CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
CS4ME INNOVATE
Building capacity and increasing civil society voices on malaria innovations

Open to national malaria CSO coalitions that are members of CS4ME in Benin Uganda and Tanzania

Countries	Benin · Uganda · Tanzania
Eligible applicants	National malaria CSO coalitions, members of CS4ME
Project duration	2 years, starting in January 2027
Sub-grant	About US$100,000 per selected coalition of malaria CSOs
Deadline to apply	**December 1st 2026**

Background

Malaria remains one of Africa's major public health challenges. Progress towards elimination will depend on the continued use of proven interventions and the responsible assessment and introduction of emerging tools. These include spatial repellents, vaccines, monoclonal antibodies, improved vector control tools and innovative mosquito-based approaches. The successful introduction of such innovations depends not only on scientific evidence and regulatory approval, but also on informed national decision-making that takes account of community knowledge, concerns, trust and social acceptance.

Africa's capacity to assess, adopt and responsibly introduce emerging malaria innovations also depends on the ability of civil society to engage communities, raise questions about potential benefits and risks, contribute to policy discussions and hold decision-makers accountable. Civil society organisations (CSOs) must therefore be equipped to participate meaningfully in national discussions and help ensure that decisions are informed by evidence, national priorities and community perspectives. .

The key role of civil society in malaria innovations

Civil society plays a central role in informed participation, evidence-based dialogue and sovereign decision-making on malaria innovations:

- CSOs are independent, non-partisan voices that can highlight community needs, including those of the most vulnerable.

- CSOs have established relationships with local health workers, faith leaders, women's networks, media and youth organisations, the channels through which communities access information and make decisions.
- Sustained civil society engagement shows that communities are being listened to and that their concerns are being addressed rather than dismissed.
- CSO coalitions can strengthen community knowledge, correct misinformation, increase local trust, identify emerging concerns and adapt messaging in real time, rather than relying on periodic top-down campaigns.
- With their independent voices, CSO coalitions can influence decision-makers and demand accountability.

> **CS4ME INNOVATE objective:** to build a stronger, better-informed and more credible civil society voice on malaria innovations, starting in three countries.

Eligibility criteria

Malaria CSO coalitions will be selected against rigorous criteria. Applicants must:

- be an active member of CS4ME and have signed the CS4ME Charter;
- be legally registered in the country of implementation;
- have been established in their country for at least two years;
- hold a bank account in the organisation's name;
- have financial management and accounting systems in place to track funds received and expenditures;
- show solid experience in implementing malaria control activities;
- demonstrate a good reputation and collaboration with bodies such as the National Malaria Control Programme (NMCP), the Global Fund Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM), the Ministry of Health and the health coalitions in their country;
- have proven experience in project management and monitoring;
- have well-established relationships with other CSOs and government entities engaged in the malaria response;
- have a strong advocacy track record, including health campaigns, community-led advocacy, domestic resource mobilisation for malaria at community and national levels, and advocacy for the adoption of innovative tools.

Building on this track record, each selected coalition will act as the CSO country focal point. It will lead direct engagement in the country and provide the operational backbone for the capacity-building and community engagement work carried out under this investment.

Role and responsibilities of selected coalitions

Capacity building and support from ISA

- Receive training from ISA on malaria innovations, communication and leadership skills.
- Receive technical support to strengthen the CSO malaria coalition, with clear governance structures and a diverse membership.
- Receive targeted communication training, practical tools and guidance on information accuracy and countering misinformation, and be supported to develop evidence-based key messages and the skills to take part meaningfully in national dialogues.

Country-level analysis and engagement

- Contribute to a country landscape assessment and stakeholder mapping to identify the main actors, existing initiatives, opportunities, risks and gaps related to malaria innovations. Use the findings to identify priorities for community engagement and advocacy.
- Support country-level analyses, assessments and community dialogues to build a clear understanding of the national context and identify country-specific opportunities for a tailored approach.
- Increase the meaningful participation of malaria CSOs in national processes.
- Develop and implement coalition action plans to engage effectively in evidence-based dialogue and sovereign decision-making (including stakeholder consultations) on malaria innovations, through convenings, interactive workshops and skills training.
- Organise community discussions and dialogues on malaria innovations.

Collaboration, learning and leadership

- Contribute to collaboration on CSO engagement in malaria innovations, for example through the CS4ME regional platform, by organising webinars and developing joint communication materials.
- Document lessons learned on civil society and community engagement approaches through programmatic case studies, used internally and with partners to adapt implementation and inform future investments.
- Serve as the project's country lead, with full responsibility for operational implementation.

> **Independence**
> Throughout the project, CSO coalitions must retain their independence and must not promote an external agenda or a predetermined position on any particular technology. Their role is to facilitate balanced, evidence-based community dialogue, raise questions about potential benefits and risks, strengthen their own capacity and contribute to informed decision-making. They are not expected to advocate for or against a specific innovation. This independence is essential to the credibility and effectiveness of the project.

Sub-grant and duration

Each selected CSO malaria coalition will receive a sub-grant of **about US$100,000** to implement its action plan over **two years**, starting in January 2027.

How to apply

- Complete the application form click on the preferere language to access the form:: **English** **French**
- Deadline: **1 December 2026**
- Project start date: **January 2027**

Contact: secretariat@cs4me.org

Application questionnaire

Please answer all questions. The maximum word count for each response is indicated in brackets. .

Section A – Organisation information

1. Name of organisation

2. Name of the organisation's representative (the person who would lead the work under this sub-grant)

3. E-mail of the organisation's representative

4. Telephone number of the organisation's representative (with country code)

5. Organisation's address (physical location)

6. Country of operation

7. Secondary contact person

8. E-mail of the secondary contact person

9. Link(s) to the organisation's website or online presence (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn)

Section B – Focal point and capacity

10. Name of the dedicated person who will manage the grant, serve as "Coalition focal point" and be personally accountable for delivering the sub-grant workplan

11. What is their position within the organisation?

12. Is the focal point expected to remain in this position for up to two years?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

13. Please share a short biography of the focal point *max 250 words*

14. Please attach the CV of the focal point

- ☐ CV attached

15. Briefly describe your coalition mandate, main priorities and focus of work, including any work related to malaria. *(max. 250 words)*

16. Briefly describe your coalition experience advocating for national, subnational or regional policies on malaria or other health priorities, including the key stakeholders engaged (e.g. parliamentarians, ministries, other advocacy targets) and the key strategies used. Give one or two examples of results or lessons learned. *(max. 250 words)*

17. Briefly describe your coalition experience engaging communities on malaria at community and national levels. *(max. 250 words)*

18. **Briefly describe your organisation's capacity to manage grant funds, deliver activities, monitor progress and meet reporting requirements, including any experience managing comparable grants, partnerships or community-based programmes.** *(max. 150 words)*

19. **Describe some activities your coalition could carry out to increase community engagement and participation in malaria innovation research, introduction and policies, so that community needs are included and influence informed, evidence-based decision-making.** *(max. 250 words)*

20. **Describe your national malaria coalition of CSOs, your mission, vision, objectives, number of members, tell us about your members and how you engaged with your members on malaria .** *(max. 500 words)*