

Gavi CSO funding mechanism

Call for Proposals: Nigeria

Sub-National Domestic Resource Mobilisation and Public Financial Management for Immunisation and Primary Healthcare

Application Guidance

PUBLIC

April 2026



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Introduction

Gavi is dedicated to strengthening immunisation systems and securing sustainable domestic financing for both immunisation and Primary Health Care (PHC). Our goal is to reach zero-dose children and missed communities in the countries we support.

This Call for Proposals is open to Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) registered in Nigeria. The grant focuses specifically on state-level domestic resource mobilisation and public financial management to strengthen immunisation financing systems across nine priority states.

Grants for CSO funding will open for applications on Thursday, 16th April 2026. The closing date for applications will be Thursday, 14th May 2026, at 16:00 WAT.

Applications received after this deadline will not be considered. We recommend submitting your application in our online system, Grantelope, at least one day before the deadline to avoid any last-minute technical difficulties.

All compulsory questions must be completed before you can submit your application. Please register for an account with Grantelope, log in, and complete the eligibility review as soon as possible. If you are eligible, you will then be able to access the application form and familiarise yourself with the requirements. You can register at [Registration \(grantelope.com\)](https://grantelope.com). For more details, please see the [Accessing Grantelope guidance](#).

If you have any questions about the application process, please email us at: gavi-cso@manniondaniels.com

Available Grants

Impact Grant for State-Level Health Financing Advocacy

We have allocated specific funding amounts to three states (Bayelsa, Sokoto and Zamfara), with allocations based on a structural assessment of need, opportunity, and potential for impact. Allocation decisions were informed by data on the number of zero-dose children, immunisation financing gaps, and the strength of existing advocacy and public financial management ecosystems. This approach is designed to enable the comprehensive implementation of domestic resource mobilisation and public financial management activities across each state.

One grant of up to \$262,000 is available to one organisation to carry out this work.

Grant Duration

We anticipate that the application process, pre-contract review, and contracting will take about two months to complete. We expect grants to start around August 1, 2026, for a duration of up to 17 months. All grants must end by December 31, 2027.

Purpose of Grants

The main objective of this grant is to strengthen state-level advocacy for improved domestic resource mobilisation and public financial management systems strengthening to unlock sustainable financing for immunisation and PHC. The grants are designed to facilitate a Civil Society Organization -led to lead advocacy activities in the following areas:

- **Strengthening State Budgetary Processes for Immunisation:** Support improvements in the formulation, defence, and execution of immunisation and PHC budgets at the state level. The goal is to ensure allocations are adequate, timely, and efficiently utilised, with a focus on equity in resource distribution.
- **Improving State-Level Financial Management Systems:** Advocacy to improve funding release mechanisms within State Ministries of Health, State Budget Offices, and State Treasuries, with the aim to ensure predictable funding for immunisation operations.
- **Building State-Level Stakeholder Capacity:** Strengthen the capacity of state-level Civil Society Organisations, legislators, government finance units, and health officials to effectively monitor, advocate for, and manage immunisation financing.
- **Enhancing Transparency and Accountability at the State Level:** Support the establishment of state-level immunisation financing dashboards and scorecards to monitor budget performance, budget releases track fund utilisation and provide real-time data for decision-making and accountability.

- **Promoting Evidence-Based Advocacy for Immunisation Financing:** Generate and disseminate evidence on state-level immunisation financing gaps, barriers, and opportunities. This will inform targeted advocacy interventions and policy recommendations.
- **Coordinate with National level health and immunization financing advocates and stakeholders** to support federal budgets and allocations through generation of sub-national support for increased overall immunization spending.

Proposed activities must clearly link to these objectives. Applicants should describe how their interventions will build on existing national-level initiatives and directly contribute to increased immunisation financing and improved budget execution at the state level.

Eligible Organisations

To be eligible for this grant, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be a registered Civil Society Organisation (CSO) and not-for-profit organisation in Nigeria.
- Be a national CSO delivering projects in Nigeria.
- Have an updated registration for the operating period of the grant with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC).
- Preferably, have a clearance or support letter from either the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA) or the relevant State Health Care Development Agency (SPHCDA) for implementing health interventions.
- Have experience working with the health sector at the national or state level in Nigeria.
- Have at least five years of demonstrated experience in advocacy, domestic resource mobilisation, and public financial management in the health sector. Both central and state-level experience in immunisation and PHC financing is highly desirable.
- Have previous experience of working or supporting Gavi funded activities.
- Have experience in budget analysis and planning, budget tracking, and financial management monitoring.
- Have established networks of civil society organisations and/or a community of practice that can be mobilised for advocacy activities.
- Have demonstrated capacity to manage and utilise digital tools and dashboards for monitoring and reporting.
- Demonstrate the capacity to conduct monitoring, evaluation, and learning activities.
- Have experience in designing and delivering training programs and capacity-building activities related to the objectives of this grant stated above.
- Have strong governance structures with clear policies and procedures for decision-making, financial management, and accountability.
- Have a bank account capable of receiving USD-denominated payments.

- The applicant organisation must demonstrate financial capacity by having an average annual expenditure over the past three years that exceeds 50% of the average annual grant value for which they are applying.
 - **Example:** If applying for a grant of USD \$40,000 over 18 months, the average annual amount to receive is USD \$26,667 ($\$40,000 / 18 * 12$). Organisations would need to demonstrate that their average annual expenditure for the last three years was at least USD \$13,334 (50% of USD \$26,667).
- Only individual organizations are eligible to apply.

Criteria for National CSOs

To be considered a national CSO, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be a not-for-profit organisation in Nigeria.
- Be registered in Nigeria with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC).
- Have an office situated in Nigeria.
- Have a Governing Board that is independent of control by a foreign entity or individuals who are not citizens or permanent residents of Nigeria.
- Be majority-owned by individuals or a governing body who are citizens of Nigeria.
- Its senior leadership must be primarily (above 50%) located within Nigeria.
- Hold an active USD bank account to receive funding within Nigeria.

Definition Of CSOs

We recognise that civil society is broad and includes a wide range of organisations, actors, and coalitions. Civil Society Organisations can include:

- Not-for-profit advocacy organisations focused on health financing and immunisation.
- Civil society networks engaged in health advocacy and policy engagement.
- Local professional associations working on health systems strengthening.
- Academia and research institutions engaged in health systems research and policy analysis.
- Faith-based organisations engaged in health advocacy and community mobilisation.
- Women's groups and youth organisations engaged in health advocacy.
- Community-based organisations with demonstrated capacity in advocacy and policy engagement.

Application Process

Application Submission

Applications must be submitted in English. Applicants should complete the online application form before the deadline. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered. The online application will be available for download from the Application Guidance page of the Gavi website from Thursday, 16th April 2026, to Thursday, 14th May 2026, at 16:00 WAT.

One-Stage Process

There is a one-stage process for the grant application:

- **Step 1: Eligibility Review**

Applicants must first complete an eligibility review by filling in a simple form. To do this, register to use our online application system, Grantelope, and click on 'Available Grants' in the left-hand menu. Select the round for Nigeria and enter the requested details. A 'Task' will then be assigned to you to complete an eligibility review; this will appear under 'Tasks' in the left-hand menu. Please see the Grantelope guidance for more information.

- **Step 2: Online Application**

Grantelope, our online application system, is designed to be easy to use. The system automatically saves progress as information is entered, allowing applicants to return to and revise their application multiple times prior to final submission.

- **Step 3: Project Workbook Submission**

A copy of the application questions can be downloaded as a PDF from Grantelope for working offline and consulting with colleagues. However, please note that this PDF should not be completed and submitted. We only accept applications made online through Grantelope. To complete your application, you will also need to submit a dedicated Project Workbook.

Project Workbook

The Project Workbook includes the following tabs to complete at the application stage:

- **Overview**

- **Grant Information:** This outlines basic application information and should match the content in the application form.

- **Technical Templates**

- **Workbook Builder:** This should support an applicant's project design process. It includes some formulas to auto-fill certain cells in the subsequent templates.
- **Results Framework:** This captures an applicant's indicators and proposed six-monthly targets for key activities related to the five objectives outlined in Section 4.

- **Workplan:** This sets out an applicant's key activities and timeframe for implementation across the 18-month grant period.
- **Risk Register:** This records the risks an applicant foresees and your strategies for mitigation.
- **Learning:** This captures what an applicant would like to learn and share from their project.
- **Financial Template**
 - **Budget:** This records all proposed spending for the project, including a detailed budget justification aligned with the five objectives.

Review Process

Review Criteria

All eligible grant applications will be reviewed according to the following criteria:

- **Relevant Experience in States:** Demonstrated experience working in the proposed states, with documented evidence of previous successful advocacy and health financing work.
- **Programme Approach and Design:**
 - Appropriate rationale for the state selected.
 - A clear strategic approach and rationale aligned with the zero-dose burden and immunisation financing gaps.
 - Alignment with existing initiatives at the national level on health financing advocacy
- **Quality of Proposed Results Framework:**
 - Alignment with the five objectives outlined in Section 4.
 - Realistic and measurable targets.
 - Clear indicators for tracking progress.
- **Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning (MEL) Approach:** A comprehensive MEL plan that demonstrates an applicant's capacity to track implementation progress and document lessons learned.
- **Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Approach:** Explicit integration of gender equality and social inclusion principles in all activities.
- **Fiduciary Risk:** An assessment of the applicant's financial management capacity and risk mitigation strategies.
- **Risk Management (Including Safeguarding):** A comprehensive risk register and safeguarding policies to protect beneficiaries and staff.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** A clear strategy for engaging with government, CSOs, legislators, and community stakeholders.

- **Team Structure:** An appropriate team composition with clear roles and responsibilities for implementation.
- **Capacity to Deliver:** Demonstrated organisational capacity to implement activities and manage budgets of a similar scale.
- **Sustainability:** A clear strategy for ensuring continued advocacy and monitoring beyond the grant period.
- **Innovation Potential and Learning Contribution:** The potential for innovation in state-level advocacy approaches and contribution to broader learning on effective advocacy strategies.

Review Timeline

Funding decisions are made based on an analysis conducted by an independent technical review panel and the financial health of the applicant organisation.

We anticipate that the review process will take approximately three weeks. After the review, all applicants will be informed of the outcome.

It is very important that the main email address submitted in Grantelope remains valid during the application process so we can stay in contact with applicants.

Pre-Award Process

Successful applicants will then go through the due diligence and pre-contract review processes, which can take approximately eight weeks. We anticipate that grants will start around August 1, 2026.

Next Steps and Getting in Touch

Introductory Webinar

We will be holding an introductory webinar for prospective applicants on:

21st April 2026, in English at 12:00 –13:00 WAT

To register for the webinar, please use this [link](#).

Technical Support

For more information on the Call for Proposals, technical questions, or clarifications on eligibility and application requirements, please contact:

Email: gavi-cso@mansiondaniels.com

Subject Line: “CFP Inquiry - State-Level Health Financing Advocacy [Your Organisation Name]”

Key Dates

| Activity | Date |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| WEBINAR FOR PROSPECTIVE APPLICANTS | April 21, 2026 |
| APPLICATION SYSTEM OPENS | April 16, 2026 |
| APPLICATION DEADLINE | May 14, 2026 |

Important Resources

The following resources are available to support you:

- **Technical Guidance Document:** This outlines how to approach gender equality and social inclusion (GESI), localisation, learning, and risk in each component of the proposed project.
- **Financial Guidance Documents:** These provide information on the principles of financial reporting, budget classification, management, and exchange rates.
- **Project Workbook Template:** This includes guidance within each tab to support the project design.
- **Grantelope Guidance:** Instructions on how to use the online application system.

All resources are available for download from the Gavi website.

Annex 1: Scope of Work Summary

Geographic Scope

The intervention will be implemented in three states, selected through a stepwise prioritisation process that considered zero-dose burden, political will, partner saturation, and gaps in immunisation financing advocacy capacity. States with extensive partner presence were deprioritised to maximise the marginal value of advocacy investments.

The selected states are:

1. Bayelsa State

Bayelsa demonstrates strong political commitment to health sector reform and presents a unique primary health care financing context shaped by its oil-producing economy. The state offers a conducive environment for advancing domestic resource mobilisation and strengthening public financial management for immunisation.

2. Sokoto State:

Sokoto has a substantial zero-dose burden, including hard-to-reach and pastoralist populations, alongside significant immunisation financing challenges. Despite these needs, the state has limited existing advocacy experience, making it a high-impact context for targeted investments in health financing advocacy and accountability systems.

3. Zamfara State:

Zamfara faces high security-related and socioeconomic challenges that constrain immunisation financing and service delivery. The state has limited advocacy mechanisms and underdeveloped financing accountability structures, positioning it as a priority context for strengthening domestic resource mobilisation and public financial management capacities.

Implementation Scope

Within each implementation state, activities will focus on direct engagement with state governments, state legislatures, the State Ministry of Health, and SPHCDA structures.

Key Components of Implementation

- **Component A: Domestic Resource Mobilisation (DRM) at State Level**
 - Policy and budgetary advocacy with state governments and legislators.
 - Coalition building and stakeholder engagement.
 - A Community of Practice on budget tracking and accountability.
 - Learning products and evidence synthesis.
- **Component B: Public Financial Management (PFM) at the State Level**
 - Budget preparation and defence support.
 - Support to adopt financial process improvement tools and processes.
 - Development of a state-level immunisation financing dashboard.

Key Deliverables

- State engagement plans for each implementation state.
- Quarterly advocacy briefs on state immunisation financing issues.
- Annual state budget scorecards.
- Functional state-level immunisation financing dashboards.
- Budget defence support materials.
- Training curricula on domestic resource mobilization and public financial management
- Trained government officials and CSO representatives.
- Annual state financing reports.
- Learning products and case studies and documentation of subnational advocacy approaches and strategies.
- Media engagement outputs.
- Stakeholder engagement records.

Performance Indicators

CSO performance will be measured against Key Performance Indicators, similar to the ones below, agreed during project due diligence:

1. **Additional Resources Mobilised:** E.g. A 35-45% increase in State PHC and / or immunisation budget allocations by the end of 2027.
2. **Completeness of Fund Release:** E.g. At least 80% of budgeted funds released within the financial year.
3. **Capacity Development:** E.g. At least 15 stakeholders trained annually on evidence based immunisation financing advocacy.
4. **Legislative Engagement:** E.g. Legislators are engaged and increase allocation within their statutory mandate.
5. **Stakeholder Engagement:** E.g. At least 120 stakeholders per state are actively engaged in advocacy activities.
6. **Scorecard availability:** E.g. Availability of tool / data showing funding allocated to PHC / immunisation, % released and timeliness of releases.