1. What is Implementation Science?

A: IAPAC defines "implementation science" based on a systematic review commissioned by the World Health Organization (WHO): "Implementation science is a multidisciplinary specialty that seeks generalizable knowledge about the behavior of stakeholders, organizations, communities, and individuals to understand the scale of, reasons for, and strategies to close the gap between evidence and routine practice for health in real-world contexts." For additional context please refer to the webinar presentation here.

2. Is it mandatory to be a Fast-Track City in order to apply for this grant?

A: Yes, please find the full list of cities at www.iapac.org. We will also accept applications from cities have started the process for joining the Fast-Track Cities initiative. If you have questions on your city's eligibility, email impsci@iapac.org

3. Can multiple cities partner for a single grant? If so, can an existing Fast-Track City apply in partnership with a city that is not a Fast-Track City?

A: Yes, multiple cities can apply for a single grant, and may do so in partnership with a city that is not a Fast-Track City. The prime recipient should be from a Fast-Track City.

4. Is prior research experience required to apply for this grant?

A: Prior research experience is not required. However, you should be able to demonstrate researcher and organizational capabilities to carry out the proposed research.

5. Who is eligible to apply?

Academic (i.e. social scientist, biobehavioral researcher, clinician, etc.) and community (community based organization, non-governmental organizations, and faith based organizations) are eligible to apply. Government, multilateral, and bilateral organizations are <u>not</u> eligible to apply as prime recipients but may be listed as sub-recipients. No more than 3 sub-recipients per grant are allowed.

6. If the city has an Fast-Track Cities committee, does the application have to come from the entire committee?

A: No, it is not required for an application to come from the entire FTC committee.

7. Will you be looking for proposals at a certain level?

A: We are welcoming all levels of implementation science research that are feasible within the 1-year timeframe and 50,000 USD budget.

8. What is the total amount of funding available?

A: The max funding available is 50,000 + 10% overhead = \$55,000. The overhead will vary based on the funding requested.

9. If there are 3 sub-recipients, do all need to be located in the Fast-Track City?

A: No, only the prime recipient is required to be located in a Fast-Track City (or a city that is in process of joining the FTC initiative.)

10. Can a community organization and clinician submit for two separate projects from the same city?

A: Yes. There is not limit on how many proposals are submitted from any city.

11. What is the timeline for LOI review and grant award?

A: Deadline for LOI submission is July 20th, and finalists will tentatively be identified by beginning of September and invited to submit a full proposal. We plan to have awards disbursed by December 2020. Timelines are subject to change.

12. Can individual researchers apply?

A: Yes, you can apply as either an organization or an individual researcher. If applying as an individual researcher, you do need to include your affiliate organization on the application.

- 13. Can the same individuals be included as prime or sub-recipients on multiple applications?

 A: Yes
- 14. Is it mandatory to have an Implementation Science certificate or degree from a University to apply?

A: No, we do not require any qualifications in Implementation Science or research generally

15. Is it possible for academic/clinical researchers to submit an LOI with a community organization as the sub-recipient or vice versa?

A: Yes, however the application should be submitted under the category of the prime recipient

16. COVID-19 might impact implementation of these projects, will this be acceptable?

A: We understand there may be some unpredictable impacts on the project and will be flexible to deal with this on a case-by-case basis.

17. What disclosures will need to be made by the recipients of the award?

A: Refer to the Conflict of Interest form

18. If awarded this funding, will we need to make disclosures on all future research stating that support was received from Gilead and ViiV?

A: No. Awards are made by IAPAC and no further disclosures are required.

19. With the Gilead "Getting to Zero" applications on hold, can we submit our proposals for this?

A: Yes, as long as it is an Implementation Science research

20. What is the scoring scheme for the application?

A: Please review the LOI scoring rubric here.

21. Do you have to be an officially registered Organization with the authority, or you can come up with a team of researchers and apply?

A: A team of researchers may apply as long as the prime applicant (individual or organization) meets the eligibility criteria (see question 5)

22. Could you add another section to the LOI that requires the FTCI team in each city to be aware of the research application and to confirm that it is going to be compatible with existing workstreams?

A: Not all cities have a structured FTCI team, so we are not making this a requirement. However, it is up to the discretion of the applicant whether to brief the FTCI team prior to applying.

23. Will the award consider the number of years the applicant has been in practice and whether the organization has existing funding?

A: Existing funding will not be considered. Number of years the applicant has been in practice will be considered. However, it is possible for a strong applicant with minimal year(s) of practice to be successful.

24. Is there a vulnerable population that is a priority for IAPAC?

A: Not specifically, as vulnerable populations differ from country to country.

25. Does the 1-year project implementation include time for analysis and writing?

A: Analysis is included in the 1-year timeframe. Additional reporting and presentation of results can take place once the 1-year is complete.

26. If an application is submitted by an academic who is working with both clinicians and NGOs, which category would it fall under, clinical or community?

A: The primary applicant would submit as an academic researcher.

27. It is OK to have co-funding for this project, as long as the research stands on its own, correct?

A: Co-funding for this project is acceptable with two caveats:

- 1) No pharmaceutical company funding, unless from Gilead Sciences of ViiV Healthcare, but need to disclose grant ID.
- 2) If government funding, need to disclose federal agency and research grant ID.

28. Is there a deadline to conduct the research? (i.e. when is the ideal start the project and when should it end)

A: Ideally implementation should start 1-2 months from grant disbursement (grant disbursement tentatively in December 2020), though we are flexible if additional time is needed for ethics/IRB approvals and/or if there are COVID-19 related delays.