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## AMEAR.CIH Network Funds – Call for Proposals 2022

**African Medical Education and Research Network – AMEAR.CIH - Center for International Health**

The vision and overarching aim of the Center for International Health at LMU (CIH) is to empower health professionals. With this vision, CIH aspires to meet health-related challenges through capacity building in training and research. The CIH strengthens its partners and alumni and stimulates their collaboration.

**AMEAR** is a new project of CIH, funded by Bayerische Staatskanzlei (Bavarian State Chancellery, Munich, Germany). The vision of AMEAR is (1) the formation of networks of African health professionals and (2) provide funds for projects of CIH alumni in 2022.

**Goals of AMEAR** are (1) to strengthen the medical and health professional education and research in African Higher Education Institutions, (2) to demonstrate clinical or community relevance of health professional education, and (3) to foster an inter-institutional and interdisciplinary approach to health related education.

### 1. Eligibility criteria

#### 1.1. Applicants

African graduates (alumni) of the following programs may apply for network funds:

- MSc Integrated Clinical and Community Mental Health (MICCMH) at Jimma University
- PhD International Health – Medical Research at LMU
- MSc Health Professions Education (MHPE) at Jimma University
- Projects involving at least two alumni from different institutions are given preference
- Projects involving at least two alumni from different countries in Africa are given preference
- The number of applications per institution is not limited.

#### 1.3. Project duration

Only activities that can be completed before October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022 will be considered eligible. Therefore, it must be feasible to conduct the project within this period. All funds must be spent before this date, and legal invoices must be made available to the administrator on 15<sup>th</sup> of November 2022.



#### 1.4. Minimum and Maximum funding available per project

Grants awarded are between EUR 8,000.00 and EUR 20,000.00. Funds must be administered and spent according to the regulations (see section 7, Funding). Therefore, each application must have a budget plan that satisfies the regulations.

#### 1.5. Prime applicant and responsibilities

Within the project application, the applicant, the partners and their responsibilities in the project must be clearly defined; projects should involve a mentor. Details are in the document "Submission guide".

#### 1.6. Language

Only proposals written in English are eligible.

#### 1.7. Priority topics

Project proposals should empower health professionals, and address clinical or community relevance of health professional education.

### 2. Timeline

- Submission of project proposals: Before 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2022, 24:00 hours East Africa Time
- Notification of feedback from reviewers for revisions: 13<sup>th</sup> of February 2022
- Revision of projects: 14<sup>th</sup> of February to 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2022 (3 weeks)
- Announcement of selected projects: 20<sup>th</sup> March 2022
- Project period: 21<sup>st</sup> of March to 16<sup>th</sup> of Oct 2022
- Network Meeting: September 2022 (tentatively)
- Project presentation at AMEAR Congress 2022: End of October 2022 (tentatively)
- Final Written Report to CIH: 6<sup>th</sup> of November 2022
- Final Meeting with CIH Team and Representatives of the Bavarian Government: 10<sup>th</sup> of November 2022

### 3. Project Progress Meetings / Network Meeting / Final Report Meeting

The Project Progress Meetings and the Network Meeting will be held online.

### 4. Reporting

A final and comprehensive report has to be submitted before 6<sup>th</sup> of November 2022. The final report (maximum 5 pages) should be addressed to the main stakeholders (research community) and needs to be ready for online publication by CIH. In addition, a research paper submitted to a peer-reviewed journal should result from your research project.

### 5. Structure of proposals and word count

A maximum word count of 2,000 words / 6 pages for pages 1 to 5 are permitted. Longer proposals will be excluded. The proposals need to be structured in the following way:

Page 1: Short description of the project and relevance

Page 2: Experience of the applicants in the field

Pages 3-5: Project specification

- Title (max. 80 characters)
- Aims
- Research methods
- Project activities
- Profile of the working group & description of personnel tasks

- Cooperation with other units (if applicable)
- Timeline of the project

Page 6: Required funding with detailed explanation (budget plan)

- Personnel costs (salaries for project staff, remuneration for external experts etc.)
- Consumables: Listing of required material and costs
- Travel, accommodation and subsistence costs (if applicable)

Annex

- CV of applicants including publications and third party funds (max. 1 page per applicant)
- References
- Support letter

## 6. Selection criteria

Only projects fulfilling the goals of AMEAR, the eligibility criteria (section 1) and the structure of proposals (section 5) are eligible for review.

### 6.1. Evaluation process

The selection committee consists of faculty members of the partner institutions (including LMU) and alumni. Each proposal is reviewed and evaluated by a minimum of two reviewers. Reviewers have signed a statement of absence of conflict of interest and cannot review their own proposals.

#### Criteria of scientific and technical quality

- Relevance of the project (serves the Goals mentioned on page 1, the CIH vision “we empower health professionals”, or the sustainable development goals)
- Absence of a conflict of interest
- Feasibility within the time frame
- Appropriate tools and methods
- Appropriate dissemination strategy for potential users / stakeholders (publication in scientific journals, presentation at conferences, websites, booklets, community approach, etc.)
- Visibility of the project
- Potential to strengthen South-South partnerships
- Potential for policy change or contribution to scientific development

#### Management and budget criteria

- Number of partner institutions involved. LMU partners do not count as multi-institutional partners
- Extra bonus for collaboration with a partner from a different country in the Africa
- Experience of the team members in the field of the project, quality of the consortium, management scheme
- Clarity on roles and responsibilities of members and institutions, clear-cut management structure
- Reasonable correlation between estimated input/budget (e.g. resources, estimated costs in accordance to local fees), outcomes, output and impact.
- Visibility of CIH and network partners in the proposal
- Compliance with the funding criteria
- An average score will be calculated. The final decision will be based on the score and will be reached by a consensus of the selection committee, and communicated to the applicant
- Details on structure of the proposal and budget criteria are summarised in the document “Submission guide.v19.docx” on the AMEAR project web site.

## 6.2. Notification to the selected projects

Selected projects will be notified as indicated in section "2. Timeline"

## 6.3. Funding Agreement / Contract

Following the selection of projects, the institutions of the beneficiaries will be requested to sign a Grant Forwarding Agreement. The Grant Forwarding Agreement describes the main terms and requirements of the funding, identifies the contact person, details of the reporting requirements, duties and responsibilities.

## 7. Funding

LMU Klinikum will sign agreements the institutions of the winner of the competition, funding is through the respective institution. The payments go to a foreign currency account of the institution, cf. Submission guide.

## 8. Absence of a conflict of interest

Given that the AMEAR.CIH project is meant to support the development of scientific communities in Africa, the same persons will actively participate in the review process and have the right to submit a grant proposal. Both applicants and reviewers will therefore be asked to sign a statement of absence of conflict of interest in their respective roles.

## 9. Submission

Applicants submit proposals before the deadline given in section "2. Timeline" via email to

[amear.cih@lrz.uni-muenchen.de](mailto:amear.cih@lrz.uni-muenchen.de)

Late submission will be not considered for review.