

Responses to Questions Notice F Open Solicitation November 15, 2021

The following are the responses of the Digital Square at PATH to questions regarding the Notice F Open Solicitation release on November 3, 2021. The deadline for asking questions was 5:00 p.m. EST on November 10, 2021.

Question 1

Question 1: For F1 (Implementation of the WHO digital documentation of COVID-19 certificates), it would be helpful to have additional guidance on the expected outputs. For example, are there expectations around developing tooling to support compatibility of DDCC:VS with EU certificates, SMART Health Cards, or for other implementation/authorities? Additionally, is there an expectation of enterprise-level support, hosting, or artifacts to support wide-scale deployment for WHO or for Member States of WHO?

Answer 1: The funding is not aimed at supporting deployment to implementation but rather for developing the technical functionality within a tool to showcase the tool's ability to align to the technical guidance. Applicants are encouraged to propose work packages and outcomes informed by local implementations and needs. The technical scope is intentionally broad. Applicants are encouraged to submit what they see as the optimum case for adopting the technical guidance in their global good technology(ies). A motivation and support case for the proposed outcomes are encouraged to allow the PRC to understand the output within the broader context. Generation, validation, querying of certifications, translation, and compatibility are all open options for proposed outputs.

Question 2

Question 2: We are interested in submitting an application for your call for proposal under the Notice F0: Reference implementation of the World Health Organization Antenatal Care Digital Adaption Kit. We would like to get some clarification on the eligibility criteria that requires a minimum of three countries. Our innovation is currently being tested in two countries; however, we have had preliminary discussions to start testing in a third country pending funding. We would like to know if we are eligibility to apply.

Answer 2: Applicants may apply as long as they meet the criteria of being a global good.

Question 3

Question 3: Our platform fits multiple areas, is it possible to apply for more than one area or should we select the one where we fit the best?

Answer 3: Yes, you can. Please submit an application for each Notice explaining how you will address the expected outputs of each Notice.

Question 4

Question 4: We are a social impact firm dedicated towards building and scaling innovations that enhance human health, well-being, and social equity and brings a learnings-based, people-centered approach to adapting, synthesizing and developing contextual solutions in digital health. Whilst we have not developed or utilized any of the Global Goods that might be relevant to this application, I wanted to enquire if we can still apply. For instance, we would like to propose approaches for shelf-readiness and capacity building (Notice F2) in the context of vaccination using the [Reveal](#) platform. Alternatively, we are also exploring the reference implementation of the World Health Organization Antenatal Care Digital Adaption Kit using Medic's [Community Health Toolkit](#). **Can we apply, or do we need to be a part of or partnered with the organizations that have developed these platforms?**

Answer 4: Yes, you are eligible to apply.

Question 5

Question 5: For F0 - Does the reference implementation need to be FHIR native? Eg. Use the Android FHIR SDK?

Answer 5: No, it does not need to be FHIR native.

Question 6

Question 6: For each Notice, it says the work must be based on a global good; do they need to be selected from the existing global goods list?

Answer 6: Work must be based on a global good **or** tools that align with the definition of Global Goods.

Question 6

Question 6: We are in the process of developing a new native digital health platform based on the open source FHIR SDK that is being developed in collaboration with Google and other partners. As this is part of rehaul of OpenSRP which is a global good, we wanted to confirm if it was possible to apply to use FHIR Core which are the set of tools we are developing around the FHIR SDK. These are not yet formerly global goods.

Answer 6: As OpenSRP is a global good, you may apply under this banner, as the Notice also allows tools that are not yet global goods but align to the principles and definitions to apply the scope would be allowed too.

Question 7

Question 7: Will Digital Square accept proposals under \$80K if the global good is already close to being shelf-ready?

Answer 7: Yes

Question 8

Question 8: Will Digital Square recognize implementations of the global good technology that have been white labeled or integrated into other applications?

Answer 8: Yes

Question 9

Question 9: On F2 - Will Digital Square support upgrading the programming language or framework used in the digital health good?

Answer 9: The application needs to be framed to show the impact of the proposed activity. The Peer Review Committee evaluates the application against the evaluation framework and makes recommendations from that. Technology upgrades and enhancements previously funded should be tied to driving forward the aspects of Shelf Readiness.

Question 10

Question 10: Will test data be provided, or will it need to be created by the awardee?

Answer 10: Awardees are expected to develop their own test data.

Question 11

Question 11: Is it an “in-scope” use of funds to iterate/update the ANC CDS IG (e.g., make fix bugs, close gaps, refactor component artefacts that are difficult to consume, etc.) -- ensuring, of course, that the resultant L3 content is functionally consistent with the L2/L1 content.

Answer 11: The funding is not to enhance the implementation guide but instead to incorporate its guidance into tools. If updates are proposed to the IG during the project period, then that is acceptable.

Question 12

Question 12: Is it an “in-scope” use of funds to develop re-usable façade software that augments any standards-conformant digital health tool (rather than making source code changes on the underlying tools, themselves)? If yes – is it an allowed use of funds to modify an underlying digital health product to support a generic interface standard (such as SMART on FHIR) so that such a façade approach can be employed?

Answer 12: Yes, this is within scope – applicants are encouraged to use existing tools (such as global good interoperability layers) and mediators/workflows, if this is the pattern they intend to follow.

Question 13

Question 13: Will an interface with an existing global public good (e.g., on OpenMRS, or OpenSRP, or SanteSuite) be able to meet the minimum requirements of the RFP? Specifically – for example – would an open-source façade that can work with an underlying application that is installed in 3 LMICs meet criteria 1?

Answer 13: Interfaces to existing global goods are considered within scope. Applicants are encouraged to consider the longevity of their proposed application/solution and if developing an interface that is done in a way that allows it to form part of the broader product vision of a tool. Proposed interventions must stand the test of time and are developed for use moving forward.