



Atoifi-TDR Research Workshop 2: Writing a Successful Grant Application



Writing a successful grant application

- Atoifi Research Grants
- When to apply for funds to do research
- Structure of a research grant application

Our own research funding scheme!



Atoifi Research Grants Scheme – 2014

Supporting local researchers

Submission deadline: Monday 7 July 2014 5PM

Atoifi, through the WHO Tropical Diseases Research Capacity Strengthening Grant, aims to increase the number of local people who undertake research that can ultimately improve the health of people in East Kwaio. The Atoifi Research Grants Scheme will provide funds to local researchers (“a resident who does research”) to answer local questions of relevance to health. This can include clinical research, community based health research, educational research, analysis of local data, or other relevant topics that are related to health or social determinants of health.

Costs of Research

- You do **not** need money to do research (but it helps)
- Research always needs labour (your and other's time and effort)
- Research typically needs resources
 - Stationery (pens, paper)
 - Equipment (e.g., recorder, computer, printer)
 - Other items (e.g., phone calls)
- These may be available
 - Self
 - Institution
- However, some research needs funds

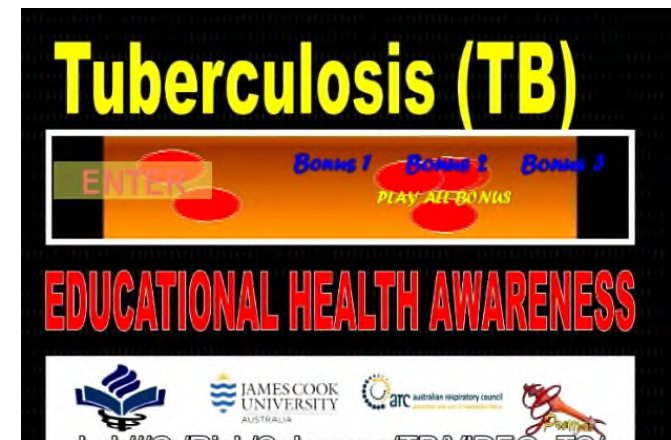
Why get funding to do research?

- Cost of the research you want to do is greater than the resources you have available
- To improve your “track record”
 - Add to your CV
- Research funders are more inclined to give money to people who have had it before
 - Establish a relationship

Australian Respiratory Council

1st grant in 2013

2nd grant in 2014



Costs exceed your resources

- Design your project
- Build a budget
- Assess your resources
- Do you have available what you need?
- If budget > available resources, you need funding, OR
- Need to modify your design

Where does funding come from?

- Researcher
- Researcher's colleagues / collaborators
- Researcher's institution

Internal Funding

Where does funding come from? (2)

- Private individuals (philanthropists)
- Local non-government organisations (NGOs)
 - Foundations, churches
- Government
 - Local, provincial, national
- Research funding agencies
 - Provincial, national
- Corporations / companies

External Funding

Where does funding come from? (3)

- Private individuals (philanthropists)
- International NGOs
- Country aid organisations
- International agencies
- Multinational corporations/companies

International Funding

Hunting for funds

- Identify likely sources of funding for your research
- Let's list some funding agencies the Atoifi group should watch

Structure of a Funding Application

- Title
- Investigators
- Institutions
- Date
- Summary
- Amount
- Background
- Significance
- Research Question
- Aims and Objectives
- Methods
- Timeline
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Ethical considerations
- Budget
- Budget Justification
- Track record of investigators
- Literature Cited
- Letters of support

Each funder has their own format

What questions do the funders ask?

- What is the application about?
- Who are the applicants?
- What will they do?
- Is it important?
- How much do they want and is this reasonable?
- How competent are they?
- Does it meet our guidelines?

**Very
Important**



Always write applications with the funders in mind

What is the application about?

- **Title**
- **Summary**

What is the application about?

- **Title**

- Should indicate what you want to research
- Make it interesting
- Indicate why it is novel or important

Is lymphatic filariasis in the Shortland Islands?

VS

Surveillance and verification of rumours of ongoing lymphatic filariasis in remote villages in 'post elimination' Solomon Islands

What is the application about?

- **Summary**

- Concise statement of:
- Why you want to do the project
- What you will do
- When you will do it
- What changes will result

2. Project Summary *(Provide a summary of the project that is no more than 100 words. The summary should be intelligible to a lay reader, and outline the aims of the research, the expected outcomes and the project's overall significance.)*

Solomon Islands was declared free of the disabling disease lymphatic filariasis (LF) by WHO. The Outer Shortland Islands are adjacent to Papua New Guinea, a hot spot for LF. Rumours from the Outer Shortland Islands suggest that cases of elephantiasis, the end stage of LF, are not uncommon. Rumours can provide strong leads, but they must be verified. This study will test rumour verification as a tool in the LF elimination programme. Although rumour verification is a standard approach for outbreak surveillance, its use in LF control is novel and could become a useful tool in the elimination of LF.

Who are the applicants?

- **Investigators**
 - Chief Investigators
 - Associate Investigators / Other Participants
- **Institutions / Affiliations**
 - The places of employment or association of the investigators
 - Community groups may need an incorporated body
- **Track record of investigators**
- **Letters of support**

What will they do?

- **Research Question**
- **Aims and Objectives**
- **Methods**
- **Timeline**
- **Monitoring & evaluation**

Is it important?

- **Background**
 - Concisely describe what is known about the topic
 - Based on a review of the literature
 - If you have publications on this topic, cite them!
- **Significance**
 - Why the topic is important
 - Why your project is important
 - The improvements or advances that your project will make

How much do they want and is this reasonable?

- **Methods**
- **Timeline**
- **Budget**
- **Budget Justification**

How competent are they?

- **Investigators**
- **Institutions**
- **Track record of investigators**
- **Literature cited**
- **Ethical considerations**
- **Additional assessment based on quality of research design and writing**

Does it meet our guidelines?

- **Topic**
 - Content
- **Eligibility to apply**
 - Conditions about investigator, institution, location
- **Funding limits**
 - Minimum and maximum
 - e.g., LF Grant maximum is \$6000; we applied for \$5994
- **Timelines**
 - Number of years
 - Submitted on time

Submission deadline is 12 May 2013
Applications received after the deadline will not be reviewed

WHO TDR grant

Does it meet our guidelines?

- **Eligibility to apply**
 - Conditions about investigator, institution, location

WHO TDR Research Capacity Strengthening Grant

Eligibility

The grant is targeted to nationals from low- and middle-income countries, employed by a national governmental or non-governmental organization for at least 12 months. Each application must be endorsed by the head of the home institution. Only proposals with tangible results will be considered. Applications from previous TDR grantees and from women are encouraged.

Guidelines

- Instructions from the granting body
- Very important
- Go through the guidelines very carefully
- You **MUST** follow the instructions



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