



From: Faculty Research Development Office  
Office of the Vice President for Research

Subject: Limited Competition: NIH Hubs of Interdisciplinary Research and Training in Global Environmental and Occupational Health (GEOHealth) – Research Training (Collaborative U2R Clinical Trial Optional) – RFA-TW-21-002

Date: April 7, 2021

This Funding Opportunity Announcement invites new and renewal applications from U.S. institutions for support of a collaborative research training program that will strengthen the capacity of institutions in Low- or Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) to conduct collaborative research, data management, training, curriculum and outreach material development, practical approaches for assessment and control of environmental and workplace hazards, and policy support around priority local, national and regional environmental and occupational health threats.

The purpose of this FOA, as one of two linked FOAs comprising the GEOHealth Hub program, is to support research training programs of LMIC investigators that address priority LMIC environmental and occupational health issues that are integrated with associated LMIC research activities. Hubs are supported by two coordinated linked awards to 1) a LMIC institution for research and 2) a U.S. institution for research training. Both applications must demonstrate a commitment to extensive coordination between these two awards to meet goals of the GEOHealth program. Therefore, applications in response to this FOA must be developed in close coordination with linked applications under [RFA-TW-21-001](#) “Hubs of Interdisciplinary Research and Training in Global Environmental and Occupational Health (GEOHealth) – Collaborative Research (U01 Clinical Trial Optional)”.

The World Health Organization estimates that nearly a quarter of all deaths are attributed to living or working in an unhealthy environment, and environmental risk factors, such as air, water and soil pollution, chemical exposures, climate change, and ultraviolet radiation, contribute to more than 100 diseases and injuries. The burden is highest in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs), and environmental health risks especially affect women and children because they are more vulnerable socially and because exposures to environmental contaminants create greater risks for children’s developing bodies and cognitive functions.

In 2012, the Fogarty International Center (FIC) launched the [Global Environmental and Occupational Health \(GEOHealth\) Hub program](#) in order to develop a handful of regional science hubs, based in LMICs, that would become internationally-recognized centers for the collection, management, synthesis and interpretation of data on environmental and occupational health, ideally serving the multinational regions in which they reside. GEOHealth Hubs are supported by two linked cooperative agreement awards: a research award to the LMIC institution and a research training award to the US institution. Additional information about the program can be found on the program webpage at <https://www.fic.nih.gov/Programs/Pages/environmental-occupational.aspx>

Anticipated budget total costs may not exceed \$300,000 per year for a maximum period of time of 5 years. The U2R application budget should be developed in close coordination with the linked U01 research application ([RFA-TW-21-001](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-TW-21-001.html)) because the combined budget for both linked U01 and U2R applications cannot exceed \$600,000 in total costs per year (including 8% F&A) and at least 50% of the combined budget must be in the LMIC's U01 application. Complete program details can be found at: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-TW-21-002.html>.

The sponsor deadline for full proposals is July 8, 2021.

This is a limited competition. An institution (identified by having a unique DUNS number and NIH Institutional Profile File (IPF) number) can only submit one application in response to this FOA. If you are interested in submitting a preliminary proposal please send a **statement of interest with a brief abstract (maximum 1-page)** to [limited@unm.edu](mailto:limited@unm.edu) with the subject line indicating: NIH GEOHealth - your name by **noon on April 27, 2021**. Based on the e-mail responses received, the Limited Competition Management Team may announce a call for preproposals. *Only those who respond with a statement of interest by the deadline will be invited to submit preproposals.*

**The 1-page abstract must include the following:**

- Descriptive title of proposed activity
- Name(s) of the PD(s)/PI(s) and affiliation
- Names of other key personnel and affiliation
- Name and affiliation of PI from LIMC partner institution who will submit to solicitation [RFA-TW-21-001](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-TW-21-001.html)
- Description of the project

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at [limited@unm.edu](mailto:limited@unm.edu).

*If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact Corey Ford ([CFord@salud.unm.edu](mailto:CFord@salud.unm.edu)) or Cassandra Misenaar ([CMisenaar@salud.unm.edu](mailto:CMisenaar@salud.unm.edu)) for more information.*