

Request for Proposals:

Strengthening the Detection and Data Collection of Priority Pathogens in Zambia

Date Issued:

April 2, 2026

Due Date:

April 16, 2026 | 11:59 p.m. EST

CDC FOUNDATION CONTACT

Alesha Thompson

Program Officer

athompson.2@cdcfoundation.org

Summary of Request:

The CDC Foundation is seeking applications from eligible contractors to work in partnership with subject matter experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), partners at the Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ), and the CDC Foundation to strengthen the detection and data collection of priority diseases.

1. ABOUT THE CDC FOUNDATION

The CDC Foundation helps the CDC and the public health system save and improve lives by unleashing the power of partnerships to protect the health, safety and security of all communities, everywhere.

The CDC Foundation is authorized by Congress to mobilize philanthropic partners, corporations, organizations and individuals to support the critical health protection mission of CDC and the public health system. The CDC Foundation manages hundreds of programs each year aimed at protecting communities across the country from a variety of health threats—from chronic disease conditions including cardiovascular disease and cancer to infectious diseases like malaria and HIV to emergency responses, such as Ebola and Zika.

Visit www.cdcfoundation.org for more information.

2. BACKGROUND AND NEED

Zambia conducted a National Threats Hazards Identification and Risks Assessment (THIRA) in 2022, as well as a risk prioritization of hazards using the Strategic Tool for Assessing Risks (STAR) to inform and enhance the all-hazard emergency preparedness and response plan. This informed the development of the Zambia Multi-Hazard and Multisectoral Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (2023-2027). This plan documented lessons learned from previous public health emergencies such as cholera, Ebola, and COVID-19 which underscored the importance of having built capacity to be prepared for and respond to public health emergencies.

To continue improving the country's capacity to detect and respond to potential disease outbreaks, the CDC Foundation will support the Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ) by engaging a contractor who will work in close partnership with the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI). Their support will build on the lessons learned documented in the Zambia Multi-Hazard Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan.

ZNPFI will provide direction as the agency responsible for coordination of surveillance, preparedness and response in Zambia.

3. SCOPE OF WORK

The purpose of this Request for Proposals (RFP) is to identify a contractor who will assist partners at GRZ, CDC subject matter experts, and the CDC Foundation to support the analysis, reporting, and utilization of priority disease surveillance data to advance evidence-based public health actions and decision making in Zambia.

3.1 Activities and Expected Outputs

- Activity 1: Contractor will assist in the identification of priority pathogens for surveillance by assisting in conducting a comprehensive literature review and/or environmental scan of existing guidelines and tools related to identified priority pathogens.
 - Output 1: Identification of one or more pathogens prioritized in partnership with stakeholders mentioned above
 - Output 2: Completed comprehensive review and assessment of literature and/or environmental scan of existing resources
- Activity 2: Contractor will assist in the development of standard guidelines and tools to fill identified gaps.
 - Output 3: Development of standard guidelines and/or tools
- Activity 3: Contractor will support training sessions in partnership with GRZ around the use of developed guidelines and tools.
 - Output 4: Completed training sessions and accompanying post-training assessments.

4. KEY REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Eligibility

Applicants must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:

- Experience in developing standard operating procedures (SOPs) and guidelines required

- Experience in conducting literature reviews/environmental scans required
- Experience with eIDSR required
- Experience with Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPPI) strongly preferred
- Must be based in Zambia
- Must register in SAM.gov (even if not as a U.S. domestic entity) and to obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
- Cannot be suspended or debarred from federal contracting (checked in SAM.gov)
- Must be eligible to receive federal funds / acceptable legal entity under the applicable laws

4.2 Funds Available

Up to \$100,000 will be awarded for this project. The proposed budget will cover all related project costs, including travel, equipment, and other related expenses.

4.3 Funding Source

Agreements resulting from this RFP will be supported by Federal funding under the “*Strengthening the Detection and Data Collection of Disease in Zambia*” grant with the award number 6 NU2HGH000097-04-03 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The CDC Foundation anticipates that an award resulting from this solicitation will meet the criteria of “contractor” as defined by 2 CFR 200.331; a final determination will be made at the time of the award. The contractor must comply with the following federal regulatory requirements:

- Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 CFR Part 200).

5. INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

All proposal materials must be submitted by 11:59 PM EST on Thursday, April 16, 2026. Proposals will not be accepted after this date and time. Materials should be submitted to Alesha Thompson (athompson.2@cdcfoundation.org) with the subject line as follows: **RFP – Strengthening Capacity in Zambia**

Proposal Requirements: Proposal to be submitted in PDF Form and should be no more than 10 pages, 12-point font, in English, and should address the following:

- Technical expertise and experience
 - Description of ability to perform the tasks required in this RFP, including experience, qualifications and knowledge
- Approach and methodology:
 - Workplan including milestones, deliverables, CDC Foundation review/decision points, and timeframe for completion
- Proposed Budget (not to exceed \$100,000):
 - Detailed budget and budget justification – Compensation may be on a fixed fee basis, by deliverable/milestone or actual costs. Please include a justification that explains the rationale for the budget. If deliverable based, please ensure costs are delineated by deliverable. Where appropriate, further delineate cost of development and delivery.
- Compliance:
 - Vendor status verification: U.S. System Award Management (SAM) and Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)

5.1 Selection Process

The following review criteria will be used to evaluate all complete and eligible applications:

Category	Description	Point Value
Technical Expertise and Experience	The ability to perform tasks required by this RFP, including experience, qualifications, and knowledge.	30 points
Approach and Methodology	The proposed approach and methodology for completing the work outlined in this RFP, including timelines and overall project management strategy.	40 points

Cost	The proposed budget, including relevant costs such as labor, materials, and equipment.	20 points
Compliance	The extent to which the proposal meets all of the requirements and specifications outlined in this RFP.	10 points
TOTAL		100 points

5.2 Evaluation Timeline

The timeline below is subject to change at the sole discretion of the CDC Foundation.

- Proposals Due – Thursday, April 16, 2026, at 11:59 PM EST
- Notification of Award – April 24, 2026
- Project Start Date – Monday, May 11, 2026
- Project End Date – Tuesday, September 29, 2026