

Preparing to apply for a grant: Team Science, Grant Announcement and Understanding the Funders

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WACP Grant Training TOT

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West African College
of Physicians

Objectives

- Discuss the grant process
- Identify and discuss the process of building a grant winning Team
- Identify and understand funders



Characteristics of a Good Grant Application

Good idea

Good writing

- **Clear**
- **Accurate**
- **Brief**

Good presentation

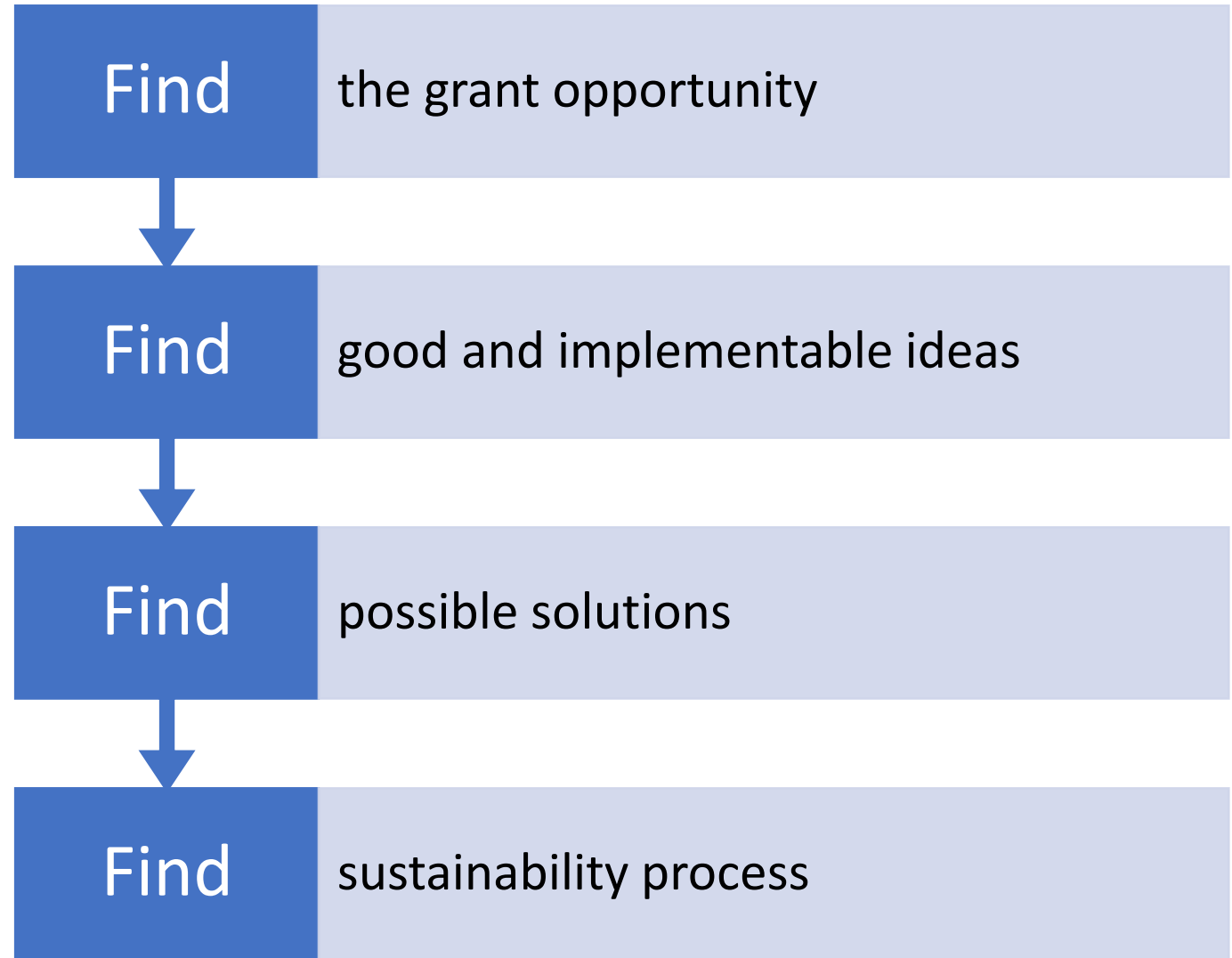


What Grant Proposal Must Explain

1. What the project/research hopes to accomplish
2. If project/research personnel have the necessary expertise to accomplish the goals and objectives
3. Potential of project/research to accomplish goals and objectives
4. Impact and cost effectiveness of project/research
5. Evaluation and dissemination plans



Exploratory Phase



Exploratory Phase: Find the Grant

- Individual Donors

- Open Society Foundations (website: www.opensocietyfoundations.org/)
- Ford Foundation (Website: www.fordfoundation.org/regions/west-africa/)
- Conrad N. Hilton Foundation (Website: www.hiltonfoundation.org)
- John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation (Website: www.macfound.org)
- Rockefeller Foundation (Website: www.rockefellerfoundation.org)
- Bill and Melinda Gates (Website: <https://www.gatesfoundation.org/>)



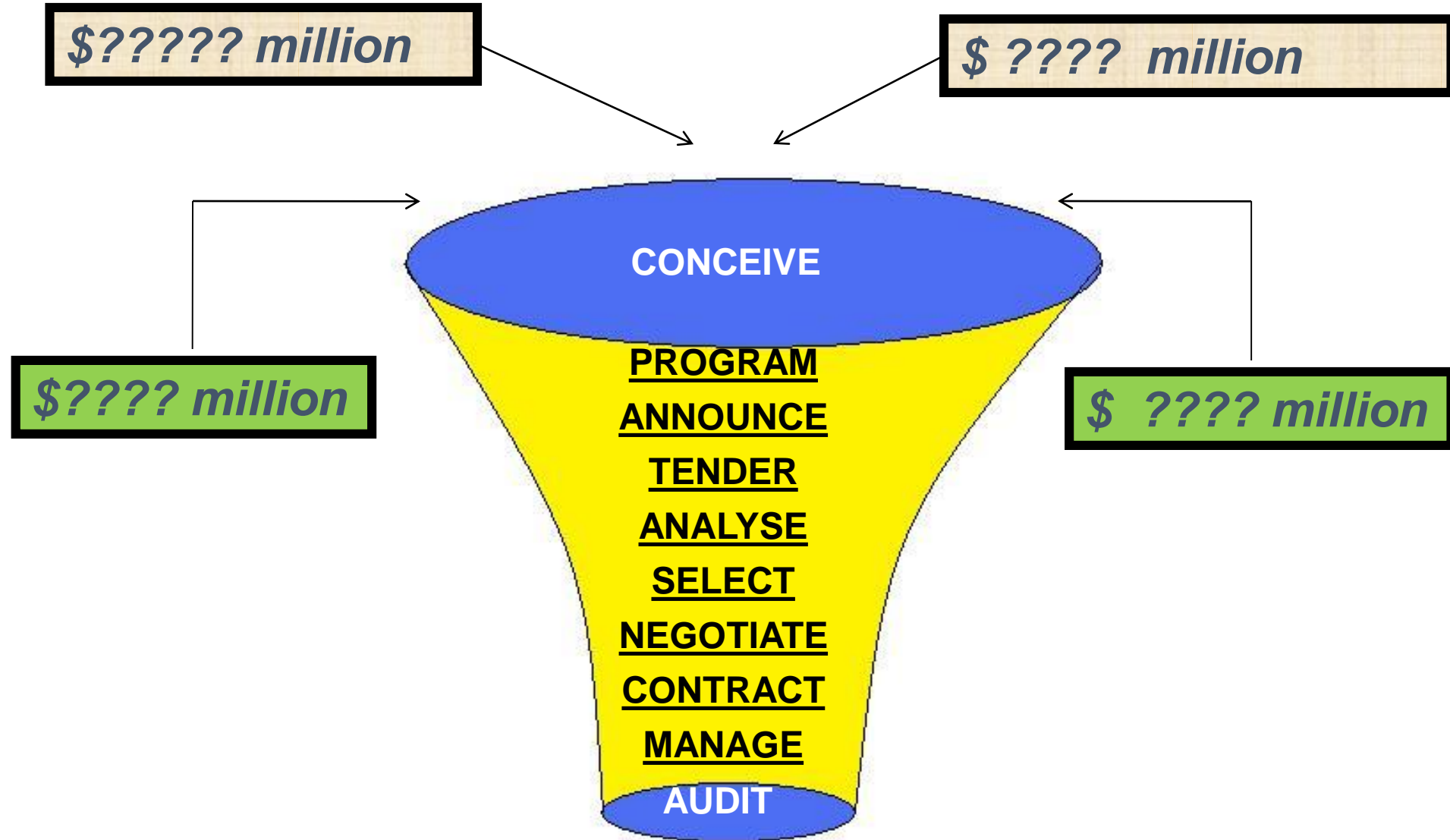
Exploratory Phase: Find the Grant

- Foundations
 - American Endowment Foundation (Website: www.aefonline.org)
 - The African Academy of Science (Website: www.aasciences.ac.ke)
- Corporations
 - Action Against Hunger (Website: www.actionagainsthunger.org)
 - United Nations International Children's Emergency Funds (UNICEF) (Website: www.unicef.org)
- Government Agencies
 - US Agency for International Development (USAID) (Website: www.usaid.gov)
 - Australia Agency for International Development (AUSAID) (Website: www.australiaawardsafrica.org)
 - U.S. Embassy (Website: www.ng.usembassy.gov/embassy-consulate/jobs/)
 - GDPHINFO@dhr.state.ga.us
 - NIH, etc.

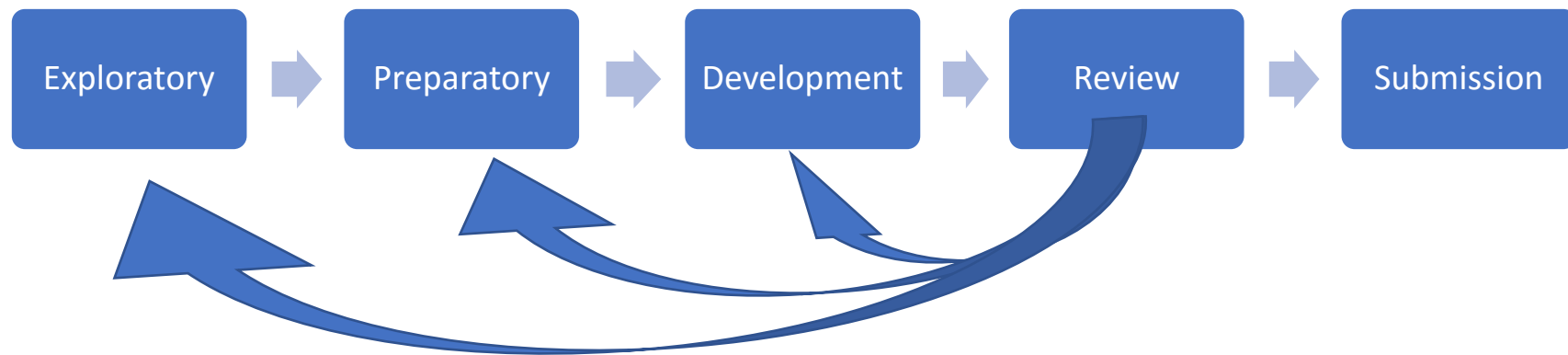


The Grant Process

Grant Announcement



Grant Development Process



Grant Announcement

Exploratory Phase: Grant Announcement

- **Grant discovery, analysis and review TEAM**
 - Pre-announcement knowledge is KEY
- www.grants.gov
- The center for Faith Based and Neighbourhood Partnerships
- www.hhs.gov/fbci/index.html
- Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance – compendium of 10,000 funding programs established by statute (www.cfda.gov)
- Grantmanship Center Member Website – includes Database of Federal grants with direct links to RFPs, links to federal agencies. Also links to state websites. (www.tgcialumni.com)



Preparatory Phase: Research and Preparation

- For every announcement that we are interested in, we **MUST**
 - Clarify our ideas by examining existing knowledge
 - Identify gaps and find ways our findings can fit into the body of knowledge
 - Determine the process for submitting a grant proposal
 - Determine the amount of time it will take to develop the grant



Misconception about Grants

- Grants are the answer to funding shortages
- There is grant money for everything
- The mission doesn't matter - just chase the dollars



Grantmakers are more likely to consider a proposal if;

- The problem is **significant**
- The applicant has **credibility** as an organization and within subject area
 - Meet all the criteria for eligibility
- Good **planning** is evident
- The highest levels of **governance** in the organization are committed to the project/research.



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Grantmakers are more likely to consider the following approaches

- You need the money
- You have good intentions
- You want to provide more services
- You deserve the funding



Once Announced, Planning comes first

- Sound concepts precede good planning
- Good planning must precede good writing
- The components of a proposal must be logical and connected





Team Science

Team Science – Defined

- Team science is a **collaborative** effort to address a scientific challenge that leverages the strengths and expertise of professionals trained in different fields.
- Coordinated teams of investigators with diverse skills and knowledge are helpful for studies of complex social problems with **multiple causes**.
- A growing trend within team science is **cross-disciplinary** science in which team members with training and expertise in different fields work together to combine or integrate their perspectives in a single research endeavour.



Preparatory Phase: Team Science

- **Who should be in YOUR TEAM?**

- Grant Writer
- Public Health expert
- Epidemiologist
- Biostatistician
- Nurse,
- Pharmacist,
- Lab scientist.
- Sociologist,
- Environmental Scientist, Etc.



Preparatory Phase: Team Science

- Key GUIDE – Every team member should be....
 - Value adding with specialized skill(s)
 - Meet the criteria of the call
 - May have won similar grants in time past
 - Has good credibility
 - Interested in the grant
 - Will add points from evaluation perspective
 - Understands roles and is available to play the required role(s)
- No tokenism



Preparatory Phase: Team Science

- Diverse team composition comes with it challenges
- Managing a cross-functional team
 - Forming
 - Storming
 - Norming
 - Performing
 - Ad-journeying or transforming



Preparatory Phase: Team Science

- **Managing team conflicts**

- Recognize diversity in your team
- Accept individual differences

- **Conflict Management Strategies**

- **Accommodation** – surrender one's own needs and wishes to accommodate the other party(ies)
- **Avoidance** – avoid or postpone conflict by ignoring it, changing the subject
- **Collaboration** – work together to find a mutually beneficial solution (win-win solution)
- **Compromise** – bring the problem into the open and have the third person present
- **Competition** – assert one's viewpoint at the potential expense of another (achieving one's objectives, firm stand, emergency, quick decision)
- **Divide and rule** – bribery, threatening, etc.



Factors that influence Team Science

- Funding trends
- Institutional infrastructure and resources for communication and data sharing
- Organizational policies—such as promotion and tenure policies—that impact team-based endeavours
- Team processes, including the existence of agreements related to proprietary rights to data and discovery, as well as mechanisms for feedback and reflection
- Interpersonal dynamics among team members
- Team members' collaborative skills and experiences



Understanding the Funders

Funders

- USG – CDC, USAID, DoD, NIH,
- DFID
- UN Bodies – WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, FAO, etc
- Global Funds, Bill and Melinda Gates, Ford Foundation, Carter Foundation, MacArthur, ACT Foundation, etc.
- Local – MTN Foundation, TY Danjuma, Tony Elumelu, Banks, Oil and Gas (Shell), MDA,
- Foundation Centre (<https://candid.org/>)



The Funders

Find out Funders....

- Vision
- Mission
- Core Values
- Pass funded projects
- Past funded organizations
- Ongoing projects
- Ongoing partners
- Geographical area of interest

Look Out For...

- Funders Website
- Contact within organization
- Board members
- Dominant or strategic influencers
- Qualification criteria



What are you looking for?

- Geographical location of interest of funders
- Qualifications allowed by funders
- Types and nature of past and current awards
- Organizations awarded in the past and the award values



NIH or USG

- DUNS Number
- NCAGE Registration
- SAMS Registration
- Grants.gov Registration
- PI and or Co-PI



Thank You



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