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Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER) Special Call for Proposals: Tunisia/ Multiple Sectors

PEER is an international awards program that funds scientists and engineers in developing countries who partner with U.S. government-supported researchers to address global development challenges. PEER partnerships leverage major research investments made by U.S. government science agencies to improve development outcomes in USAID-presence countries.

PEER not only catalyzes collaborative research and elevates the use of science and technology to further USAID's development objectives, but also establishes long-lasting research relationships that build scientific research capacity, strengthen the research ecosystem in developing countries, and enable collaborators to become better partners in development. Since PEER's launch in 2011, it has supported more than 280 projects in over 50 countries with an investment of about \$56 million.



Eligible Country: Tunisia

Goal: PEER and USAID/Tunisia are seeking to support projects that lay the foundation for empowering current and new generations, strengthening civil society, and solidifying and expanding science and technology in Tunisia.

Areas of Research:

Research projects should address one of the following priority areas:

- Health and agricultural sciences;
- Natural resource management, to include water management, soil conservation, land management, and energy diversification, as well as general sustainable development issues; and
- The use of geographic information systems (GIS) and other platforms for the collection and mapping of geospatial data to enable science-based policy making.

Applications with a focus on technology transfer, commercialization, and engagement with private sector stakeholders are highly encouraged. PEER projects that will result in the creation of new collaborations between Tunisian and U.S.-based researchers are viewed favorably. USAID/Tunisia is particularly interested in supporting projects that develop and/or utilize innovative approaches to addressing the Mission's development priorities.

Application Timeline

October 2, 2017: Call for pre-proposals announced

January 12, 2018: Pre-proposals due

February 23, 2018: Selected applicants are invited to submit a full proposal, all others are notified of declination

April 6, 2018: Full proposals due

August 2018: Cycle 7 PEER awardees announced

Questions: peer@nas.edu

Further information and instructions about this call for proposals can be found on the National Academies PEER website: nationalacademies.org/PEER.



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Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER) Special Call for Proposals: Middle East and North Africa/ Refugee Host Communities Health

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Eligible Countries: Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia, and West Bank/Gaza

Goal: USAID seeks to understand displaced populations in the Middle East and North Africa region, particularly to address issues affecting refugees and other internally displaced populations from the ongoing conflicts in Syria, Yemen, and Iraq. USAID recognizes issues affecting displaced populations are multidimensional, therefore PEER is seeking collaborative research proposals focused on refugee populations and refugee host communities on the following topics: water, sanitation and hygiene and disease detection and/or prevention. PEER is particularly interested in research proposals that can test pilot health innovations in conflict impacted countries.

Areas of Research: Examples of the types of research projects that could be funded under this call for proposals are:

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in Refugee Settlements and/or Refugee Host Communities

- Innovations in WASH delivery methods for disease prevention in refugee settlements and host communities
- WASH-related research to improve health outcomes of refugees
- Improvement of equitable access to water for refugees, including access for households, schools, health facilities, and other locations essential for healthy societies
- Innovative financing for water and sanitation sector development, including for wastewater treatment
- Activities that build the scientific, technological and management capacity necessary for science-based decision-making in water supply, conservation and management, and in sanitation

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Disease Detection and Prevention in Refugee Settlements and/or Refugee Host Communities

- Development of telemedicine applications for health screening and prevention in refugee and non-refugee communities
- Innovations in infectious disease detection among refugees and/or displaced populations, including tuberculosis, leishmaniosis, and other endemic diseases
- Innovative service delivery methodologies which address emerging TB co-morbidities in refugee populations
- TB transmission and treatment in refugee and migrant communities
- Methods to evaluate, test, and apply policy and programs around infectious disease prevention, detection, and response
- Methods to improve health tracking at refugee Points of Entry into asylum countries
- Methods to improve access to healthcare for refugees and other high risk populations
- Understanding of the resilience of health and provision centers in combat-impacted zones

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