**ANNOUNCEMENT: GFF and WCAH\* Small Grants Mechanism**

Supporting civil society engagement, alignment, and coordinated advocacy for increased resources, improved policies, and enhanced accountability

\*Global Financing Facility (GFF); Women’s, Children’s, and Adolescents’ Health

The GFF Civil Society Coordinating Group, hosted by the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health (PMNCH), is pleased to announce a new small grants opportunity that aims to improve outcomes for women’s, children’s, and adolescents’ health (WCAH), by supporting better-coordinated civil society (CS) efforts to engage in national processes and programmes, with particular focus on the GFF.

In November 2017, with the endorsement of the implementation plan for the [GFF Civil Society Engagement Strategy](https://www.globalfinancingfacility.org/sites/gff_new/files/documents/GFF-IG5-5%20CS%20Engagement%20Strategy.pdf) at the GFF Investors Group Meeting, PMNCH and the GFF Secretariat pledged USD $500K and $300K, respectively, towards supporting CS engagement in the GFF. Since that time, they have been working together with the CS Coordinating Group, and other interested partners, to design a small grants mechanism to support CS coalitions in countries.

The objectives of the mechanism are three-fold:

1. Civil society coalitions[[1]](#footnote-0) are strengthened to build consensus, align priorities, increase/align resources and actions to present an aligned CSO perspective and participate meaningfully in national and sub-national processes through the national multi-stakeholder platform[[2]](#footnote-1) and other similar structures at the sub-national level depending on countries local context;
2. Advocacy and accountability activities are implemented across the six priority EWEC themes[[3]](#footnote-2) aimed at achieving national WCAH targets, including mobilization of domestic resources;
3. Technical skills of CSO coalitions are built in advocacy, including for domestic resource mobilization, and accountability.

The Small Grants Mechanism will be managed by a **Host Organization** who will be responsible for disbursing, managing, and overseeing grants to a range of country-level CSO coalitions; the Host Organization will also provide and/or help to identify technical assistance to grantees, as needed. *The Host Organization will be selected through a competitive bidding process in May 2018*. The Request for Proposals (RFP) for a Host Organization will be posted online by PMNCH, and shared through the CS Coordinating Group Google Group and relevant PMNCH constituencies.

Once the Host Organization has been identified, they will develop a grant application template and toolkit to guide **Country-Level CSO Coalitions** in applying for the small grants mechanism. *A Call for Proposals will be issued in summer 2018 (June/July),* and shared through the CS Coordinating Group Google Group and relevant PMNCH constituencies and website. Individual grant applications can be submitted for up to 70,000 USD for activities to be implemented over a 12-month period.

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| **Stay tuned for:**   * **RFP for a Host Organization**: May 2018 * **Call for Grant Proposals:** June/July 2018 |

1. Measured by inclusiveness, transparency, participation and accountability as outlined in the the [*Guidance Note on Inclusive Multistakeholder Country Platforms in Support of Every Woman, Every Child*](https://www.globalfinancingfacility.org/guidance-note-inclusive-multi-stakeholder-country-platforms-support-every-woman-every-child)*.* [↑](#footnote-ref-0)
2. CS coalitions will work with WCAH focal points in Ministries of Health to ensure their adequate representation in national platforms. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
3. The six EWEC focus areas include: early childhood development; quality, equity and dignity; adolescent health; humanitarian and fragile settings; sexual and reproductive health and rights; and empowerment of women and communities. Use of the following toolkits around some of the six thematic areas is recommended: SRHR: [AFP SMART Advocacy toolkit](https://advancefamilyplanning.org/afp-launches-new-guide-smart-advocacy-facilitation), Adolescent health: The [Advocating for Change for Adolescents](http://www.who.int/pmnch/knowledge/publications/advocacy_toolkit.pdf?ua=1) toolkit and the [Accelerating Action for Adolescent Health](http://www.who.int/maternal_child_adolescent/topics/adolescence/framework-accelerated-action/en/) (AA-HA!) for technical guidance on adolescent health. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)