Question & Answer Report

100,000 Strong in the Americas Innovation Fund Informational Webinar

The 2021 Innovation Fund Grant Competition to Build Partnerships and Training Programs between the United States, Central America, and the Dominican Republic

May 26, 2021

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Grant Competition Eligibility & Institutional Partnerships

1. As a Central American-based university, can we work with any US University?
   Yes, you may partner with any accredited institution(s) in the U.S. (public, private, or community/vocational colleges, etc.).

2. When are the eligible countries updated for future grant competitions?
   100K Innovation Fund grant competitions are announced throughout the year and the eligible countries are dependent on each competition. Be sure to join the Innovation Network to receive updates on new and current competitions.

3. We have 5 U.S. intuitions partnering with a university in El Salvador. Are there additional considerations for the proposal that we should include?
   There is no limit to the number of institutions you may involve in your project. However, only one institution will ultimately submit the application and will be considered the “prime” applicant. The prime institution may be from either the U.S. or El Salvador.

4. How can I find a partner institution?
   There are several ways to identify a partner institution. A detailed list of the different ways to find a partner institution can be found in the Innovation Network under “Pages” → “Find a Partner HEI.” If you are not already a member, you can join here.

5. Is there a preference between new vs. existing partnerships?
   Innovation Fund grants are available for proposed projects between both new and existing institutional partnerships. Note, however, that it is unlikely that a project proposed by two institutions who have already won a 100K grant as partners will receive funding again.
6. **Is public health an eligible academic area for this competition?**
   Yes, public health is an eligible academic area in this competition. To learn more about eligible academic areas, please refer to the RFP at [https://www.100kstrongamericas.org/grants/](https://www.100kstrongamericas.org/grants/).

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**Project Design & Mobility**

1. **Would it be recommended to have a plan for replacing the "in presence" experience, given potential changes in travel restrictions?**
   No, it is not necessary to create a plan for replacing the physical mobility. Firstly, please note that the period of performance for this competition is between November 2021 – December 2022, so it is very probable that the global situation with regards to travel restrictions may be very different than it is currently. As such, we do not anticipate travel restrictions posing a barrier for the completion of in-person mobility for this competition. However, should travel restrictions affect the ability to complete physical mobility, the Innovation Fund will work with your institution to adjust or extend your project.

2. **Do all the student participants need to belong to the same academic program?**
   No. It is not mandatory that all student participants be in the same academic field.

3. **Can the proposed program benefit graduate level students?**
   Yes, all students at the post-secondary level are eligible to benefit from the proposed program.