

1 November 2018 – The World Health Organization Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean and the UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) are pleased to announce the grant awards for 2018–2019 call for applications of the Joint EMRO/TDR Small Grants Scheme (SGS) for implementation research in infectious diseases of poverty.

The goal of the TDR strategy is to foster research on infectious diseases of poverty that will strengthen research capacity in developing countries; develop implementation strategies and solutions; and lead to health improvement. Additionally, a primary objective of this strategy is to translate research results into policy and practice and promote the use of research evidence by communities and government agencies to reduce the disease burden in their respective countries.

The grants were awarded to support evidence generated from local research for the prevention and control of tropical diseases in the Eastern Mediterranean Region, with special emphasis on research on tuberculosis, malaria, neglected tropical diseases, as well as HIV/AIDS and hepatitis. They are linked to two EMRO activity outcomes: a workshop on Regional Health Research Prioritization held in February 2018 and a special meeting for identification of TDR priorities by WHO/EMRO technical units that took place in April 2018. The funded projects will focus on implementation/operational research related to regional priority topics.

The sixteen small grant projects awarded in eight countries are listed below.

Country	Grantee	Project
Afghanistan	National Malaria and Leishmaniasis Control Programme	Assessing the effectiveness of two treatment regimens for leishmaniasis
Egypt	National Liver Institute, Mansoura University	Estimating the economic burden of HCV treatment strategies
Egypt	Ministry of Health	Economic analysis of HCV different screening algorithms
Egypt	Faculty of Medicine – Ain Shams University	Assessing household catastrophic total cost of tuberculosis
Egypt	Cairo Association against Spreading of Private Medical Practices (CASP)	Spreading of private medical practices and its effect on HCV seroprevalence
Islamic Republic of Iran	Medical Faculty, Guilan University of Medical Sciences, Rasht	Cost-effectiveness and acceptability of a rapid diagnostic test for leishmaniasis
Morocco	Moroccan Ministry of Health	Cost-effectiveness and acceptability of a rapid diagnostic test for leishmaniasis
Occupied Palestinian Territories	Leishmaniasis Research Unit, Jericho by Palestine	Long-term efficacy of Pyrethroid derivatives: a study in the West Bank
Pakistan	National Institute of Health, Islamabad	Is tuberculosis truly free? A study to identify risk factors for relapse
Pakistan	Ministry of Health, National Institute of Health, Islamabad	Effect of Services Regulation & Coordination on Government Health Services
Sudan	Ministry of Health	Feasibility of provider-initiated HIV testing and counselling in Sudan
Sudan	Ministry of Health	Estimation of the risk factors associated with multiple drug resistant tuberculosis
Sudan	Institute of Endemic Diseases, Khartoum	Assessing the impact of malaria infection on the prevalence of leishmaniasis
Sudan	Institute of Endemic Diseases, Khartoum	Strengthening the capacity of health workers in leishmaniasis (VL) control

Sudan
Yemen

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burden of concurrent infections

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