

Reproductive Health Working Group (RHWG)

Collaborative Themed Research Grants:

COVID 19 containment policies and its effects on people in the Arab World and Turkey

Call for Proposals

The Reproductive Health Working Group (RHWG) is now providing themed research grants to scholars doing innovative research about COVID 19 containment policies and their effects in the region. We anticipate funding for up to three projects. We expect individuals to apply but will not preclude joint applications.

The COVID 19 pandemic has resulted in a range of policies and regulations designed to control the spread of infection. Models of containment appear similar in theory but might translate into very different modes of implementation in different national, social and political contexts. The economic and social consequences of the public health measures have different effects on households and people. This call for proposals encourages researchers to examine COVID 19 containment policies and how people in the region navigate and negotiate the regulations.

The grant program is open to researchers from a variety of disciplines and using different methodologies. Some suggestions for research topics including but not limited to:

- The COVID 19 regulations and their economic effects and consequences for poverty;
- how social, economic and health inequalities impact the capabilities of people and households to follow quarantine measures;
- the regulations and how households try to protect vulnerable individuals including the elderly, people with disabilities the immunosuppressed and those with underlying conditions;
- how the regulations affect individuals' use of health care for other conditions;
- how the regulations affect the elderly and their households;
- the effects of the regulations on refugees, migrant workers or other disadvantaged groups;
- the gendered consequences of the containment regulations,
- the social and cultural factors that enable or inhibit compliance with regulations.

The grant program is an opportunity to do collaborative and inter-disciplinary work. It also has the potential to build a network of scholars across multiple sites that can strengthen research on responses to disaster management and implement research methods during periods of crises.

Eligibility

- 1- The applicant must have attended at least one RHWG meeting (and preferably more)
- 2- The applicant can be based at a university, a research-oriented organization including NGOs or be an independent scholar.

Deadline for Application

September 15th, 2020

Proposal Submittal Requirements

1. An updated CV
2. If the applicant is based at an institution, a letter of support from the applicant's institution will be required as part of the application. If the applicant is an independent scholar, a letter of recommendation from someone acquainted with the scholar's research.
3. Proposal Cover Sheet including a one paragraph abstract of the proposed project (150 word maximum), which will be placed on the Reproductive Health Working Group website for selected projects.
4. A description of the proposed project, including proposed activities, project timetable, expected tangible outcomes (up to 10 pages double spaced). For general guidelines on how to write proposals, please check the following guidelines:

<https://sjoseph.ucdavis.edu/proposalwritingandfundingresearch/manuals-and-guides-1>

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5037942/>

5. Detailed budget and budget narrative. Please see under budget for details regarding permitted expenditures. (1 page) Up to \$12000

Budget

Funding for grants is for a maximum of \$12000. Funding provided is for up to 18 months. The research would be expected to start as early as the Fall 2020.

- Personnel (salaries, assistants for work such as transcription and editing)
- Travel or transportation to research sites or to conference
- Materials and supplies
- Other services (conference fees, computer services, phone services etc.)
- Equipment (for example a recorder or camera)
- Maximum overhead of 10% for scholars based at universities

Recipients of grants will be asked to submit financial and narrative reports at the end of the project. Recipients will be encouraged to connect with each other periodically. They will be expected to present preliminary results of their research at the RHWG meetings.

Evaluation Criteria

Each application will be reviewed by two reviewers – one internal to the RHWG and another topic reviewer who could be a member of the RHWG or outside the RHWG. Final decisions will be taken by the regional Consultative Committee and the Director. Applications will be judged by the quality of content and the appropriateness of the proposed methodology for the research question.

Application and Submission Guidelines

Please email application documents to lw01@aub.edu.lb by September 15th, 2020

RHWG is housed at the American University of Beirut (AUB). As a U.S. educational institution based in Lebanon, AUB must comply with all applicable laws of the United States as well as the laws of Lebanon. For further information, please contact Livia lw01@aub.edu.lb before beginning work on the application.