



African Population and
Health Research Center

APHRC Healthy Food Africa Project

Call for Expressions of Interest Seed Grants – Community Organized Groups

Healthy Food Africa: Food System Lab for Nairobi

1. Information to applicants

1.1. Introduction

The African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) is an international, non-profit research organization that envisions transforming lives in Africa through research. APHRC conducts policy-relevant research on population and health in Africa geared towards generating high quality evidence to inform decision making for an effective and sustainable response to the most critical challenges facing the continent. Among APHRC's prime areas of focus in urban informal settlements or slums is food and nutrition security.

HealthyFoodAfrica (HFA) is a research & innovation project aiming at more sustainable, equitable and resilient food systems in 10 African cities. The project is a collaborative effort by 17 partners in Europe and Africa, funded by the European Union Horizon2020 programme. HFA aims at improving nutrition in Africa by strengthening the diversity, sustainability, resilience & connectivity of food systems. APHRC is implementing the HFA Food System Lab in Nairobi (HFA FSL-Na). The HFA FSL-Na aims to test the feasibility and effectiveness of innovative urban farming in Korogocho and Viwandani informal settlements of Nairobi.

APHRC is developing and setting-up an intervention on innovative urban farming with the core aims of:

- (i) Exploring the acceptability, adoptability, reach, enablers and barriers of urban farming
- (ii) Assessing the effectiveness of urban farming in reducing household food insecurity, improving dietary diversity and nutrition status among the community members as well as determining its impact on women's and youth's empowerment
- (iii) Building the capacity of community organized groups in innovative urban farming and agribusiness for greater effectiveness and sustainability.



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Project activities will be implemented by APHRC in collaboration with a select number of qualified community organized groups (COGs) based in the two study sites. APHRC will provide capacity building for the select COGs on: innovative urban farming methods, the food and nutrition security concept, agribusiness, resources-oriented development and human-centered design approaches, project management and financial management among other aspects. The COGs will be given seed grants to enable them undertake urban farming activities and other food system activities. The COGs will also be expected to promote urban farming activities in the community including training and supporting community members on urban farming to ensure spread and sustainability of the project. For greater effectiveness and sustainability of project activities, the project will also gradually undertake to establish a community of practice of COGs in the food system network.

1.2. Project implementation period

August 2021- December 2023

1.3. Project implementation areas

- Korogocho
- Viwandani

1.4. Project implementation modality

The project activities will be implemented through COGs based and operating in Korogocho and Viwandani. Priority preference will be given to registered COGs operating as: a non-governmental organization (NGO), a community based organization, or a self-help group, particularly those undertaking urban farming or food system activities or those who demonstrate adequate interest in undertaking urban farming or other food system activities.

This call for proposals aims at receiving applications from capable COGs that are interested in carrying out the implementation of the project activities in any of the project implementation areas.

1.5. Application procedure

- Step 1: Complete the Expression of Interest form provided in Appendix 1
- Step 2: Fill the forms provided in Appendix 2, Appendix 3, and Appendix 4
- Step 3: Complete the letter of submission using the template provided in Appendix 5
- Step 4: Send electronic/soft copies of information provided in steps 2 to 4 above to consultancies@aphrc.org and copy amutoro@aphrc.org with the email subject: *“Expression of Interest in the Healthy Food Africa: Food System Lab for Nairobi Project”*



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1.6. Eligibility criteria for expression of interest

Ideally, the applicant should meet the following criteria while submitting the EoI:

- a) A COG registered with the relevant authority at national or county level;
- b) Organization with a physical presence and site (physical operating space) in at least one of the two specified informal settlements;
- c) Track record of strong partnership with local communities, local authorities and/or government agencies in previous activities;
- d) Proven working experience in community based interventions or promotion/outreach activities and/or other relevant activities related to farming, food and nutrition security or closely related area of focus in a specified informal settlement;
- e) Record of involving vulnerable and marginalized groups in previous organizational activities;
- f) Groups that do not do farming but would like to carry out other activities within the urban food value chain e.g agribusiness such as, seedling propagation, compost manure making and selling etc. to also apply, clearly stating their interest;
- g) Organizations with previous work experience in urban farming and/or have urban farming sites will have an added advantage;
- h) Organized groups e.g. self help groups, women groups and chamas which have evidence of organization (not registered yet but in the process of registration or with the intention of registering) are encouraged to apply.

Note: The applicants are encouraged to submit proof of each eligibility criteria. Women groups are encouraged to apply.

1.7. COGs selection process

A multi-phased selection process will be employed which includes:

- a) Submission of EoI by COGs
- b) Verification and possible interview of the shortlisted COGs
- c) Training of shortlisted COGs on innovative urban farming; and
- d) Submission of full proposals by shortlisted COGs.

COGs who are successful at the end of the process will be allowed to amend their applications including proposed activities based on the training above.

1.8. Funding and duration

Seed grants will be issued to successful COGs. The funding will be for a period of **12 months**, from August 2021- June 2022.

1.9. General Information

- a) Templates to furnish the information required for this application are annexed to this call for EoIs as follows:



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- Appendix 1: expression of interest form
 - Appendix 2: organizational profile and relevant experience
 - Appendix 3: description of core staff of the organization
 - Appendix 4: organizational track record
 - Appendix 5: letter for EoI submission
- b) The applicant may contact the project team for clarification of any issues related to the EoI, if required. All inquiries can be made in writing to Antonina Mutoro at amutoro@aphrc.org.
- c) The closing date for submission of EoI is **1st August 2021**. EoI's submitted after the closing date will not be considered.
- d) The result of the short listing will be communicated to qualified COGs within 3 weeks of EoI deadline.
- e) Field verifications will be done only for the shortlisted COGs.
- f) Failure to submit the necessary documents will disqualify the respective organization from the process.
- g) The APHRC reserves all rights to cancel or modify the EoIs process without giving any reasons whatsoever



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Annex 1: Expression of Interest Form

This Expression of Interest Form should be completed electronically. The information provided in the form should not exceed 3 pages

Your contact details	
Name of organization	
Contact person	
Telephone number	
Email address	
Postal Address	

Questions – Organization

1. Where does your organization operate? How long has it operated in this site? *(1 paragraph outlining the name of the slum community where the organization operates and how long it has been there)*
2. What is the organization's main areas of operation? *(1-2 paragraphs outlining the organization's main area(s) of focus)*
3. What key activities does the organization undertake? Please include any farming or other food system activities *(1-3 paragraphs of typical activities undertaken by the organization within the location of operation)*
4. What kinds of innovative urban farming activities or other food system activities does the organization propose to undertake in the current project? *(1-3 paragraphs describing proposed innovative urban farming activities that the organization will undertake and how these activities are likely to create impact. Activities should be described in relation to the HFA: FSL-Na project)*



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Annex 2: Organizational Profile and Relevant Experience

S.N	Particulars	Detail Information
1.	Name of the organization	
2.	Type of Organization	
3.	Organizational Goal and Objectives	Goal: Objectives:
4.	Contact address and contact person	Physical Address Name of the Contact Person: Position: Phone Number: Mobile number Email:
5.	Date of Establishment	
6.	Registration number, date of registration and relevant registration authority	
7.	Number of regular staff (core and project)	Number of Management Staff: Number of Programme Staff: Number of Support Staff: Number of volunteers:
8.	Geographical coverage/ county and slums of organization operation	
9.	Area of work with APHRC in previous assignments (if any)	
10.	List of Policies and procedures of the Organization	

Note: Where available, please submit necessary documents as proofs.



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Annex 5: Letter for EoI Submission

[Insert date]

To:
The Project Manager
Healthy Food Africa: Food System Lab for Nairobi
African Population and Health Research Center

Expression of Interest

Dear Sir/Madam,

I/we, the undersigned, are hereby submitting our Expression of Interest for partnership to work in [*Insert name of slum(s)*] under the '*Healthy Food Africa: Food System Lab for Nairobi.*' project

We attach the following EoI documents:

- 1.
- 2.
3. ...
4. ...
5. ...

We hereby declare that all the information and statements made in this EoI are true and accept that any misrepresentation contained in it may lead to the disqualification of our application.

We agree, if our EoI is accepted, to fully support your field verification.

Yours sincerely,
[Title and Name of Applicant (s)]
[Signature]



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