

PACIFIC ISLANDS HIV AND STI RESPONSE FUND

FUNDING STREAM V

PRSIP SUPPORT GRANTS

GUIDELINES

Background

The Pacific Island HIV and STI Response Fund 2009–2013 (Response Fund) is a multi-donor pooled funding mechanism that supports implementation of national and regional HIV strategic plans. At this stage, the governments of Australia and New Zealand contribute to the Response Fund.

The Response Fund aims to contribute to the Pacific Regional HIV and STI Strategy goal, which is to reduce the spread and impact of HIV and other STIs, while supporting people infected and affected by HIV in Pacific communities.

The Pacific Regional HIV and STI Strategy and its implementation plan, the Pacific Regional Strategy Implementation Plan (PRSIP) forms the cornerstone of the regional response to HIV and STIs. The Response Fund funds activities that have been identified through PRSIP or the PRSIP annual planning process.

The Response Fund is overseen by a Fund Committee, independent of implementing bodies, and is responsible for ensuring that interventions are evidence based, and that funds are used appropriately and effectively.

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) will be responsible for the management and administration of the Response Fund as well as providing secretariat support to the Fund Committee.

What is the aim of the programme?

Funding Stream V – PRSIP Support Grants provides funding to regional and international support organisations for the implementation of high priority activities identified in PRSIP and contributing to the PRSIP outcomes and outputs.

What are the funding priorities?

Each agency will be required to prepare a project proposal in the appropriate format for the funding stream that will be appraised by the technical advisory groups (TAGs) appointed by the Fund Committee. Priority activities for funding should be based on PRSIP framework and the PRSIP annual planning process, and relevant countries and territories should be involved or consulted in the development of the proposal.

The proposal will need to demonstrate how gender issues will be addressed.

The following will not be supported:

- Funds exclusively sought to cover administrative costs or costs related to setting up an office
- Funds exclusively sought for capital expenditure and office infrastructure
- Projects that are unethical, or infringe rights or liberty and do not comply with the guiding principles

Who can apply for a grant?

Regional and international organisations and/or agencies supporting the implementation of high priority activities identified in PRSIP.

How much can you apply for?

Organisations may apply for grants up to AUD150,000 per year. Proposals for multi-year funding up to three years will be considered. In exceptional circumstances, the Fund Committee may consider proposals with budgets above the AUD150,000 per year ceiling.

How will your proposal be assessed?

PRSIP II covers all aspects of how a regional organisation will support HIV, AIDS and STI activities at a country level. Projects given priority for funding through Funding Stream V – PRSIP Support Grants will be those that implement activities identified within PRSIP II. Proposals for Funding Stream V – PRSIP Support Grants will be called for on an annual basis depending on available funding in the stream.

To fulfill the principles for the Funding Stream, proposals must:

- Be consistent with the PRSIP II framework and contribute to achieving PRSIP II output and outcomes
- Fully respect the human rights of those infected or at risk of becoming infected
- Encourage participation and good governance
- Develop partnerships with communities, governments and other stakeholders
- Be available to those who require them without discrimination
- Promote ready access by women, youth and others at greatest risk of infection
- Provide accurate, full information about HIV/AIDS and STIs
- Allow for frank, honest discussion of all behavioural options to prevent infection
- Respect the cultural values of the Pacific Island nations
- Conform to donor policies with respect to poverty, gender, youth and other vulnerable groups

Proposals using the format for Funding Stream V – PRSIP Support Grants should be completed and sent directly to the SPC Coordinator - PRSIP.

The coordinator of PRSIP will review proposals for adherence to the guidelines on eligibility and will seek clarification where necessary. The Coordinator – PRSIP will then request the HIV and STI Section Head to call a meeting of TAGs to appraise all proposals received before the deadline set for the particular funding round.

Membership of TAGs will include technical expertise that is independent of SPC and other regional partners. Recommendations of TAGs will then be provided to the Fund Committee which will approve grants funded through this funding stream.

All applications will be promptly acknowledged by the Coordinator – PRSIP. Selection of projects will be based on:

- Relevance to PRSIP II
- Geographical coverage in terms of under-serviced areas
- Suitability of approach
- Appropriateness of budget
- Feasibility
- Potential impact

What happens if you are not successful?

All successful and non-successful projects will be provided with a short assessment of their projects from the TAG. This feedback will also include an assessment of whether unsuccessful proposals could be revised for funding in a subsequent round or whether the proposal is not considered revisable.

What happens if you are successful?

When a project is approved, each applicant will be provided with a short assessment of their proposal. Successful applicants will be required to sign an agreement that will outline details of the project to be funded; the responsible persons; the timeframe for implementation of the project; and the financial and narrative reporting requirements.

All potential applicants for Funding Stream V – PRSIP Support Grants are able to call on assistance from SPC staff in the development and implementation of their proposal. The funded organisation will be responsible for maintaining a full record of all grant monies received and all expenditures.

All funded projects will be required to submit six-monthly activity and financial reports using forms provided as part of Funding Stream V – PRSIP Support Grants guidelines. These reports will be sent directly to the SPC Coordinator – PRSIP.

Financial reporting will be monitored on end-of-project audited accounts and ongoing spot checks by SPC staff. Organisations will not be required to send original documentation with financial reports. This arrangement will be at the discretion of the SPC HIV and STI Section Head.

Where do we apply?

Please apply to:

The Coordinator – PRSIP