countries & Regions

The following countries and regions are eligible to apply for funding under CFCS Round 13:

**Track 1:** Organisations from the following 42 countries can apply:

Azerbaijan	Côte d’Ivoire	Kyrgyzstan	Papua New Guinea	Uganda
Bangladesh	DR Congo	Malawi	Peru	Ukraine
Benin	Ethiopia	Mongolia	Philippines	Uzbekistan
Brazil	Gabon	Mozambique	Senegal	Viet Nam
Burkina Faso	Ghana	Myanmar	Sierra Leone	Zambia
Burundi	India	Nepal	South Africa	Zimbabwe
Cambodia	Indonesia	Niger	Tajikistan	
Cameroon	Kazakhstan	Nigeria	Tanzania	
Central African Republic	Kenya	Pakistan	Togo	

**Track 2:** Global and regional organisations from the following regions can apply:

Africa (excluding Francophone African countries)	Asia and the Pacific	Global level	Middle East and North Africa
Africa (Francophone Africa)	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Latin America and the Caribbean	

## Eligible Organisations

Organisations **must** meet the following four (4) criteria to be eligible for CFCS Round 13:

1. **Legally registered** in one of the above-mentioned countries (legal registration certificate to be made available).
  - a. **Track 1:** Country-level organisations must be registered in the same country where grant activities will be implemented;
  - b. **Track 2:** Global and regional organisations should be legally registered and/or predominantly work in the targeted countries listed under Track 1;

**Please note:** New organisations that are not yet legally registered can collaborate with another that is registered. A legally registered organisation which meets the eligibility criteria, can act as the applicant and can support the legal registration of the new organisation and strengthen its capacity. This is highly recommended for networks of people affected by TB.

2. **Civil society and/or community-based organisation** working in the above-mentioned countries or regions. **Organisations/networks of people affected by TB are particularly encouraged to apply.**
3. Be able to **open a bank account in the applicant’s legal name** in the country of registration.
4. Currently **working on TB and/or Community, Rights & Gender** (CRG)-related work.

## Funding Tracks

There are two tracks through which eligible organisations can apply for funding:

- **Track 1** Country Applications
  - **Track 1A:** for organisations (i.e. TB survivor networks) with up to four years TB / CRG experience
  - **Track 1B:** for organisations with more than four years TB / CRG experience
- **Track 2** Global/Regional Applications.
  - Organisations that work predominantly in and across the targeted countries within a region listed above under Track 1 can be considered for regional applications.
  - Organisations that work in at least three of the eligible regions listed above can be considered for global applications.

**Please note:** Organisations cannot get funding from both tracks. The majority of CFCS Round 13 funding will be dedicated to Track 1.

## Available Funding

- The total available amount for CFCS in 2025 is up to USD 19 million. Stop TB is committed to strengthening national responses and therefore the majority of funding will be awarded under Track 1.

The following funding ceilings apply:

- **Track 1 – Country Applications**
  - **Track 1A:** organisations with up to 4 years of TB and CRG experience: up to **USD 50,000**.
  - **Track 1B:** organisations with more than 4 years of TB and CRG experience: up to **USD 100,000**.
- **Track 2 – Global or Regional Coordination Applications**
  - up to **USD 150,000**.

*The final grant amount may vary across/within countries and/or regions.*

## Grant Duration

Grant duration is **12 months** from the date of signing the agreement with Stop TB Partnership/UNOPS.

## Anticipated Timeline

- Call for Proposals is open from **12 December 2024**
- Application submission deadline: **18:00 Central European Time (CET) on 14 February 2025**
- Clarifying questions (see below) submission deadline: **23 January 2025**
- Information Session (see below): **28 January 2025**
- Answers to clarifying questions published (see below): **31 January 2025**
- Announcement of successful applicants: **April 2025**

## Request for Clarifications

Additional information to help organisations in completing applications can be found in the Application Guidelines.

### Clarifying Questions

If you have any questions regarding the application or application process, please send them to [cfcs@stoptb.org](mailto:cfcs@stoptb.org). **The deadline for the submission of questions is 23 January 2025.** All questions and answers will be published on the Stop TB Partnership [CFCS Round 13 webpage](#) and application site after the Information Session (see below).

### Information Session open to all organisations considering applying for CFCS Round 13

To provide clear guidance on completing the application and to answer questions received from applicants, Stop TB Partnership will hold an online information session on **28 January 2025 from 12:30 – 1:30PM Central European Time (CET)**. You can find your local time by entering the time, Geneva and your nearest city here:

<https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/meeting.html>. The information session is open to all organisations considering applying for CFCS Round 13. French translation will be available. This session will be recorded.

**You must register to attend the session in advance no later than 27 January 2025 using the following link:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZclcu-qrjliGNC3iLd4gazaj7QO82mbMbUW>

## Evaluation of Applications

All submitted applications undergo a two-stage evaluation process.

### Screening

All applications are first screened against the following eligibility criteria:

- Organisation is from one of the listed eligible countries or regions
- Organisation meets the eligibility criteria (provided above **eligible organisations**)
- Completeness of application – all sections and documents are complete, and all mandatory supporting documents have been provided.

### Evaluation

All applications which are screened in based on the above eligibility criteria will then be evaluated by an independent evaluation committee against the following evaluation criteria. *Each funding track will be evaluated independently.*

#### Track 1 – Evaluation Criteria

No	Criteria	Explanation	Weight
1	<b>Relevance &amp; Priority</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The extent to which the political ambition to end TB, as articulated in the <i>Global Plan to End TB 2023-2030</i>, including CRG principles, have been incorporated into the proposal and interventions.</li> <li>● The extent to which the proposal articulates the country gaps and needs in the TB response, in relation to the National Strategic Plan.</li> <li>● The extent to which the proposal defines and responds to the problem; i.e. the specific barriers to quality TB care and support services with a specific focus on the challenges facing the TB key and vulnerable populations.</li> </ul>	20%
2	<b>Technical approach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The extent to which the project is aligned with, builds on, integrates, or enhances existing TB CRG initiatives or investments at country level.</li> <li>● The extent to which project objectives respond to the articulated problems.</li> <li>● The extent to which activities, implementation approach, timelines, short-term and long-term expected outcomes support articulated objectives.</li> </ul>	50%
3	<b>Sustainability and Resilience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The extent to which the project articulates how the work will contribute to sustainable change in TB (long term outcomes) beyond the project cycle, ensuring continuity of project benefits.</li> <li>● The extent to which the project articulates potential risks and the potential to mitigate them.</li> </ul>	10%
4	<b>Networking and reach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The extent to which the project proposal demonstrates strategic networking, partnership building and reach, inclusive of National TB Programmes, TB KVP and affected people, National STP Platforms, CCMs etc.</li> </ul>	10%
5	<b>Value for Money</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The extent to which the funds are allocated ethically, appropriately and effectively for each activity with clear budget details (cost breakdown).</li> <li>● The extent to which the project is set up to have lasting impact beyond the project cycle.</li> </ul>	10%

**Please note:** organisations with up to 4 years of experience in the TB response (including in CRG, advocacy and community mobilisation) who apply for Track 1A will be evaluated separately.

## Track 2 – Evaluation Criteria

No	Criteria	Explanation	Weight
1	<b>Relevance &amp; Priority</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The extent to which the political ambition to end TB, as articulated in the <i>Global Plan to End TB 2023-2030</i>, including CRG principles, have been incorporated into the proposal and interventions.</li> <li>• The extent to which the proposal articulates gaps and needs in the TB response, in relation to National Strategic Plans of focussed countries.</li> <li>• The extent to which the proposal defines and responds to regional / global level gaps and priorities.</li> </ul>	15%
2	<b>Technical approach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The extent to which the project is aligned with, builds on, integrates, or enhances existing TB CRG initiatives or investments at regional / global level.</li> <li>• The extent to which project objectives respond to the articulated problems.</li> <li>• The extent to which activities, implementation approach, timelines, short-term and long-term expected outcomes support articulated objectives.</li> </ul>	45%
3	<b>Networking and reach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The extent to which the project proposal demonstrates strategic networking, partnership building, coordination and reach between countries / regions.</li> </ul>	20%
4	<b>Sustainability and Resilience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The extent to which the project articulates how the work will contribute to sustainable change in TB (long term outcomes) beyond the project cycle, ensuring continuity of project benefits at the regional / global level.</li> <li>• The extent to which the project articulates potential risks and the potential to mitigate them.</li> </ul>	10%
5	<b>Value for Money</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The extent to which the funds are allocated ethically, appropriately and effectively for each activity with clear budget details (cost breakdown).</li> <li>• The extent to which the project is set up to have lasting impact beyond the project cycle.</li> </ul>	10%

**Please note:** the evaluation of Track 2 proposals will focus primarily on coordination, advocacy and communication, and partnerships across countries.



## Indicative Activities for Funding

Building off the evidence from country and regional level work, below are lists of indicative activities (provided for example purposes only) that are eligible for CFCS Round 13 funding and under each funding track.

### Track 1 – Country Track

#### Sample CRG Intervention Areas under Track 1

##### High-level advocacy for bridging the TB financing gaps

- Efforts and advocacy to increase awareness on TB financing, gaps and the need for domestic resource mobilization to reach the UN HLM targets
- Advocacy aimed at increasing awareness on TB among stakeholders and key decision makers
- Advocacy to increase funding for research and development (R&D) and access to latest diagnostics and treatment for all
- Skills building for effective community-led advocacy

##### Stronger, more active and capable people and movements, inclusive of TB KVP and affected people, committed to TB CRG

- Strengthening of community systems
- Increasing TB, gender, and rights literacy
- Strengthening partnerships and collaboration with strategic partners for CRG
- Coordination and collaboration with partners to increase voice and representation of TB stakeholders, including TB survivors and CSOs into national health related bodies, including but not limited to country coordination mechanisms (CCMs)

##### Increased demand, commitment and actions towards rights and gender-based TB responses

- Demand generation for DR TB services, new tools and approaches and vaccines
- Stigma reduction
- Promotion and the protection of the rights of people affected by TB

##### Strategic CRG information mainstreamed for improved care and support services

- CRG integration into national and regional plans, approaches & strategies
- CRG evidence generation
- Scale up of community-led monitoring for social accountability

**Gender equity, a focus on key and vulnerable populations and community strengthening should be prioritised and integrated throughout project activities.**



## Track 2 – Global or Regional Coordination Track

### Sample CRG Intervention Areas under Track 2

- Coordinated efforts and advocacy to increase awareness on TB financing gaps and the need for domestic resource mobilization to reach the UN HLM targets
- Advocacy aimed at increasing awareness of TB among stakeholders and key decision makers
- Coordination and collaboration between partners to amplify the voices and increase representation of TB stakeholders, including TB survivors and CSOs into national health related bodies, including but not limited to regional platforms and country coordination mechanisms (CCMs)
- Coordination to increase demand for DR TB services, new tools and approaches and vaccines
- Regional / global movement building, knowledge exchange and coordination ensuring linkages between community partners at national, regional and global levels.
- Coordinated advocacy on stigma elimination

## Community, Rights and Gender Tools to support CFCS Rd 13 Application

- [Status of CRG work in eligible countries](#)
- [Building the Evidence for a Rights-Based, People-Centered, Gender-Transformative Tuberculosis Response: Analyses of the Stop TB Partnership Community, Rights and Gender Tuberculosis Assessments](#)
- [The Accountability Report of TB Affected Communities & Civil Society: Priorities to Close the Deadly](#)
  - [2023 Call to Action](#)
  - [2020 Call to Action](#)
- [Declaration of the Rights of People Affected by TB](#)
- [The Right to Breathe: Human Rights Training for people with and affected by TB](#)
- [Activating a Human Rights-based TB Response](#)
- [TB Stigma Assessment](#)
- [OneImpact Community-led Monitoring Framework](#)
- [OneImpact Community-led Monitoring Digital Solution](#)
- [Gender and TB: A Stop TB Partnership Paper](#)
- [Nairobi Strategy of TB and Human Rights](#)
- [Key Considerations for Tuberculosis Legislation](#)
- [Legal Environment and Human Rights Scorecard](#)
- [TB Key and Vulnerable Populations Size Estimation](#)
- [CRG Assessment & Action Planning](#)