



FAQs: Successes and challenges from implementing newborn hearing screening and early intervention in LMICs

1. Are you primarily interested in country-level learning, to influence national and international policy (as opposed to informing practice at the facility/service level)? POLICY VS Implementation

We want to understand the context, mechanisms and stakeholders involved in getting a policy to fruition to learn how this might work in other countries. We do anticipate learning to come out of this research about some elements for service delivery as part of the mechanisms that made the uptake of a universal hearing screening policy feasible, as well as what that policy looks like in practice now.

2. Do you have some potential case study countries in mind, to complement countries identified by the research team?

We don't have any specific countries in mind, so we would be looking for ideas to be included in the bid, or an approach outlined for how the bidder would select the countries. The paper referenced in the tender could be a starting point to explore which LMICs have a UNHS policy.

3. Is there a rough timeframe you would be looking at? I appreciate you wish for the work to be completed as soon as possible.

We would appreciate your insight for the timeframe. We don't have a fixed date or timeframe in mind. You could present an options appraisal style approach, to show your thinking around time needed for 5 countries over X amount of time, and the same for 8 or 10 countries for example, in accordance with justifying your approach for research. This could also help to understand the budget elements too.

4. Is there a current budget that you are able to share?

We don't have a specific budget to share for this work at the moment, as we don't want to set a superficial limit on this. We would appreciate the bid to include this thinking.

5. Do you have recommendations for length of proposal?

We don't have any specific guidelines around this.

6. Are you hoping to have a representative sample?

Yes, we are hoping to have a representative sample of countries in terms of diversity of regional coverage and demographic factors where possible.



7. Are there any regions or countries DCW/NDCS is particularly interested in, or any that should be excluded due to existing partnerships/sensitivities?

We don't have anywhere in mind specifically, so you can use your approach to outline specific areas/countries if you wish, or to outline how you would select countries to be explored. There are no countries or regions that should be excluded from our perspective. We do understand that there may be some countries that you are unable to include due to current geopolitical climates, and this can be justified in your submitted approach where relevant.

8. In terms of methodology, do you expect the consultant to conduct in-person fieldwork in certain countries, or should the work be carried out entirely remotely? Similarly, are you primarily expecting qualitative research (e.g. key informant interviews), or would you also anticipate a quantitative component (e.g. an online survey)?

We would expect most of this work to be carried out remotely, with any in person fieldwork justified as an approach in the method and budget. We anticipate this to be desk research with key informant interviews for primarily qualitative data. Quantitative data would be good to see for the reach and impact of UNHS on each country, e.g. money spent, time saved, children screened etc. Of course, the approach is ultimately up to you to outline in the bid.