

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: Communities and New TB Vaccines

Treatment Action Group (TAG) is calling for expressions of interest (EOI) from civil society and community organizations (CSOs) based in communities where new tuberculosis (TB) vaccines will likely be introduced to undertake targeted advocacy, policy engagement, and demand creation activities in support of new TB vaccines. This EOI is part of the *Architects of Trust*, a community-driven demand creation program for new TB vaccines led by TAG and funded by Wellcome.

Funding Opportunity

- Grants of up to US\$45,000 will be awarded to 8 CSO partners across 14 high-TB-burden countries or regions.
- Recipients must be civil society or community-based organizations operating at the national, subnational, or regional level.
- Each recipient must identify an individual within their organization who will serve as an “Architect of trust” in their community and be responsible for the grant.
- Grants will fund 12 months of work complemented by advocacy training, technical assistance, and mentorship through TAG and the TB Vaccine Advocacy Roadmap (TB Vax ARM).

As of 2026, several new TB vaccines are advancing through late-stage clinical trials, with potential regulatory approval and policy recommendation as soon as 2029. Past vaccine introductions have underscored the indispensable role civil society and community partners play in generating demand and building the “infrastructures of trust” that support new vaccines. However, specific pathways for community-driven demand creation are undefined and underfunded.

The aim of the *Architects of Trust* project is to strengthen community readiness for new TB vaccines through well-timed, evidence-based community engagement activities in advance of potential vaccine introduction. Selected partners will serve a foundational role in raising awareness, sensitizing communities, facilitating dialogue, identifying community questions and concerns, and engaging relevant policy makers to support equitable national preparedness for new TB vaccines.

TAG is seeking applications from organizations based in **Brazil, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, Tanzania, Vietnam, Zambia, or regional networks working across Eastern Europe/Central Asia** who are well integrated into their national, subnational, or regional stakeholder networks and have some experience engaging communities and policy makers in the introduction of TB or immunization interventions. Applicant organizations should apply with a designated project lead who will manage grant activities and deliverables and serve as the “architect of trust” in developing community and policymaker buy-in and trust of TB vaccines within their community context.

Interested applicants will prepare a brief sketch of potential activities that reflect and promote understanding of the unique national or regional contexts in which applicant organizations operate and that are focused on raising awareness, sensitizing communities, and engaging policy makers around TB vaccines. Those selected for funding will refine work plans in collaboration with the selection committee to inform funding milestones.

Selected organizations will work closely in collaboration with TAG, the TB Vax ARM — a global coalition of civil society actors leading TB vaccine advocacy — and other national-level civil society organizations. Selected organizations will receive ongoing mentorship, training, and technical

assistance to support project implementation, help coordinating activities with partners as appropriate, and will be matched with an advocacy mentor from the TB Vax ARM.

Eligibility Requirements

- **Organizational experience** in TB, immunization, or other health advocacy;
- **Experience with community engagement or policy advocacy** at national or regional levels;
- **Dedicated project lead** to serve as the architect of trust in their community for the duration of the project and possible extensions;
- **Membership or affiliations** with other community and civil society organizations and/or networks working at the sub-national, national, or regional levels;
- **Ability** of project lead **to participate in-person** at the [8th Global TB Vaccine Forum](#) and *Architects of Trust* strategy workshop in Zaragoza, Spain April 12 – 16, 2027;
- All funded organizations will be required to have or implement **organizational policies** on Bullying, Harassment, Abuse, and Harm; Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion; and Legal Compliance, Research Practice and Governance in line with funder requirements.

How to Apply

- Submit an online form, here: <https://forms.gle/k9Y7TmJMNzoDpVNS6> by 23:59 (Pacific Time) November 4th, 2026. Only applications submitted by the deadline will be considered
- Selected candidates from the first-round application will proceed to a more detailed second stage process in which they will be invited to develop a proposal including 12-month work plan, proposed milestones and budget. Information will be sent directly to selected candidates on December 4th, 2026.

While the use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools for editing and revision of final drafts before submission is reasonable, the use of AI for writing or drafting application materials is strongly discouraged.

Important Dates:

- **October 19th, 2026:** Expression of Interest Call Opens
- **October 28th, 2026:** Introductory Webinar and Office Hours on EoI Process
- **November 4th, 2026:** Deadline to submit Expression of Interest
- **December 4th, 2026:** Notify all organizations of Expression of Interest outcomes and second stage application process for advancing organizations.
- **January 11th, 2027:** Second Stage Submission Deadline (Proposal Narrative & Budget)
- **January 27th, 2027:** Selected organizations are notified
- **February 2027:** Selected applicants will finalize workplans and formalize Memorandum of Understanding with TAG
- **March 1st, 2027:** Projects begin!
- **April 12th – 16th, 2027:** 8th Global TB Vaccine Forum & “Architects of Trust” Project Convening in Zaragoza, Spain.

Advancement Criteria:

Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee composed of representatives from TAG, the TB Vax ARM, and leading community advisory boards (i.e., the Global TB CAB). TB Vax ARM core group or community advisory board members in eligible countries will not serve as selectors.

Candidates who advance to the second stage will be asked to prepare a proposal that contains a full workplan and budget to be reviewed by the selection committee.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA THE ONLINE FORM, HERE:

<https://forms.gle/k9Y7TmJMNzoDpVNS6>

The following question should only be used to prepare answers for submission via the online form, here: <https://forms.gle/k9Y7TmJMNzoDpVNS6>

Architects of Trust: Community-Driven Demand Creation for New TB Vaccines
Expression of Interest

Details of Applicant

1. Name of Organization
2. Organizational Address (Physical Location)
3. Country or Region of Operation
 - a. Brazil
 - b. Ethiopia
 - c. India
 - d. Indonesia
 - e. Kenya
 - f. Malawi
 - g. Mozambique
 - h. Nigeria
 - i. Peru
 - j. Philippines
 - k. South Africa
 - l. Tanzania
 - m. Vietnam
 - n. Zambia
 - o. Eastern Europe/Central Asia
4. Telephone (Country Code & Number)
5. Primary Organizational Applicant Name (i.e., person who would be leading the work under the regranting program)
6. Primary Organizational Applicant Email
7. Secondary Organizational Contact Person
8. Secondary Organization Contact Person Email
9. Please provide link(s) to your organization's website or online presence (e.g., social media channels including Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, etc.)

Eligibility Criteria

1. Please share the name of the dedicated point person who will manage the grant, serve as an "architect of trust" and be personally accountable to delivering on the grant workplans:
2. What is their position within the organization?
3. Is the dedicated point person expected to remain in this position for up to 2 years?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
4. Please share a brief biography of the lead organizational applicant who will serve as the general manager of the grant and architect of trust in the community. (300 words max)

5. Please briefly describe your organization's mandate, main priorities and/or focus of your organization's work including any work related to vaccines, TB prevention, or TB/health policy advocacy at the national, subnational, and/or regional level and how these priorities connect to the *Architects of Trust*'s focus on community readiness for new TB vaccines. (max. 250 words)
6. Please briefly describe your organization's experience advocating for national, subnational, or regional policies related to TB, immunization, or other health priorities including key stakeholders engaged (e.g., parliamentarians, Ministries, NITAGs, or other advocacy targets) and key strategies used. Provide one or two examples of results or learnings from these engagements. (max. 250 words)
7. Please briefly describe your organization's experience engaging communities at the national, subnational, and/or regional level on new vaccines or new TB tool introductions. (max. 250 words)
8. Please briefly describe 3-5 specific activities you would undertake in your community between March 2027 – February 2028 to prepare your Architect of Trust, your organization, and your community to undertake targeted advocacy, policy engagement, and demand creation activities in support of new TB vaccines. (max 250 words)
9. Please briefly describe your organization's capacity to manage grant funds, deliver activities, monitor progress and meet reporting requirements. Include any relevant experience managing comparable grants, partnerships or community-based programs. (Maximum 150 words)

Administrative Questions

1. Is the designated project lead available April 12th – 16th, 2027 for the 8th Global TB Vaccine Forum and anticipated kick off meeting in Zaragoza, Spain?
☐ Yes
☐ No
2. For which of the following do you already have organizational policies on? (Organizations advanced to stage 2 will receive support to develop such policies where they do not already exist.)
☐ Bullying, Harassment, Abuse, and Harm
☐ Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
☐ Legal Compliance, Research Practice and Governance