

NCD ALLIANCE'S CIVIL SOCIETY SOLIDARITY FUND FOR NCDs AND COVID-19
SECOND PHASE 2021
- CALL FOR GRANT PROPOSALS -

I. ABOUT THE SOLIDARITY FUND:

The second phase of the **Civil Society Solidarity Fund on NCDs and COVID-19 in 2021** (hereinafter referred to as "2021 Solidarity Fund") is a NCD Alliance (NCDA) fund in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and in support of NCDA's network of member national and regional NCD alliances globally.

There are numerous intersections between COVID-19 and NCDs. Evidence shows that people living with NCDs have been particularly vulnerable to COVID-19 and are still at substantially higher risk of becoming severely ill or dying from the virus. Given the COVID-19 pandemic is still of considerable concern, it is imperative to continue supporting NCD civil society to ensure its stability and resilience, but also to advocate for an NCD vision and agenda that promotes efforts to build back better and fairer from the pandemic, through health systems recovery and resilience. By learning from the achievements and lessons learnt from the Solidarity Fund in 2020 ([check report here](#)), NCDA is launching a second phase in 2021 to continue supporting national and regional NCD alliances to make the case for prioritising and investing in NCDs within the context of an equitable COVID-19 response and recovery, advocating for the needs of people living with NCDs with the aim of advancing towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC), and NCD prevention and control, as a way of ensuring healthier societies for a better future. National and regional NCD alliances have been playing and will continue playing an important part during COVID-19 and also in shaping its legacy, calling on leaders and policymakers for a new vision and commitment on NCDs, healthy populations and the right to health.

The 2021 Solidarity Fund aims to support alliances' efforts to address the intersection of NCDs and COVID-19 and frame their advocacy and communication strategies in light of the needs of people living with NCDs. Its objectives are to:

- Encourage organisational sustainability and resilience of national and regional NCD alliances to navigate a prolonged COVID-19 pandemic.
- Ensure a coordinated and unified NCD civil society response to COVID-19 and in efforts to build back better and fairer from COVID-19.
- Protect, involve and support people living with NCDs, including vulnerable groups like women, youth and the elderly, ensuring their views and voices are heard in advocacy and communications on NCDs and COVID-19, promoting equity, community mobilisation and engagement.
- Support advocacy and communications efforts to promote the needs of people living with NCDs, prioritising NCD prevention and control as a key step towards equity, resilience and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2021 Solidarity Fund is now accepting grant proposal submissions until **Monday 31 May 2021 (5pm UK time)**.

II. SOLIDARITY FUND GRANT CATEGORIES:

The 2021 Solidarity Fund will offer competitive grants of up to \$15,000 USD to member national and regional NCD alliances in support of grant proposals for **activities conducted during the period of July to end-December 2021**, and presented in any of the following **three categories**:

1. **Strengthening of NCD alliances' infrastructure, governance and sustainability:** strategic projects that aim to support alliances to continue their coalition building efforts in light of COVID-19 restrictions and impact, such as through adapting their current plans and operations to ensure the sustainability of the alliance and resilience. Examples of activities that could be supported include: adapting operations and infrastructure to become more active in a virtual environment; creation of platforms for coordination and collaboration; strengthening organisational ability to secure further funding for the alliance; support for planning and strategy, etc. ***\$5,000 USD available per grant awarded in this category.***
2. **Developing comprehensive and cohesive NCD advocacy and communications strategies towards resilience and recovery:** tailored to national/regional needs, highlighting the intersections between NCDs and COVID-19, with the broader goals of health system strengthening and UHC, prioritising and investing in NCD prevention and control, and safeguarding the rights of people living with NCDs. Projects should draw upon the synergies between NCDs and COVID-19, lessons learnt to date and opportunity for focussing on equity and integration. They should promote exchange and coordination among NCD civil society and relevant stakeholders, share expertise and knowledge to provide factual and accurate information on NCDs and COVID-19, engage media/social media, in support of clear advocacy and communications objectives focused on resilience and recovery. Examples of activities that could be supported include: including NCDs and budget provisions in national or regional COVID-19 preparedness plans focused on the response and building back better, resilience and recovery; inclusion of civil society in decision making processes relating to COVID-19; supporting prioritisation and investing on NCD prevention and control within the context of an equitable COVID-19 response and recovery and future pandemics; ensuring integration of NCD prevention and control in health system strengthening and UHC policies/programmes; advocacy for reinstating and improving disrupted essential NCD services; supporting and investing in primary health care and community health workers for NCDs and UHC; ensuring that NCD prevention and health promotion continues to be prioritised to protect and strengthen population health and health systems; monitoring government actions on COVID-19 as they relate to NCDs; monitoring and highlighting unhealthy commodity industry interference in the NCD and COVID-19 response and call out CSR activities during COVID-19, etc. ***\$15,000 USD available per grant awarded in this category.***
3. **Supporting people living with NCDs and promoting community engagement and resilience:** through efforts to map, understand and address their needs and challenges, amplifying their voices in advocacy and communications on COVID-19, with a view to protect their right to health and participation, ensuring close attention to addressing equity and reaching the vulnerable, calling for uninterrupted access to quality treatment, care and services in light of a prolonged pandemic. Examples of activities include: meaningfully involving people living with NCDs to publicly share their views and voices on COVID-19 and on efforts to build back better, resilience and recovery (especially activities linked to the promotion and

implementation of NCDA's forthcoming [Global Charter on Meaningful Involvement of People Living with NCDs](#); documenting the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on people living with NCDs, including the most vulnerable, hard to reach populations; consulting with people living with NCDs on their experiences, the challenges they face, how they would like to be meaningfully involved in the NCD response and their recommendations for building back better and fairer and for resilience and recovery; engaging people living with NCDs in monitoring/reporting on access to NCD services; engage people living with NCDs in media and press coverage about COVID-19, etc. **\$15,000 USD available per grant awarded in this category.**

NOTE: *The 2021 Solidarity Fund will not provide support for direct services, provision of medication or care, or supplying personal protective or medical equipment; it will not support provision of medical services. The 2021 Solidarity Fund is aimed at supporting systemic change through advocacy and communications and strengthened NCD civil society.*

III. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

To be eligible for a grant through the 2021 Solidarity Fund, applicant national and regional NCD alliances must be active full members of NCDA.

Grant application is competitive. Interested member NCD alliances **may submit up to a maximum of two grant proposals** (for different categories as described above). Each applying alliance **can only receive a maximum of ONE 2021 Solidarity Fund grant** (if successful) to guarantee the 2021 Solidarity Fund is able to support a diverse and broad set of alliances across different countries and regions.

The call for proposals will be open to all member national and regional NCD alliances irrespective of their region or country income group, except to those alliances with current active NCDA grants (or in granting stage) totalling 40,000 USD or over, such as through the Advocacy Institute or Our Views, Our Voices Initiative, as these are already receiving support to adapt to COVID-19 within scope of NCDA grants. This is to ensure the continuity of a strong network of sustainable NCD national and regional alliances in light of a prolonged pandemic.

To be considered, **proposals should be submitted by Monday 31 May 2021 (5pm UK time)**, and meet the following criteria:

1. The application should correspond to one of the three categories of the Solidarity Fund:
 - Strengthening of NCD alliances infrastructure, governance and sustainability.
 - Developing comprehensive and cohesive NCD advocacy and communications strategies towards resilience and recovery.
 - Supporting people living with NCDs and promoting community engagement and resilience.
2. National/regional NCD alliances must offer a detailed narrative grant proposal (using a template provided by NCDA; [download here](#)) **for a grant period of 01 July to 31 December 2021 (6 months)**. Grant

proposals need to be in English and submitted in Word format; those that do not use the template provided will not be considered.

3. National/regional NCD alliances must offer a detailed grant budget (using a template provided by NCD Alliance; [download here](#)). Budget proposals need to be in English and submitted in Excel format; those that do not use the template provided will not be considered. Please note that regranting of Solidarity Fund funding to other organisations is not possible.
4. The application must be submitted through [this specific webform](#) by the national/regional NCD alliance's Secretariat and/or Coordinator(s), including the narrative grant proposal and grant budget mentioned above, along with the following documents:
 - o In the case of formal alliances (registered legal entities), it will need to submit: (1) the proof of non-profit status of the alliance; and (2) the latest audited financials of the alliance.
 - o In the case of informal alliances (non-registered entities), they can nominate one of its member civil society organisations as the fiscal agent to receive the grant, meaning it will need to submit: (1) the proof of constitution of the alliance (e.g. official registration, MoU between members, or a similar documents that confirms the formation of the alliance); (2) the proof of non-profit status of the fiscal agent; and (3) the latest audited financials of the fiscal agent.

Please contact Luis Manuel Encarnacion, Capacity Development Manager (lmencarnacion@ncdalliance.org) if you have any questions about the eligibility criteria and/or the required documentation.

Please make sure to submit all the requested documents and comply with all criteria, as all incomplete submissions will be rejected. We encourage you to develop your proposal and collect all necessary documents before submitting through the webform.

IV. SELECTION CRITERIA:

All applications will be reviewed and rated against the following weighted selection criteria:

- General presentation and clarity of proposal, addressing the intersection between NCDs and COVID-19 (10%).
- Need (10%): proposal has been devised based on evidence of a clear need for the national or regional NCD alliance to conduct the proposed activities.
- Coordination (20%): proposal clearly encourages collaboration and coordination, positioning the national/regional NCD alliance as a platform for unified NCD action.
- Potential results and impact (30%): extent to which the expected impact and outcomes of the activities considered in the proposal can make a positive, relevant difference; benefits the NCD response during/post COVID-19; potential to contribute to lasting systemic change and focus on recovery and resilience.
- Meaningful involvement of people living with NCDs (20%): the proposal considers the involvement of people living with NCDs in the design, implementation and/or evaluation of the suggested activities.

- Budget (10%): proposal clearly presents a link between the resources requested and the activities to be conducted.

V. SELECTION PROCESS:

NCD Alliance will shortlist proposals received based on eligibility, weighted selection criteria, consideration of 2021 Solidarity Fund supporter priorities as appropriate. Shortlisted proposals will then be shared with a Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will advise NCD Alliance by reviewing and scoring the proposals eligible for the grants of this second phase of the Solidarity Fund in 2021. The review and scoring will be done on the basis of pre-defined weighted selection criteria mentioned above. The top-rated proposals per category will be selected for a grant (the number of grants awarded will be defined by the NCD Alliance).

VI. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WINNER GRANT PROPOSALS:

The successful grant proposals will be announced by the NCD Alliance by end of June 2021. Unsuccessful grant proposals will also be informed by the NCD Alliance during that week.

VII. SUBMISSION TIMELINE:

Deadline to receive grant proposals, along with all required documentation	Monday 31 May 2021 (5pm UK time)
Announcement of winner grant proposals	End of June 2021
2021 Solidarity Fund grant period	01 July – 31 December 2021

NOTE: In the case that the total amount funding available through the 2021 Solidarity Fund changes substantially prior to its launch, NCD Alliance reserves the right to adjust the eligibility criteria/conditions. National and regional alliances will be promptly notified in case of any changes. The full list of 2021 Solidarity Fund supporters will be shared shortly with alliances, once finalised.