



## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### Request for Proposal (RFP): Landscape review of data, tools and supporting infrastructure available for understanding mosquito-borne arbovirus infectious diseases

#	Supplier Question	Wellcome response
1	<p>Are there any external deadlines that may impact this work that the supplier should be aware of?</p> <p>What are some of the time critical events that are shaping the timelines / deadlines?</p>	<p>No external deadlines will impact on this work.</p> <p>Linked to this contract is the current funding call “Understanding dengue and Zika spread, immunity and clinical outcomes” (<a href="https://wellcome.org/grant-funding/schemes/infectious-disease-award-understanding-dengue-and-zika-spread">https://wellcome.org/grant-funding/schemes/infectious-disease-award-understanding-dengue-and-zika-spread</a>). Phase 1 of the contract is time critical as it is intended to guide Wellcome and inform grant awardees (due to be awarded in December 2024) of data availability, gaps and opportunities for data integration and sharing in support of the call.</p>
2	<p>Output 2 is expected to "be open access and publishable". Does Wellcome expect this to be a peer-reviewed publication?</p>	<p>The final report is not limited to being published in a peer reviewed journal. The priority is to publish a report with the findings from the landscape review to share internally at Wellcome and with external stakeholders via different platforms outside of the peer review system.</p>



		<p>If the supplier would like to publish the report in a peer reviewed journal in parallel to the final report to Wellcome please include the costs in the final budget proposal.</p> <p>The final report to Wellcome must be publishable under copyright by licence, be open access, meet Wellcome's accessibility guidelines, and be produced professionally.</p>
3	Should the budget account for the payment for publishing open access, or will this be covered by Wellcome?	<p>Publishing in a peer reviewed journal is not expected. The priority is to publish a report of the landscape review for Wellcome to share internally and with external stakeholders via different platforms outside the peer review system.</p> <p>The report must be produced to a professional standard suitable for publication under copyright by licence. If the supplier wishes to publish in a peer reviewed journal all associated costs must be included in the budget proposed.</p>
4	What type of methodology is expected for the landscape review? Can this be a scoping review or targeted literature review?	<p>Wellcome is open to different approaches for the methodology as guided by the expertise of the supplier. It is expected that multiple sources will be targeted for the scoping review that incorporates literature reviews, interviews with field experts and surveys that are representative of the different regions and multidisciplinary sectors.</p>



5	What is the expected length of the landscape review report?	No more than 60 pages including an executive summary, table of contents, figure, tables and abbreviations, introduction, methodology, key findings, recommendations, limitations, conclusion, and references. Appendices can be linked as supplementary material.
6	Are there any priority countries within key geographies that Wellcome would like to focus on?	Wellcome are open to all countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean. Wellcome are interested in understanding where data is available and where there are distinct gaps.
7	With the exception of the hybrid workshop in July 2025, is the project expected to be fully remote?	Yes. The contract can be conducted at the supplier's location with project update meetings conducted virtually.
8	How flexible is the location of the workshop, and what support will Wellcome Trust provide in organising this event in an LMIC country?	<p>Wellcome is flexible on location to host the workshop but must be in Africa. Selection of the location will be guided by the expertise demonstrated by the supplier in the full application and at the interview stage.</p> <p>Strong consideration will be given to ease of travel logistics for participants attending from global regions.</p> <p>Working with the supplier, the Wellcome Global Events team will provide organisational support for the workshop that includes sending invitations, online registration, travel, accommodation and securing a venue and conferencing facilities.</p>



		The supplier must be able to provide details of an in-country host able to support with venue site visits and official visa invitation letters where required.
9	To promote in-person collaboration within a region, would Wellcome support the workshop having 2 locations (e.g., 1 in Africa, 1 in LATAM or Asia) that take place simultaneously and virtually connect together?	Wellcome will support a single 2-day workshop in one location in Africa only. To ensure optimal accessibility and inclusion, the workshop will be held in a hybrid format.
10	Do you expect the supplier to travel to the LMIC country to facilitate the event? If so, should this cost need to be included in the budget?	Yes, the supplier is expected to be present to coordinate and facilitate the workshop. The cost of travel, meals and accommodation will be covered by Wellcome.
11	Does the supplier need to earmark budget for venue in the LMIC country of choice?	Wellcome will cover the cost of the venue, accommodation, meals and travel for all participants.
12	We are aware that Wellcome has a Global Events team. Will they be supporting the organisation of the workshop in an African country and paying delegate travel and accommodation directly?	The Wellcome Global Events Team provide organisational support for the workshop that will include sending invitations, online registration, travel, accommodation and securing a venue and conferencing facilities in the agreed location. Wellcome will cover the cost of all participant travel, meals and accommodation.
13	Are we allowed to work with different "PIs" cutting across different institutions from same LMIC country?	Yes.
14	Are there specific datasets or tools for these diseases that are already identified as critical for review?	No. The landscape review should seek to identify what datasets exist, the analysis tooling ecosystem implemented and where there are priority research gaps critical for public health research for the five diseases.



15	Are there preferred or recommended analytical tools and software that Wellcome Trust would like to see included in the review?	Wellcome has no preference however, the use of machine learning or artificial intelligence is an area of interest., as well as any approaches taken to enable data integration across different repositories.
16	Is Wellcome already partnering with any external organisations for this project? Can the supplier leverage these organisations for the project?	No. Wellcome works closely with key stakeholders in related areas of interest e.g., WHO and PAHO. The supplier can leverage these organisations for the project.
17	Should the entire cost of running the workshop be included in the cost estimate?	No. Wellcome will cover the cost of the venue, participant travel, meals and accommodation.
18	Is there a budget range for delivering output 3? We anticipate varying costs from local suppliers.	Wellcome will cover the cost of the venue, participant travel, meals and accommodation.  The budget proposed must be inclusive of the supplier's time to develop the workshop agenda and to coordinate and facilitate the workshop.
19	We look to pursue a publication based on objectives and deliverables outside of the scope of this RFP, but derived through the process with due acknowledgement to Wellcome Trust, would that be acceptable practice?	Yes, this would be acceptable.
20	What does a strong partnership with a consultancy look like to you?	Wellcome expects the supplier to provide a detailed project management plan for the duration of the contract and details of a key contact person(s). Wellcome and the supplier will set agreed expectations and timelines from the



		<p>outset. It is expected that the supplier will lead the coordination of monthly project update meetings with the Wellcome advisory team and set reasonable timelines for the review of draft reports and work to Wellcome Global Events timelines in the lead to the workshop.</p>
21	<p>Are the mosquito borne diseases listed the only ones you want to focus on - or are there others?</p>	<p>Dengue, Zika, Rift Valley Fever, Chikungunya and Yellow Fever are the primary focus of the landscape review.</p> <p>Where there are notable findings for other mosquito-borne arboviruses of public health concern in the regions specified, these can be included as secondary information.</p>
22	<p>Is there an internal advisory board/steering committee we are able to lean on for insights?</p>	<p>The supplier and dedicated Wellcome advisory team will meet regularly to discuss progress and provide guidance over the lifetime of the contract.</p>
23	<p>Are you able to share any previous materials that would help inform our response?</p>	<p>A previous landscape review was conducted in 2021 to map software tools for climate-sensitive infectious disease modelling that included broader vector-borne diseases (<a href="https://wellcome.org/reports/landscape-mapping-software-tools-climate-sensitive-infectious-disease-modelling">https://wellcome.org/reports/landscape-mapping-software-tools-climate-sensitive-infectious-disease-modelling</a>)</p>
24	<p>Are you able to provide any further details on the research groups that you intend to engage with?</p>	<p>Wellcome works closely with a variety of stakeholders including global researchers, networks and public health organisations such as the WHO Global Arbovirus Initiative, AFRO and PAHO.</p>



25	Is there a reason you have phased the different disease research sections in this way?	<p>Linked to this contract is the current funding call “Understanding dengue and Zika spread, immunity and clinical outcomes” (<a href="https://wellcome.org/grant-funding/schemes/infectious-disease-award-understanding-dengue-and-zika-spread">https://wellcome.org/grant-funding/schemes/infectious-disease-award-understanding-dengue-and-zika-spread</a>). Phase 1 of the contract is time critical as it is intended to guide Wellcome and inform grant awardees (due to be awarded in December 2024) of data availability, gaps and opportunities for data integration and sharing in support of the call.</p> <p>Phase 2 expands to the other mosquito-borne diseases (Rift Valley Fever, Chikungunya and Yellow Fever) that are part of the portfolio focus for the Infectious Disease Strategic Programme that is being developed.</p>
26	Are there any immediate concerns or constraints that you are aware of on this project?	No.
27	Who would be our point of contact were we to be successful in this RFP, what is their role?	The supplier will work with the dedicated Wellcome advisory team for the duration of the contract. Monthly progress meetings will be coordinated by the supplier with the Wellcome advisory team to discuss progress and agree on timelines and expectations from the outset.
28	The timeline for phase 2 follows phase 1 very closely. Would Wellcome reconsider the timing of phase 2?	Yes, Phase 1 is the priority due to the associated funding call. However, Wellcome is open to suggestions from the



		supplier on other approaches to conduct the research within the stipulated timelines.
29	Could you tell us more about the “insufficient engagement” you note as a potential outcome from Phase 1 – have you had prior experience with this and can you tell us more about what the issues were, that we may address this in our proposal?	<p>Wellcome has not commissioned this landscape review before.</p> <p>On assessment at the end of Phase 1, and in consultation with the supplier, if there is limited engagement as demonstrated by the supplier from the research community and/or in other scoping methods to support the objectives of the landscape review (e.g., surveys, interviews, literature reviews etc.) Wellcome will have the right to terminate the contract without any further liability to the supplier.</p>
30	Is the issue of insufficient existing data also a concern that could terminate the agreement, or only insufficient engagement?	No. Insufficient existing data or the absence of data in different regions will be treated as a key finding. Supporting information on why these gaps exist and if filled how they may impact public health strategies will be beneficial in the landscape review.
31	For objective 1, are there are any language restrictions for the search and datasets?	No. However, it will be of interest to Wellcome to understand datasets that are available in different languages and how these may be a barrier to data sharing, use and access globally.
32	Does Wellcome have a particular IRB process that we can use to publish the qualitative aspect of this research?	All survey and interview data collected in the landscape review must be pseudonymised. Wellcome is open to





		discussing publishing qualitative data within these constraints with the relevant teams.
33	Is WT open to sharing draft final results with some key stakeholders before the workshop to include their feedback ahead of discussions?	Yes.
34	Can you provide further background on the infectious disease strategy for Wellcome? How will this effort align to broader strategic goals?	<p>The Infectious Disease Strategic Programme supports science to overcome the biggest barriers to controlling infectious disease in the most affected communities. The programme is underpinned by the Discovery Research health challenge area and intersects with the targeted Climate &amp; Health and Mental Health challenge areas.</p> <p>The portfolio focus for the Infectious Disease Strategic Programme includes target disease areas driven by environmental change (vector-borne and water-borne diseases) and drug resistance (bacteria and fungi). The vector-borne disease area focuses primarily on dengue, Zika, Chikungunya, Rift Valley Fever, Yellow Fever, Schistosomiasis and Leishmaniasis however, the portfolio is in different stages of development.</p>
35	Who are the intended external audiences for this report and what actions is Wellcome seeking to influence?	The intended audiences are national and international public health organisations, funders, researchers, local communities and policy and decision makers at the national and international levels.



		<p>Wellcome aims to ensure research involves those in the most affected communities and to maximise impact through partnerships, advocacy and championing evidence.</p>
36	<p>Regarding project scope, is the focus ultimately on supporting development of effective interventions and control strategies, or are you also interested in host immune responses and transmission dynamics in their own right?</p>	<p>The Infectious Disease Strategic Programme seeks to understand how and why these diseases emerge and escape control (including understanding transmission dynamics, disease burden and host immune responses). The programme aims to use this research to accelerate interventions to control and combat infectious diseases through the development of effective interventions and control strategies.</p>