


RePORT International Cross-Consortium RFP
Supplemental Funding for the RePORT International Consortium

I. PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

Eligible Applicant(s)	Investigators from at least two RePORT Networks, and their collaborators.
FOA Opens	January 13, 2021
Submission Deadline	February 22, 2021
Announcement of Results	April 1, 2021
Eligible Scope of Work	Scope of Work should i) address clinical, socio-epidemiologic, biomarkers, and immune mechanisms predictive of the presence of or progression to TB including MDR-TB or adverse outcomes across Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, the Philippines, and South Africa, and; ii) utilize existing Common Protocol (or site protocol) data and/or biological samples or collect novel data and biologic specimens; iii) assess impact of co-conditions (COVID-19, diabetes mellitus, HIV, malnutrition, pregnancy) on TB.
Project Duration	Up to two (2) years
Award Amounts	2 to 3 projects in total up to \$1 million USD (total costs) up to two years, based on funding availability
Complete RFP & Application Forms	 Click on the blue icon box on the left to the box.com folder with documents and forms for proposal submission.
How to Apply	Proposals must be emailed to Ms. Daphne Gnanadason-Martin (dgnanadason@crdfglobal.org) by deadline date.
Point of Contact	Administrative: Daphne Gnanadason-Martin, TB-RICC (dgnanadason@crdfglobal.org) Technical: Jerrold J. Ellner, TB-RICC (ellnerji@njms.rutgers.edu)

I. PURPOSE

The objective of this call is to develop collaborations across RePORT consortia

This supplemental funding will support cross-cutting research activities. Priority will be given to studies that i) address clinical, socio-epidemiologic, biomarkers, and immune mechanisms predictive of the presence of or progression to TB including MDR-TB or adverse outcomes across Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, the Philippines, and South Africa, and; ii) utilize existing Common Protocol (or site protocol) data and/or biological samples or collect novel data and biologic specimens; iii) assess impact of co-conditions (COVID-19, diabetes mellitus, HIV, malnutrition, pregnancy) on TB. Applications may address access or barriers to care including stigma and/or treatment adherence. If novel cohorts or collection of biosamples is proposed, the definitions and standards of the Common Protocol must be used (see CP Toolbox on the reportinternational.org website). Projects may request support from the data harmonization and administrative cores of TB-RICC for activities such as approvals, data management,

biostatistics and shipping of biospecimens, but the cost should be included in the budget

\$1 million USD (total costs) grant support is available to fund 2-3 projects for up to two years in duration. Proposals will be selected for award based on scientific merit, TB-RICC priorities and available funds. TB-RICC will address all administrative and scientific inquiries for this RFP, receive full proposals from applicants, coordinate a technical peer review of proposals, and communicate results to applicants. The TB-RICC Leadership Group and program sponsors will select awards for funding. Funding will be administered through CRDF Global.

Upon announcement of award selection, **finalists may not begin any project activities or incur any project expenses** until an agreement has been signed by CRDF Global. This process can take 60-90 days from the time of award announcement. Additionally, projects involving human subjects/animal subjects may not begin until all required bioethics documentation is approved by CRDF Global. This should be taken into consideration when preparing the proposal timeline.

Award funds will be dispersed on a **cost-reimbursable basis** upon receipt of invoices and receipts reflecting expenses incurred based on approved budget. Should a grantee require advance funding, significant justification must be submitted to CRDF Global in writing and shall be reviewed by the funder for approval.

It is expected that anyone who received a cross-collaborative supplement will present the findings of their work/outcomes to the RePORT Consortium (either at the Annual meeting or during a Webinar).

II. ELIGIBILITY

All proposals **must** meet each of the following eligibility criteria:

1. Research should be proposed by a collaborative team of Investigators from **at least two different RePORT International consortia** ("Primary Institutions" listed in Appendix A). Special consideration will be given to Projects led by teams of junior investigators (within 10 years of terminal training) paired with senior mentors. Applicant institutions must adhere to the cost sharing guidelines provided by CRDF and as detailed in # 6 below.
2. The proposed research must be based on data or biospecimens from the Common Protocol or another RePORT related research study or use the laboratory and data standards set forth in the [RePORT International toolkit](#); *Retrospective studies are encouraged although a prospective component can be included to access novel under or un-represented populations such as MDR TB or TB-COVID-19*
3. Investigators from institutions other than the Primary Institutions may be included as collaborators at the discretion of the Team investigators. Collaborators whose institutions are requesting project funds should be designated as Secondary Institutions¹.
4. Funds may not be used to duplicate previously funded research goals, to augment enrollment numbers for currently funded studies or to support activities previously funded from another source. In addition, it is expected that the infrastructure and resources are already in place to collect specimens and data in compliance with RePORT International standards. Funding from this award cannot be used to establish these standards.

¹ Secondary institutions are those other than the Primary Institution that will participate in the proposed project and receive support under a CRDF Global award. Secondary Institutions may participate in the form of sub-contracted work and may include any allowable costs described in this program.

5. A site may participate in multiple applications, but with different lead investigators.
6. **Cost-Share Requirements:** Awardees with a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) from a U.S. federal cognizant agency exceeding 8%, will be required to provide a cost share to cover the difference in cost rate, so that the applied Indirect Cost rate does not exceed 8% of the award's modified total direct costs. Eligible cost shares must be verifiable through appropriate documentation provided by the awardee. See Appendix C for RePORT Program IDC and Cost Share Guidelines.
7. CRDF Global reserves the right to restrict the participation of any individual or institution in its programs. CRDF Global complies with all U.S. laws and regulations pertaining to export control and the participation of foreign nationals or institutions in its activities. It is the policy of CRDF Global not to conduct any transactions with U.S. restricted entities without appropriate authorization from the U.S. Government.

III. REVIEW OF PROPOSALS

All proposals and information contained therein will remain confidential prior to the award and will be screened for eligibility and completeness upon receipt by TB-RICC. Scientific merit review will take place through a peer-review by subject matter experts identified by TB-RICC. Reviewers will use the evaluation criteria described below to make funding recommendations: 1) Scientific Impact; 2) Investigators; 3) Approach; 4) Feasibility; 5) Implementation Plan; 6) Personnel Capacity/Experience; 5) Site Infrastructure; 6) Budget; and 7) Relevance to RePORT International.

TB-RICC will email each team Principal Investigator to inform them of the decision to select their research proposal. All awards are subject to the availability of funding from program sponsors. All decisions by TB-RICC and CRDF Global are final.

IV. PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION

Proposal materials must be prepared in English, compiled in the following separate document files in MS Word (.doc) or Adobe Acrobat (PDF format). Formatted with one-inch margins on all sides; Arial font 11 point, single-spaced document. Forms are available in the [box.com link](#) mentioned above.

- Cover Page (1 Page): Project Title, Primary Principal Investigator, Institutional Representative.
- Project Abstract (No more than 350 words).
- Specific Aims (1 Page).
- Research Plan (12 Pages).
- Project Milestones (CRDF Global format).
- Budget (following the format of the CRDF Global format).
 - Foreign organizations must use the R&R Budget form in [G.300-R&R Budget Form](#).
- [NIH format](#) Biosketches (only Key Personnel - if possible - 1 Senior and 1 Junior per Site).
- References Cited.
- Appendix - Publications and other Relevant Activities within past 5 Years.
- Single Audit Report or financial statement Report.
- Institutional Data Form.