

Applicant Response Form – [FOR GRANT-MAKING]

SECTION 1: Overview

Applicant Information

Country	Ghana	Currency	US\$
Applicant type	CCM	Component(s)	Malaria
Envisioned grant(s) start date	1 January 2018	Envisioned grant(s) end date	31 December 2020
Principal Recipient 1	Ministry of Health- Ghana Health Services (GHS)	Principal Recipient 2	AngloGold Ashanti (AGAMal)

SECTION 2: Issues to be addressed during grant-making and/or grant implementation

Issue 1: Balance of funding for IRS and other priority interventions may not be positioned to achieve the greatest impact	Cleared by: Secretariat
--	--------------------------------

TRP Input and Requested Actions

Issue: While the TRP recognizes the importance of the IRS program in the north in the management of pyrethroid insecticide resistance and malaria control, it is a relatively expensive intervention in the context of a lack of funding for other key interventions.

Action: The TRP recommends a careful review of the relative anticipated impact of IRS in comparison to IPTp and SMC, and other programmatic aspects, which are under-funded in the allocation request, to ensure that the funding mix is structured to achieve the greatest impact. In particular, the shortfall in SMC and IPTp should be considered for prioritization within the allocation funding. Prioritization of LLIN over IRS for vector control in relevant districts, sufficient to address the shortfall in funding of other essential interventions, could produce a more balanced approach.

Please provide an executive summary on the actions taken:

Issue 2: Greater clarity required on identification and targeting of specific high-risk and underserved populations	Cleared by: Secretariat
--	--------------------------------

TRP Requested Actions

Issue: The funding request provides a comprehensive list of population groups to be targeted with specific interventions, but is unclear on the basis for prioritization, the likely impact on these groups and the costs of targeting. While the TRP applauds the efforts of the program to delineate such populations that may be at higher risk, or have poor access to services, it is unclear whether it is equity issues and/or a data driven analysis of disease burden and coverage gaps that drives the prioritization and targeting. It is also unclear how the success of any interventions to these groups will be monitored.

Action: The TRP requests the applicant to explain in greater detail the basis for the selection of the various communities and populations to be targeted by the program, providing any available evidence about disease burden and access to and use of health services. Where interventions are planned, they should be visible in the implementation plans and the budget for the program. The program should then track intervention coverage

levels as well as impact in the targeted populations, where feasible through a careful documentation of age, sex and location differentials in key program indicators.

Please provide an executive summary on the actions taken:

Issue 3:
Lack of clarity on focus and activities under SBCC

Cleared by: Secretariat

TRP Input and Requested Actions

Issue: The evidence-base for, and mix of, SBCC activities is unclear in the funding request.

Action: To ensure that lessons learnt are used to inform SBCC activities, the TRP requests the applicant to develop a robust communication plan be provided, including the best practices and tactics/messages for reaching all identified vulnerable groups.

Please provide an executive summary on the actions taken:

Issue 4:
Lack of plan for civil society engagement

Cleared by: Secretariat

TRP Input and Requested Actions

Issue: Interventions involving civil society appear to be activity-based, rather than based on a comprehensive strategy. There is insufficient information about the planned extent of the CSO and community-based response, with relevant targets.

Action: The TRP requests the applicant to undertake strategic planning including mapping the civil society and interventions funded by other donors; identifying and analyzing the gaps; clarifying the roles, coordination and collaboration between the non-state actors and the government institutions; specifying the capacity-building and other communities systems strengthening needs of the civil society and how exactly and by whom they will be addressed.

Please provide an executive summary on the actions taken:

Issue 5:
Inconsistencies in budget and lack of clarity in RSSH system strengthening

Cleared by: Secretariat

TRP Input and Requested Actions

Issue: Budgets in the narrative do not add up to the module totals provided in a number of areas, and these totals do not match the totals given in the excel sheet budgets.

Action: The budget calculations for all modules should be reviewed and figures corrected and reconciled between the narrative and the spreadsheet budgets. The narrative describing activities, especially in RSSH, needs to be clarified, ensuring that the budget is well reflected.

Please provide an executive summary on the actions taken:

Issue 6:

Need for rebalancing the focus of RSSH interventions

Cleared by: [Choose an item.](#)

TRP Input and Requested Actions

Issue: The TRP considers that rapid gains could be made in important areas of the RSSH grant that are already underway, particularly supply chain management and data management. There may be benefits to be gained from rebalancing the focus (including associated expenditure) of proposed RSSH investments toward these areas to accelerate progress in critical areas and ensure that available resources are used to maximize outcomes.

Action: The TRP recommends that the applicant work with the Secretariat to rebalance relevant RSSH components affecting the delivery of HIV, TB and malaria program commitments. This should be based on an assessment of actionable and measurable operational plans, to ensure maximum efficiencies.

Please provide an executive summary on the actions taken:

Your replies to the clarifications requested must be provided to the Fund Portfolio Manager.