Country Foundations FAQs

How many functions can be selected to be funded? Can a country foundational function be selected more than once (e.g., more than 1 partner delivering on a given function)?

Yes, a function can be selected more than once. In all countries, the Immunisation Programme Support Function is a mandatory function (at least 1 FTE funded across all partners to deliver all areas of work related to Immunisation Programme Support) as it will play a key role in leading coordination and planning efforts. However, it is at the countries' discretion to programme the remaining functions from the menu of functions, ***within the allocated Country Foundations budget***. When one function is selected to be delivered by multiple partners (e.g., to deliver distinct areas of work within a function), the application must include a clear justification that demonstrates complementarity between areas of work and partner identification. This is a key review criterion that will be assessed during the review.

Can one HR position support more than one function?

Yes, this is possible. For example, it could be that one FTE is dedicated to deliver areas of work related to Immunisation Programme Support (50%) and areas of work related to Data (50%). This must be clearly highlighted in the 'HR Profile' tab in application template (Annex A) (e.g., what % of level of effort is dedicated by each position to each selected function – and which specific areas of work will be supported). This split should also be reflected in the cost allocation across functions & areas of work in the 'Costed Functions' tab of the application template.

Are consultants eligible for funding through Country Foundations?

Country Foundations funds long-term personnel who support governments to strengthen essential immunisation functions. Positions funded through Country Foundations should ideally cover the full grant period from July 2026 to December 2030 (post any extension period). These positions can be filled by staff or consultants. However, only long-term consultants (i.e., 2-year or more duration) providing foundational support are eligible for funding under Country Foundations. Other consultant needs can be funded through the consolidated cash grant.

Can an FTE be partially funded by the Country Foundations grant and supplemented by other sources e.g., consolidated cash grant or other non-Gavi funding sources?

Yes, this is possible. If an FTE/role is co-funded by another source, this must be clearly highlighted in the in the 'HR Profile' tab in application template.

Are the proposed FTEs under the Country Foundations expected to be new hires? Or can existing FTEs continue under the Country Foundations?

Roles funded by Country Foundations can be delivered by either existing FTEs or new hires. Partners will be asked to define the HR needs required to deliver on the country-selected functions and areas of work; this information will then be shared with MOH and EPI team to ensure alignment.

How does the Country Foundation relate to the TCA Extensions that have just been approved and shared with countries?

The scope of Country Foundations and the Targeted Country Assistance (TCA) extensions are different. Country Foundations exclusively supports long-term human resource costs (and associated operational costs), primarily for WHO and UNICEF, to support delivery of essential immunisation functions. The recently approved TCA extensions are continuations of 5.1 TCA support, bridging the gap between the end of the 5.1 TCA grant and the beginning of the consolidated cash grant (by end 2027 latest). Country Foundations must not duplicate but should complement and align with TA support included in the TCA extensions.

What will happen to my country's Country Foundations support if it ends in 2030 and the consolidated cash grant continues until 2032?

Country Foundations support will run from Jan 2026 through to the end of each country's consolidated cash grant, facilitating integrated planning at the country level in Gavi 7.0. Country Foundations budgets communicated *as part of this application process* only cover July 2026 to Dec 2030. Country Foundations budgets for the period post-2030 will be communicated at a later date.

Can I reprogram my TCA extension plan if needed, to complement the Country Foundations?

Yes, recognizing the overlap in planning timelines, TCA extension plans may require reprogramming / reallocation to better align and ensure no duplication with the Country Foundations support. Guidance on reprogramming / reallocation will be shared subsequently.

My country already has an IRC-approved 5-year TCA plan until (e.g., in 2028) that is inclusive of TA/HR costs, do we still need a separate Country Foundations application?

Yes, as all TCA funding will end in December 2025 at the end of Gavi 5.1, any approved FPP TA needs beyond 2025 will need to be included in either the above-mentioned TCA extensions or in the Country Foundations grant.

What would constitute an operational cost permissible under Country Foundations?

Country Foundations covers staff and related operational costs that directly support immunisation strengthening. Operational costs would include costs covering meetings and travel costs; it should not cover costs not related to staff (e.g., TA projects or activities). These operational costs should not exceed 20% of the total budgeted costs. In line with Gavi's standard procurement procedures, any expanded partners funded via Country Foundations are required to include any applicable indirect costs (e.g., travel-related expenses and other costs) within the total cost presented in their financial proposals.

How should application development, sign-off, and submission for Country Foundations be accomplished in the absence of a single recognized national government, e.g., a de-facto government?

In line with the recently-Board approved approach to Fragile and Humanitarian settings for Gavi 6.0., in disputed territories or contexts governed by 'de facto' authorities or Armed Non-

State Actors (ANSA), engagement and approval of 'de facto' governments in development of the application will not be required. In these cases, this exception should be clearly stated in the narrative submission.

How will expanded partners identified by MOH/EPI and recommended by IRC be contracted?

In 2025, Gavi launched a global RFP to select qualified expanded partners to support and deliver Gavi-eligible countries' programmatic needs for the period 2026-2030. Gavi will leverage this RFP to develop longer-term engagement with expanded partners through negotiated framework agreements for the 6.0 period. Successful bidders in the Global RFP will then be invited to participate in a secondary bidding process. In exceptional cases only, expanded partners identified by MOH/EPI, who did not participate in the global RFP may be sourced through separate competitive processes or single source in line with GAVI procurement rules and regulations. In exceptional cases where a partner was not successful through the global RFP for a particular function/programmatic area, these partners will be unable to serve in that function for Country Foundations.

Are the communicated country budgets for Country Foundations inclusive of in-country cash balance?

In line with the Gavi Secretariat's 'Use it or Lose it' principle, cash balances remaining in PEF grants as of end-December 2025 will be deducted from 6.0 ceilings. For example, cash balances in the 5.1 TCA grants will be deducted from 6.0 consolidated cash ceiling and the amount disbursed for the TCA extension. However, as Country Foundations is a new grant, in-country 5.1 cash balances will not be considered in setting Country Foundations budgets.

How should PSC be calculated and shown?

Only Core implementing partners are eligible for PSC; this is automatically calculated in the 'Costed Functions' application template for each FTE line.
Indirect costs for Expanded Partners should be included by partners in their financial proposal.

Do I need to allocate 10% of Country Foundations to CSOs?

No, the 10% guardrail to safeguard investments in Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) is relevant for the consolidated cash grant, but not for the Country Foundations grant.