**ANNOUNCEMENT:**

**GFF and WCAH\* Small Grants Mechanism Host Organization Identified**

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 global Civil Society Coordinating Group (CSCFG) for the Global Financing Facility (GFF), hosted by the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health (PMNCH), is pleased to announce a new Small Grants Mechanism 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.

**A host organization for the Small Grants Mechanism has been identified through a competitive RFP process**. [**Management Sciences for Health (MSH),**](http://www.msh.org)a global non-profit organization thatworks with countries and communities to build strong, resilient, sustainable health systems that can provide equitable, affordable access to high-quality health services for all who need them, will host the mechanism. PMNCH is thrilled to have MSH’s leadership and experience as an integral partner working to support and enhance civil society engagement in the GFF at country level.

**A call for proposals for the Small Grants Mechanism to Support Civil Society Engagement, Alignment, and Coordinated Action for Improved Women’s, Children’s, and Adolescents’ Health, Particularly in Relation to the Global Financing Facility will be launched in the coming weeks.** Coalitions of civil society organizations will be able to apply for small grants. More information is below.

**BACKGROUND:** 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 $500,000 and $300,000, 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 Small Grants Mechanism are three-fold:

1. To strengthen civil society coalitions[[1]](#footnote-1) to build consensus, identify shared priorities, increase/align resources and actions for a coordinated CS perspective and meaningful participation in national and sub-national processes through the national multi-stakeholder platform[[2]](#footnote-2) and other similar structures at the sub-national level, depending on countries local context;
2. To implement advocacy and accountability activities across the six priority Every Woman Every Child (EWEC) themes[[3]](#footnote-3) aimed at achieving national WCAH targets, including mobilization of domestic resources;
3. To develop CS coalitions’ technical skills in advocacy, including for domestic resource mobilization, and accountability.

The Small Grants Mechanism will be managed by Management Sciences for Health (as the Host Organization), which will be responsible for disbursing, managing, and overseeing grants to a range of country-level CS coalitions; the Host Organization will also provide and/or help to identify technical assistance to grantees, as needed. The Host Organization will develop a grant application template and toolkit, in both English and French, to guide country-level CS coalitions in applying for the small grants. Individual grant applications can be submitted for *up to* USD $70,000 for activities to be implemented over a 12-month period.

**NEXT STEPS:** More details will be included in the forthcoming call for proposals which will be disseminated widely, including through the Google Group for the global Civil Society Coordinating Group for the GFF (CSCG), PMNCH’s website and CS constituency, MSH’s website and social media networks, as well as other channels. More details to come soon!

For more information, please contact: GFFCSOgrants@msh.org

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-1)
2. CS coalitions will work with WCAH focal points in Ministries of Health to ensure their adequate civil society representation in national platforms. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
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-3)