



CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR INNOVATIVE HARM REDUCTION PROJECTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA REGION

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA HARM REDUCTION ASSOCIATION (MENAHRRA) in association with the INTERNATIONAL HARM REDUCTION ASSOCIATION (IHRA) and the WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)

New call for proposals and revised application procedure

The Middle East and North Africa Harm Reduction Association (MENAHRRA - www.menahra.org) aims to increase harm reduction capacity in the countries and territories of the Middle East and North Africa region (MENA) ¹.

Background

Considerable evidence exists for the effectiveness of harm reduction interventions for reducing drug related harms, in particular in the prevention and amelioration of HIV/AIDS, other blood borne virus infections including hepatitis B and C, overdose, and other social, health, and economic risks associated with drug use. Harm reduction projects for people who inject drugs typically encompass opioid substitution treatment, outreach, needle and syringe programmes, voluntary counselling and testing and peer education. Harm reduction projects now operate in over 80 countries but harm reduction remains underdeveloped in the MENA region. MENAHRRA aims to increase harm reduction capacity through training and advocacy activities conducted from three *Sub-Regional Knowledge Hubs*:

- Tehran, Iran - hosted by the Iranian National Centre for Addiction Studies INCAS, covering Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iraq. Contact incasknowledgehub@sina.tums.ac.ir or mohsenifar@farabi.tums.ac.ir. Website: <http://incas.tums.ac.ir>
- Beirut, Lebanon - hosted by Soins Infirmiers Developpement Communautaire – covering Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Palestine, Egypt, the six Gulf Countries and Yemen. Contact: sidc@sidclebanon.org; Website: www.sidc-lebanon.org
- Rabat, Morocco – at Ar Razi National Centre on Drug Abuse Treatment and Research, Rabat, covering Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Libya. Contact: ilham.lagrach@kh-arrazi.org
These activities are supported by a *harm reduction network* based in Beirut (contact info@menahra.org)

Harm reduction projects

We are seeking proposals for harm reduction projects. Projects should aim to demonstrate the feasibility, implementation and/or effectiveness of harm reduction interventions. We are hoping to fund projects which serve as models for harm reduction development in the region - and thus encourage others to start harm reduction projects and help build harm reduction capacity.

Guidelines for applications

The funding is for harm reduction projects. Applicants must demonstrate an understanding of and commitment to harm reduction principles and practices.

Preference will be given for applications not exceeding \$50,000 per annum and only in exceptional instances will projects in excess of this be funded.

Applications may be made from nongovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and quasi-governmental organizations.

Proposals may come from organizations which are already running drugs, HIV/AIDS or similar projects, or from organizations who wish to commence work in this field. Organizations new to this field and/or unaccustomed to applying for grant funding are encouraged to seek technical advice from their relevant sub-regional Knowledge Hub (as above).

Costs of organising or attending workshops, seminars or conferences will not normally be funded.

Organisations requiring training and capacity building should contact their sub-regional Knowledge Hub. The funding is not intended to cover basic operational and organizational costs of the organisation such as staff, rents, electricity, etc.

Deadline for applications

February 28, 2010

Application procedure

There is a two stage application procedure:

Stage 1

Outline proposals should be submitted as a *Grant Inquiry* of no more than two pages in total. Applications exceeding this will not be considered. The *Grant Inquiry* should include the name, address, contact details of the applicant organisation, legal status, and contact person. It should also describe in no more than 100 words the usual activities of the organisation. The proposed project should be described in no more than 250 words. Please describe the aims and objectives, the target population, and what the project will do. Please state the overall budget and time period for the project.

Letters of Intent should be submitted by email to WHO EMRO (Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office) at asd@emro.who.int for the attention of Joumana Hermez.

We expect to give an answer in principle to each *Grant Inquiry* within four weeks of receipt.

Stage 2

Projects which are deemed potentially suitable for funding under this programme will be invited to submit a full project proposal to WHO EMRO.

Note for applicants already preparing full proposals

Applicants already preparing or who have been invited to revise proposals under the previous application method may still use the full project proposal form.

† Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Iran (IR), Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen