IMMANA Competitive Research Grants – Round 2

15 January 2016
Suneetha Kadiyala, IMMANA Principle Investigator
Nadja Ohranovic, IMMANA Research Funding Manager
LSHTM
IMMANA at a glance

- IMMANA aims to accelerate the development of a robust scientific evidence base needed to guide changes in global agriculture and food systems to feed the world’s population in a way that is both healthy and sustainable.
# Objectives and Workstreams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Stimulate development of innovative methodological approaches and <strong>novel metrics</strong> in agriculture and food systems for improved health and nutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Build a cadre of <strong>early-career researchers</strong> skilled in developing and applying cutting-edge methods and metrics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Facilitate <strong>learning, sharing</strong> and new interdisciplinary research <strong>collaborations</strong>;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workstreams</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IMMANA Grants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMMANA Fellowships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, Nutrition and Health Academy (ANH Academy)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Partners

London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, UK - lead partner; IMMANA

Grants

Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University, USA – IMMANA Fellowships

Leverhulme Centre for Integrative Research on Agriculture and Health (LCIRAH), part of the London International Development Centre (LIDC)

SOAS, University of London, UK
IMMANA Grants

• Research grants to accelerate development of innovative interdisciplinary metrics and methods filling the key knowledge gaps.

• 15-20 research grants of up to £250,000 over two rounds.
IMMANA Grants Round 1

1. **Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research: The Women’s Empowerment in Nutrition Index (WENI):** Measuring nutritional empowerment to better link agriculture to nutrition.

2. **International Food Policy Research Institute:** Leveraging value chains to improve nutrition: collaborative learning initiative on methods and metrics for improving the identification, design and evaluation of interventions.

3. **Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University:** Women’s empowerment in livestock-focused agriculture: Identifying and understanding pathways to impact for maternal and child nutrition in East Africa.

4. **Tufts University:** Indicators of Affordability of Nutritious Diets in Africa (IANDA).

5. **University of Michigan:** Developing an innovative approach to measuring the livelihoods of smallholder farmers and testing critical linkages from farmer livelihoods to nutrition.

6. **World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF):** Surveillance of Climate-Smart Agriculture for Nutrition (SCAN).

IMMANA Grants – Round 2
Indicative Topics and Approaches

• **Develop:**
  – a suite of indicators or a composite indicator.
  – innovative metrics.
  – analytical methods.
  – market-based indicators.
  – innovative tools.
  – or apply novel methods to examine the impact.
  – methodology to measure the contribution.

• **Design and test:**
  – nutrition metrics.
  – appropriate methods.

• **Evaluate or develop methods to analyse the impact.**

• **Link diverse sources of data through new tools.**
Eligibility

- Demonstrated ability to conduct research of international standards of excellence in the topic proposed.
- Researchers and institutions from both developed and low and middle income countries (LMICs) are eligible.
- Demonstrated strong partnerships.
- Added value = contribution to enhancing the scientific capacity of the Southern partners.
- More than one application allowed provided each application is scientifically distinct.
Budget and Duration of IMMANA Grants

• Funding will be a maximum of £250,000 per grant.

• All budgets in pound sterling (£).

• The maximum duration is two years (24 months).

• The size and duration of each award will vary.

• All applications will be scrutinised for value for money.
Indicative list of eligible costs

- **Salary costs** for research staff.
- **Data collection.**
- **Standard class** **travel costs.**
- **Publication costs.**
- **Equipment.**
- **Attendance** at the Agriculture, Nutrition and Health Academy annual conference - **mandatory.**
- **Overhead costs** - cannot exceed **15%** of the total grant budget.
- **Inflation** – for salaries only & capped at a maximum of **3%** per year.
Review process

• **Two step** approach.

• The first step = **eligibility check** by IMMANA team.

• The second step = **scientific assessment** by external reviewers.

• **Oversight** by the Chair of the Independent Panel of Experts.

• Final **endorsement** by the Steering Committee.
Evaluation criteria – Step 1

• Contributing to improved understanding of the linkages between agriculture, food systems and nutrition in LMICs. Y/N

• Focusing on developing a new/improved metric, tool or methodology. Y/N

• Demonstrating strong partnerships, and the added value that would be created by the proposed partnership. Y/N

• Demonstrating the ability to conduct research at an international standard of excellence in the topic proposed. Y/N

• All criteria met = Step 2
Evaluation criteria – Step 2

• Innovation.
• Scientific excellence.
• Development relevance.
• Translational value.
• Collaborative approaches.
  – Each criterion is equally important.
  – A score between 1 (not competitive) and 5 (outstanding).
  – High overall and well balanced between criteria = invitation to submit the full proposal.
## Timelines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestones</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Submission of concept memos</td>
<td>15 February 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invitations to submit full proposals</td>
<td>28 March 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission of full proposals</td>
<td>28 June 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notification of awards</td>
<td>3 October 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants start</td>
<td>1 November 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
More

http://immana.lcirah.ac.uk/grants
immanagigrants@lshtm.ac.uk
Twitter: @IMMANA_res