

Foundation Support for International Research
Foundations/organizations that have funded Chan's global research
2019-2024

Harvard Chan investigators have been successful securing funding from a variety of foundations that support international research. The list below includes foundations that have supported Chan's international research over the past ten years. ORSD has many tips on networking with foundations that do not issue RFAs or accept letters of inquiry. To learn more, reach out to Elizabeth Sylvester at esyvester@hsph.harvard.edu.

Internal Funding Opportunities

[Internal – Harvard Global Health Initiative: Burke Global Health Fellowship](#)

Deadline: March 8, 2024

This one-year Fellowship program provides funding for Harvard junior faculty from across the University to support innovative research, curriculum development, and teaching in global health. Through the award, fellows are supported to conduct impactful research and to develop innovative public health curriculums. The reach of the program has been broad, with projects in India, Nicaragua, Lesotho, China, Bangladesh, South Africa, Zambia, Peru, Mexico, and many other countries and regions.

[Internal: The Harvard China Fund: Reengage with China Grant](#)

Deadline: Rolling

This funding opportunity is for faculty members seeking to make short visits to China with the goal of reestablishing academic connections and exploring collaboration with Chinese institutions and partners. This grant aims to give scholars the chance to engage with academic counterparts in person without a major research project already in hand. The goal is to strengthen ties, promote intellectual exchange, and support various educational activities beyond hosting academic conferences and leading research projects.

Foundations

[Bernard van Leer Foundation](#) works globally to improve the wellbeing of babies, toddlers and their caregivers. They provide investment and knowledge to help leaders develop and scale effective policies and services with a focus on the period from pregnancy to age 5. Geography: Brazil, India, Israel, Jordan, The Netherlands, and Global Displacement. How to apply: Does not accept unsolicited proposals from grant seekers. If you feel your research aligns with this foundation's priorities, please email Elizabeth Sylvester at esyvester@hsph.harvard.edu.

[Big Win Philanthropy](#) partners with visionary African leaders to achieve transformational change for their countries by investing in three key areas essential to economic growth: Brain Development; Education for Productivity; and Youth Employment. Geography: Africa. How to apply: If you would like to learn more about Big Win's approach or how to partner with them, please get in touch using the form [here](#).

[Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation](#) focuses on global health, infectious disease eradication, global development, global policy and advocacy, and Emergency Response. Geography: Africa, China, East Asia,

Middle East, India, Europe. How to apply: Gates details its funding process under its [How We Work](#) section. It also features an excellent [grants database](#), which provides a sense of the kinds of groups it funds, where, and at what level. It does not accept unsolicited proposals, but sometimes the foundation publishes a formal request for proposals, so check the website often.

[The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation](#) devotes millions to global health programs and prioritizes organizations working with children impacted by HIV/AIDS, blindness prevention, safe water and multiple sclerosis. It also distributes a small portion of its funds to disaster preparedness, emergency response and relief efforts. Geography: Africa, Asia, Europe, South America, Global. How to apply: The foundation does not accept unsolicited proposals. For additional information about past grantmaking, see the foundation's searchable [grants database](#). The foundation's staff may be reached by telephone at 818-815-3700 or via its [contact](#) page. If you feel your research aligns with this foundation's priorities, please email Elizabeth Sylvester at esylvester@hsph.harvard.edu

[David and Lucile Packard Foundation](#) runs global grantmaking programs for Environment and Science (Global Climate, Climate Innovation, Ocean, Science, and Agriculture, Livelihoods, and Conservation), Global Reproductive Health and Civil Society and Leadership. Geography: No preferred regions stated but recent grants have gone to the Conversation Indonesia Foundation, the Turkish Philanthropy Fund; Mexico's Proyecto de Derechos Economicos, Sociales y Culturales; the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law and the Alliance for Open Society International. How to apply: Packard will not review unsolicited full proposals. They do maintain a searchable [database](#) of past grantees. Its website also features an [insights page](#) that describes the foundation's recent work. They encourage grantseekers whose work aligns with its goals to follow the steps outlined in the "How to Get Support" section of the relevant Local Grantmaking subprogram or send a brief project description to the appropriate [program officer](#).

[Economic and Social Research Council \(ESRC\)](#) is the UK's largest funder of economic, social, behavioural and human data science. Geography: Global. How to apply: You must be based at a UK research organisation eligible for UKRI funding. PIs would need to partner with a UK org. Open Funding opportunities are [here](#).

Grand Challenges Canada funds projects that through integrate science and technology, social and business innovation that accelerates the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals. Geography: Low- and middle-income countries and Canada. How to apply: Funding opportunities are posted [here](#).

Enhancing Learning and Research for Humanitarian Assistance's (ELRha) mission is to improve humanitarian outcomes through partnership, research and innovation. The HIF supports organisations and individuals to identify, nurture and share innovative and scalable solutions to the challenges facing effective humanitarian assistance. In the years since the HIF has been operational, its efforts have focused on three broad elements: providing finance for innovations at different stages of their development; providing specific support through targeted research, innovation management and partnership brokering; engaging with and shaping the systemic and institutional environment for innovation. Geography, prioritized. How to apply: [Here](#) you will find ELRha's open funding opportunities for innovation and research.

The [Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International](#) is the leading global organization harnessing the power of research, advocacy, and community engagement to advance life-changing breakthroughs for type 1 diabetes (T1D). Geography: Global. How to apply: RFAs are posted on the [website](#). Review

the [Grant Mechanism Descriptions](#) for more information about specific grants and their application processes.

[IZUMI Foundation](#) alleviates suffering through the development and support of programs that improve health and healthcare that address [infectious diseases](#) with high morbidity and mortality. These programs often work to build primary care capacity, create greater access to care, and facilitate integrated health programming. Geography: Neglected regions of Africa (including South Africa, Botswana, Malawi, Kenya, et al), Latin America and the Caribbean. How to apply: Currently, the Foundation is not accepting online submission inquiries. However, the Foundation occasionally solicits organizational information through an online “[Submit organization Summary](#)” form so check the website often. The email is: info@izumi.org.

[International Initiative for Impact Evaluation \(3ie\)](#) funds impact evaluations and systematic reviews of social and economic development interventions. They work across a wide range of sectors including agriculture, education, health, nutrition, sanitation, livelihoods, climate change and peacebuilding, among others. Geography: Low-and middle-income countries. How to apply: No open RFAs currently, but they regularly update [this page](#) with the latest funding opportunities. Keep checking the website and/or sign up for announcements.

The [Rockefeller Foundation’s](#) current grantmaking commitments address overlapping areas of [Food, Health, Power and Climate, Economic Equity, Innovation, Innovative Finance](#) and [Global Economic Recovery](#). Geography: While the Rockefeller Foundation prioritizes international grantmaking for [Africa](#) and [Asia](#), grants support initiatives the world over. How to apply: The Foundation does not accept unsolicited grant applications. For additional information about its grantmaking, see the foundation’s [grants database](#). General inquiries may be submitted to the Rockefeller Foundation via its [contact](#) page. Grantseekers and others may also wish to subscribe to the foundation’s newsletter for updates using the link at the bottom of the site. Each giving area acknowledges the impact of climate change on development, equity, health and sustainable social change so be sure to do the same in your inquiry.

[The Thrasher Research Fund](#) focuses on pediatric health and disease research, supporting both established and early career researchers at some of the world’s leading medical schools, research institutes and hospitals. Recent areas of interest include nutritional deficiencies and common diseases including asthma, diabetes, malaria, schistosomiasis and HIV/AIDS. The fund runs two grantmaking programs: the larger [E.W. “Al” Thrasher Awards](#) support the research of doctoral degree-holding researchers for up to three years in amounts up to \$550,000, and [Early Career Awards](#) support postdoctoral researchers and physicians in residencies or fellowships with smaller grants of up to \$25,000. Geography: Grantmaking is global in scope, with about half of all awards going to [international-based projects](#). How to apply: The Thrasher Fund accepts applications for both of its award programs, which run in spring and summer. Questions about funding and applications may be directed to the fund’s research managers, [Aaron Pontsler](#) or [Brittini Smith](#).

[The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation](#) global development giving prioritizes women’s empowerment, greater government transparency and accountability, and more effective policymaking processes. It makes grants for women’s and girls’ causes via its [Gender Equity and Governance](#) initiative. Its specific goals include reproductive health and justice, economic opportunity, government responsiveness and accountability and the development of policy towards these ends. A goal of its [Economy and Society](#) program is to “contribute to the

development of ideas and debates that can make up a new intellectual paradigm better suited to address the biggest challenges of the 21st Century.” Geography: Gender Equity focuses on Sub-Saharan Africa, Mexico and Economy and Society is global. How to apply: To get a broader sense of the types of organizations Hewlett supports and at what level, explore its [grants database](#). The foundation regularly posts calls for proposals, but it is also proactive in its grantmaking, and reaches out to potential grantees that are doing good work in sync with its goals. While Hewlett accepts unsolicited letters of inquiry, it rarely funds projects in response to them; however, it looks at inquiries and its staff often engages with grantseekers who are referred by existing grantees.

The **Wellcome Trust** makes grants to “established researchers and teams from any discipline who want to pursue bold and creative research ideas to deliver significant shifts in understanding that could improve human life, health and wellbeing.” Geography: PI must be from UK, Republic of Ireland, [Low- or middle-income countries](#) (apart from India and mainland China). How to apply: The Trust accepts applications for its two award programs: [Discovery Awards](#) and [Career Development Awards](#), which have deadlines in April.

The [Wellspring Philanthropic Fund](#) is a global grantmaker that supports three broad thematic areas: [Racial Justice](#), [Gender Justice](#), and [Economic Justice](#). Priorities include racial equity, economic justice, support for women, children, the LGBTQ community, people living in poverty, refugees, and those with disabilities. Geography: The fund supports causes around the world. Its international grantmaking primarily centers around Africa. How to apply: The Fund does not accept unsolicited requests for funding and prefers a proactive grantmaking approach. Grantseekers may review the foundation’s [tax filings](#) for more information on its past grantmaking habits. Grantseekers may reach out to the foundation through its [contact page](#) for further inquiries. To get on this funder’s radar, work must be able to scale.

[World Cancer Research Fund International](#) funds vital projects into the effects of diet, nutrition (including body composition) and physical activity on cancer prevention and survival. Geography: Global. How to apply: The World Cancer Research Fund network runs several grant programmes and RFAs, listed here. If you need help finding a grant, get in touch with the Research team: research@wcrf.org.

Yellow Chair Foundation grants support public interest journalism, climate change, civil liberties, and women’s advocacy. It has supported the Global Giving Foundation and the Global Fund for Women, which received at least \$400,000 each year from 2013-2015. Geography: Global. How to apply: The foundation welcomes ideas via email to Ash McNeely at amcneely@pfs-llc.net.

Foundation RFAs

[Carnegie Corporation of New York: International Peace and Security Grants](#)

Application deadline: Continuous

The goal of this program is to build a more secure, peaceful, and prosperous world through independent analysis and action addressing critical global challenges. The focus areas are: Nuclear Security; Global Dynamics; Transnational Movements and the Arab Region; and Peacebuilding in Africa.

[Global Innovation Fund](#)

Deadline: Rolling

The Global Innovation Fund is a non-profit innovation fund that invests in the development, rigorous testing, and scaling of innovations targeted at improving the lives of the world's poorest people, i.e., those living on less than \$5 a day. GIF supports innovators at all stages of their life cycle, from start-up and pilot-testing through to larger-scale implementation.

[National Research Foundation \(South Africa\): The u'Good!?' Program](#)

Deadline: February (LOI); July (proposal)

The NRF will make single country and multi-country grants available to researchers working in the 12 focal countries (Colombia; Ecuador; Egypt; Ghana; India; Indonesia; Morocco; Romania; Senegal; South Africa; Tanzania; Vietnam) to study young people's wellbeing in the Global South using a Relational Wellbeing lens, through empirical work, intervention focused initiatives and conceptual projects. The programme is structured into four thematic areas that act as entry points for investigations on the wellbeing of Young People: Livelihoods, Climate change, Digitalisation and Mental health.

[Allen Foundation, Inc., Programs for Human Nutrition](#)

Deadline: July and January annually

The Foundation supports projects that benefit programs for human nutrition in the areas of health, education, training, and research. The foundation welcomes proposals that develop and advance: the inclusion of mandatory courses in nutrition in medical schools; bringing the promise of nutrigenomics or nutritional genomics to realization; and the promotion of environmentally sound, economically viable, socially responsive, and sustainable food and agricultural systems. Please click on [How to Apply](#) and follow the instructions for submitting a proposal online.

NGOs with solicited RFAs

[*NEW: Grand Challenges Canada: Humanitarian Grand Challenge: Transition to Scale](#)

Deadline: Rolling

This Challenge is looking to fund groundbreaking, sustainable, and local solutions to pressing issues affecting communities touched by conflict. The program supports innovators who have achieved proof of concept with evidence that showcases the effectiveness and feasibility of their project. We are looking for innovation ideas for our Transition to Scale (TTS) program. We offer funding between \$300,000 CAD up to \$1,500,000 CAD, and a robust support program that runs for 12–24 months. We focus on supporting people who have been affected by conflict with particular focus on the hardest to reach. Preference will be given to innovations that are locally owned or locally led with majority of the management and governance comprising of people from the affected communities. Areas of focus: Access to energy; Health Supplies and Services; Life-saving information; and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene.

Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization is a public-private partnership that promotes access to vaccines for people in poorer countries. Geography: Africa, Americas, Eastern Mediterranean, Europe, Southeast Asia, Western Pacific. How to apply: GAVI invites Requests for Proposals (RFP) on its [website](#).

Other Collaborating Organizations:

The organizations listed below have served as collaborators and pass-through sponsors for international research at Harvard Chan. While they do not provide direct funding, they may offer access to resources such as funding, data, fieldwork opportunities, and networks.

- [Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition](#)

- Global Alliance for TB Drug Development
- Nutrition International
- PATH
- Pharos Global Health Advisors
- TruePoint Center
- World Food Programme
- Child in Need Institute
- Africa Centre for Health and Population Studies
- African Population and Health Research Center
- AHRQ