

Launching **G**lobal Immunology and **I**mmune **S**equencing for **E**pidemic **R**esponse (**GIISER**) Sites in Africa

Application Instructions

Applications due no later than Thursday May 13th, 2021 12:00pm, U.S. Pacific Time

Information Required for Application

Please refer to the following guidelines as you prepare your application to the Launching GIISER Sites in Africa RFP

Your application includes:

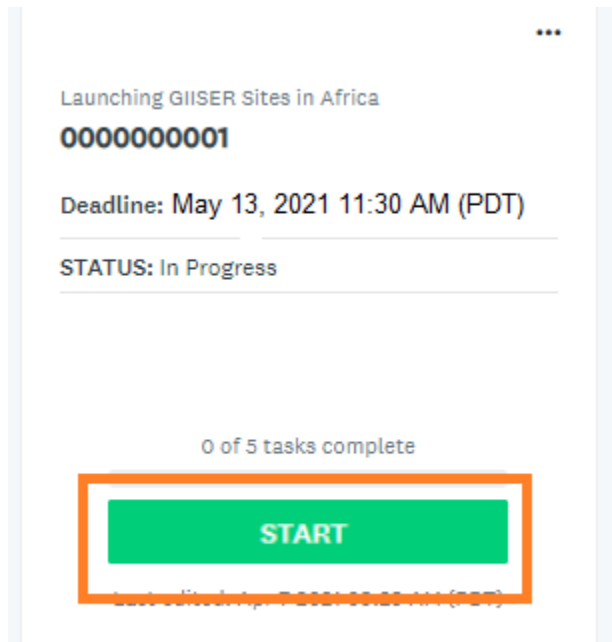
1. Applicant profile and information – completed via our [application portal](#)
2. Your Proposal (3 pages maximum) – uploaded as a Microsoft Word® or Adobe® PDF file
3. Budget table and narrative (1 page, use [template provided](#)) - uploaded as a Microsoft Word® or Adobe® PDF file
4. GIISER Site Capacity Table (use [template provided](#)) - This will help address your scope of work outlined in the RFP. It does not count toward the 3-page proposal.

Please note that templates for the proposal and budget narrative and table can be found within the application portal within the corresponding upload task. Details on each section can be found below.

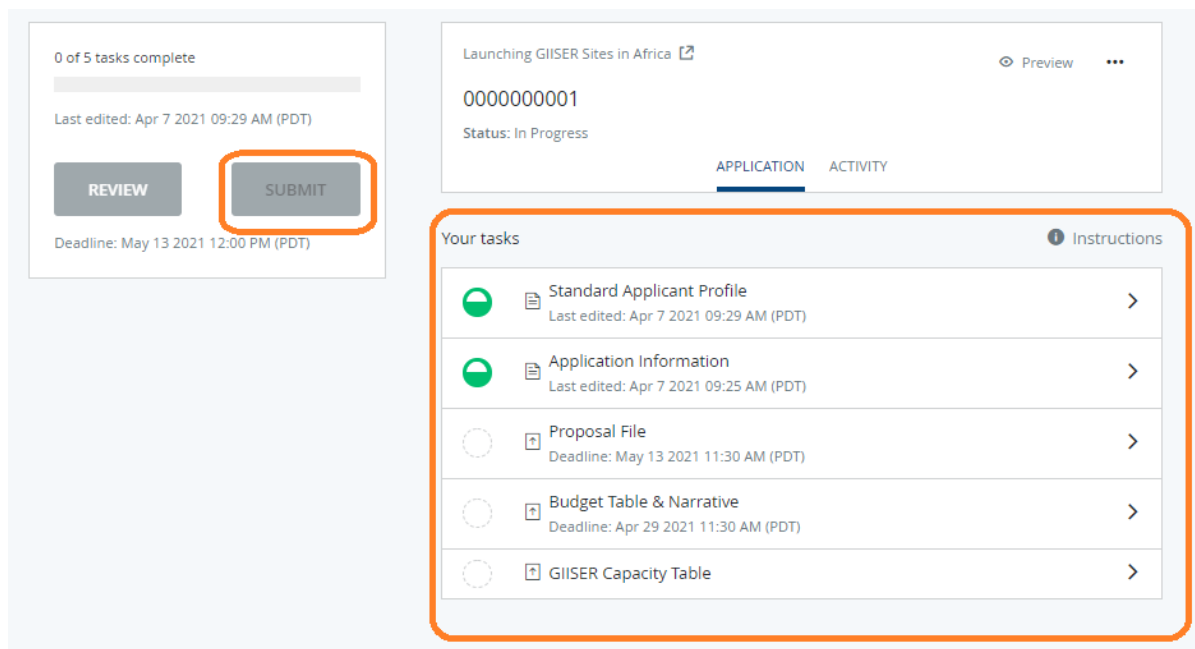
Application Portal

To begin your application, you will first need to create an account within our online application system, if you do not have one already. You will receive an email from “**Gates Foundation – no reply**” inviting you to create an account using the email we have on file for you (the email used for this communication). If you do not receive the email, please check your spam or junk folder. If you have any challenges or need the invitation email re-sent, please reach out to grandchallenges@gatesfoundation.org. Once you have created an account, you will be able to access the system through this link in the future.

Access the [portal](#) and select ‘START’ on the *Launching GIISER Sites in Africa* program.



Once in the RFP program, complete the “tasks” by clicking into each one. When you are finished with a task, do not forget to “mark as complete” for each task. After you have completed all tasks, select “submit”.



Proposal File – 3 pages maximum

Format

Your proposal must be formatted as follows.

- No longer than 3 pages maximum
- 11-point font or larger
- At least 0.5” margins all around
- Single line spacing
- Standard character spacing (neither expanded nor condensed)
- Arial or Times New Roman font
- Microsoft Word® or Adobe® PDF filetype
- Entire file size of 3MB or less
- Please do not include a cover sheet with your proposal. A cover sheet will be automatically generated from your registration data.

Applications that do not adhere to these restrictions may be blocked from submission and review.

Proposal Content

We encourage you to reference the [request for proposals document](#) along with these application instructions to ensure that your proposal responds to the challenge. You are required to submit either a Microsoft Word® or PDF® document; no more than 3 pages in length describing your project as well as a one-page budget table and narrative. Please do not include a cover sheet with your proposal. A cover sheet will be automatically generated from your registration data. (Indicated page limits are guidelines only for individual sections.)

Section I: How will you link existing Pathogen Genomics Sequencing with immunological evaluation via this proposal? (2 ½ pages)

1. Describe how your laboratory and staff can immediately put to use Immune Sequencing technology at your site to establish a sustainable, local infrastructure that can be activated to respond to any new emerging pathogen locally and strengthen connections and collaborations between sites and with international decision-making bodies.
2. Given the fast-moving nature of the research field into SARS-CoV-2, how will you ensure that the results that your work produces are timely, and question being addressed is still relevant at the time when the results are available.
3. Work plan: Describe the sampling approach for obtaining specimens for genomic sequencing and how the sampling approach will be optimized to answer at least one of the challenges outlined above.
4. Describe how the data generated from your project will be used to inform public health decision making in your country and/or region in a timely manner. How will you communicate your findings and engage with stakeholders to ensure uptake and use of your findings for these public health purposes?
5. Articulate how the capacity built through the proposed project will strengthen your institutions approach to using immunological evaluation for surveillance beyond the covid-pandemic.

Section II: Scaling Innovations through Partnerships (1/2 page)

We seek to encourage intra-Africa relationships across the continent. Use this section to describe how your project will either build on an existing partnership or start a new one.

Budget Table and Narrative

We will consider proposals for awards of up to USD \$300,000 for implementation up to 24 months.

Budget Template

Please use the [budget template](#) (linked, found below and on the application portal) to include a breakdown of allowable direct costs under the below categories. We will accept Microsoft Word® or Adobe® PDF filetypes.

| | Estimated Budget |
|--|------------------|
| <i>Personnel (including salary, fringe benefits, tuition, or other direct compensation)</i> | \$ |
| <i>Subcontracts, including your collaborators, if applicable. Please list separately if more than one.</i> | \$ |
| <i>Subgrants, including your collaborators, if applicable. Please list separately if more than one.</i> | \$ |
| <i>Capital Assets/Equipment</i> | \$ |
| <i>Travel</i> | \$ |
| <i>Supplies</i> | \$ |
| <i>Other Expenses (please briefly describe in the narrative section)</i> | \$ |
| <i>Indirect Costs (please review the Indirect Cost Policy)</i> | \$ |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ |

Budget Narrative

Additionally, please provide a one (1) paragraph Budget Narrative to explain the major cost drivers and how costs relate to planned activities and target outcomes. Your budget should not exceed 1 page.

GIISER Capacity Table

Please complete and upload the GIISER Capacity Table template (linked and on the application portal). We will accept Microsoft Word® or Adobe® PDF filetypes. This will help address your scope of work outlined in the RFP. It does not count toward the 3-page proposal.

Frequently Asked Questions

Answers to many application questions can be found on the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document.

Inquiries

Please direct all questions about this initiative, selection criteria or application instructions by e-mail to the following address: grandchallenges@gatesfoundation.org.