

# VicHealth Sustainable Development Goals Partnership grant round

## Guidelines for applicants

### For funding commencing in 2017

VicHealth is calling for applications to build collaborative research partnerships with the potential to address the impact of global megatrends on specific UN Sustainable Development Goal targets (outlined in detail on pages 3-4 of these guidelines).

There will be a one-stage application process to VicHealth. Applications will be rigorously assessed before funding in principle is offered. If successful, funding will commence in June 2017.

VicHealth will provide up to \$20,000 over one year for each project. Up to five (5) projects will be funded in this round.

Upon successful delivery of the one-year project, up to two (2) research projects will receive additional funding of \$200,000 over two years from 2018 to 2020.

### Submission of applications

Applications must be received from partnerships which includes researchers at an eligible administering institution in Victoria. Please see the [FAQ](#) and the [Terms & Conditions](#) for further information.

Applications must be submitted using the online application form via the VicHealth [website](#).

Acknowledgement will be by return email. Please email [sdgpartnershipgrant@vichealth.vic.gov.au](mailto:sdgpartnershipgrant@vichealth.vic.gov.au) if you do not receive a confirmation email.

If you have any problems using the online application form please contact our help desk on (03) 9667 1380 or email [helpdesk@vichealth.vic.gov.au](mailto:helpdesk@vichealth.vic.gov.au).

**Late applications will not be accepted.**

**Before applying, please ensure you have thoroughly read and understood both the Terms and Conditions and these guidelines.**

### Important information

#### Key dates

Opening date for applications	9am, Monday 3 April 2017
Closing date for applications	3pm, Friday 28 April 2017
Peer review process	May 2017
Announcement	Friday 2 June 2017
Commencement of VicHealth funding	June 2017

## About VicHealth

VicHealth is a pioneer in health promotion. The primary focus of VicHealth is promoting good health and preventing chronic disease.

**Health promotion is a powerful, cost-effective and efficient way to maintain a healthier community. It enables people to increase control over and improve their health. Rather than focusing on people at risk for specific diseases, health promotion involves the population as a whole in the context of their everyday lives. Activities are geared toward promoting health and preventing ill health.**

**VicHealth is an organisation that tests ideas and strategies that are promising but yet unproven and supports exploratory endeavour to build the evidence base for health promotion policy and practice. We will prioritise the funding of research that will help to strengthen health promotion in Victoria to deal with the challenges and opportunities facing the sector in the next decade.**

For further information about VicHealth, check our website: [www.vichealth.vic.gov.au](http://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au)

## About the Destination Wellbeing forum

In December 2016, over 150 Australian and international leaders in public health, practice, capacity building, policy and research met at the Destination Wellbeing: policy, practice and research forum to discuss the interplay between

- global megatrends,
- the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals 3, 5 and 11; and
- international and local challenges in public health and health promotion.

The forum was a collaboration between VicHealth, the World Health Organization and the International Network of Health Promotion Foundations, in partnership with CSIRO and the Melbourne School of Global and Population Health. It was also one of the first events marking VicHealth's 30th anniversary year.

The forum's participants explored global and local priorities with a view to informing a new wave of health promotion research. The focus of this research would be to build evidence and fill knowledge gaps relating to the intersection between global megatrends and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Participants identified that research conducted in relation to these priorities would best enable policymakers, leading practitioners and service providers to face the public health and health promotion challenges of the next thirty years. VicHealth's Sustainable Development Goals partnership grant aims to promote these research priorities as they relate to VicHealth's Action Agenda for Health Promotion.

## About the Sustainable Development Goals partnership grant round

The VicHealth Sustainable Development Goals partnership grant will fund the successful applicants to identify implications of global megatrends for achievement of Sustainable Development Goal targets 3.4, 5.C and 11.3, and to build international partnerships for evidence-based action on the same.

In the cross-sectoral, international spirit of the Destination Wellbeing forum, this grant specially encourages:

- partnerships between agencies based in Victoria and agencies based outside Australia; and
- partnerships between researchers and health promotion industry partners such as policymakers, practitioners and service providers.

This grant is a highly competitive funding round and applications that meet the criteria will be rigorously assessed before funding is offered.

The funding available for this round will allow up to five (5) projects to be funded for up to \$20,000 per project over one year. Funding and projects are expected to commence by June 2017. On successful delivery of the project, up to two (2) of five (5) proposals will be funded for \$200,000 over two years from July 2018.



VicHealth is an active partner in collaborative, action-orientated research for health promotion in Victoria. As a condition of funding for this grant, a partnership plan will be completed to outline VicHealth's contribution to the project in terms of knowledge translation and related activities on a case-by-case basis.

## About the International Network of Health Promotion Foundations

The International Network of Health Promotion Foundations (INHPF) was established in 1999 to advance the work of health promotion foundations around the world. It focuses on enhancing the performance of existing foundations through exchange, mutual learning and joint action, as well as mentoring and supporting the establishment of new health promotion foundations. The INHPF consists of eight full member organisations – KoreaHealth, MySihat (Malaysia), Singapore Health Promotion Board, ThaiHealth, THPA (Taiwan) TongaHealth and Healthway (Western Australia) – and 12 partner organisations, including the WHO and the International Union for Health Promotion and Education. VicHealth is the INHPF Chair.

The following INHPF member organisations are open to approach for partnering on application in this grant round:

**Malaysian Health Promotion Board (MySihat)**

**Singapore Health Promotion Board**

**Tonga Health Promotion Foundation (TongaHealth)**

If you wish to contact INHPF member organisations with a view to partnering for this grant round, please email VicHealth at [sdgpartnershipgrant@vichealth.vic.gov.au](mailto:sdgpartnershipgrant@vichealth.vic.gov.au).

## Criteria for applying to VicHealth

To be considered for funding:

- projects MUST address one or up to three of the global megatrends identified by CSIRO
- projects MUST address one of UN Sustainable Development Goal's targets 3.4, 5.C or 11.3
- projects MUST contribute to the evidence base for achievement of at least one of the five VicHealth strategic imperatives.

### The global megatrends

A megatrend describes a relatively slow pattern of change that has the potential to have a dramatic impact at some point in the future. CSIRO have identified eight global megatrends, which represent the intersection between a range of political, economic, social, technological, legal and environmental trends observed across many sectors and countries around the world. The eight megatrends are:

1. More from less  
Innovation in meeting human needs by more efficient use of mineral, water, energy and food resources in light of escalating demand and constrained supply.
2. Planetary pushback  
Changes in earth systems from the global to microbial are creating challenges for humanity, including climate change and antibiotic resistance.
3. The silk highway  
Rapid growth of emerging economies, urbanisation, geopolitical change and the transition from industrialisation into technologically advanced service sectors.
4. Forever young  
The rise of the ageing population, retirement savings gap, lifespans, healthcare expenditure, diet and lifestyle-related illness and mental health awareness.

5. Digital immersion  
The exponential growth in computing power, device connectivity, data volumes, internet users, artificial intelligence and technological capabilities.
6. Porous boundaries  
Changes in organisational models, governance systems and employer-employee relations in a more agile, networked and flexible economy which breaks through traditional boundaries.
7. Great expectations  
The rise of the all-important experience factor as society and consumers have rising expectations for personalised and positive experiences involving social interaction, morals and ethics, and the physical world.
8. The innovation imperative  
Critical importance and accelerating pace of innovation and disruptive change driven by science and technology.

In the CSIRO approach, a trend is defined as a pattern of change impacting an organisation or societal group in the future. Trends are distinct from background issues because they have directionality; they involve some shift in the status quo.

“Megatrends are gradual yet powerful trajectories of change that have the potential to throw companies, individuals and societies into ‘freefall’. Moments of freefall will happen to you, your company, your society and the world. That’s assured. It’s not whether change will happen that matters, but when and how you respond.” (Dr Stefan Hajkovicz, Senior Principal Scientist, Strategy and Foresight with CSIRO)

VicHealth believes that the megatrends will provide a useful lens through which to view the potential future challenges and opportunities for developing policies and programs aimed at achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

**Further information on global megatrends:**

<http://csiro.au/en/Do-business/Futures/Reports/Our-Future-World>

<https://blog.csiro.au/the-seventh-megatrend-why-australia-must-embrace-innovation/>

[www.csiro.au/strategy/#future-world](http://www.csiro.au/strategy/#future-world)

### **Sustainable Development Goal targets 3.4, 5.C and 11.3:**

In September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly established 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as part of its new agenda for sustainable development. Each goal has specific targets to be achieved by 2030. Many of the 2030 target objectives either directly relate to health or have indirect effects on health-related outcomes.

Given the breadth and depth of the challenges we all face in achieving the SDGs, health policy experts have emphasised three principles for achievement:

1. Knowledge-sharing
2. Capacity building
3. Innovation.

Following the Destination Wellbeing forum, VicHealth identified three SDG targets as being especially relevant to challenges in health promotion:

- Under Sustainable Development Goal 3: ‘Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages’:
  - SDG target 3.4: By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and wellbeing.
- Under Sustainable Development Goal 5: ‘Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls’:
  - SDG target 5.C: Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels.

- Under Sustainable Development Goal 11: ‘Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable’:
  - SDG target 11.3: By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries.

**Further information on the intersection of global megatrends and UN Sustainable Development Goals 3, 5 and 11:**

[VicHealth Sustainable Development Goals Partnership Grants - backgrounder.pdf](#)

[Video: “Global megatrends - Powerful forces impacting industry government and society over coming decades”](#)

[‘Accelerating achievement of the sustainable development goals’ Jha A, Kickbusch I, Taylor P, Abbasi K 2016, \*BMJ\* 352\(i409\).](#)

## VicHealth Action Agenda for Health Promotion

VicHealth welcomes submissions that can inform practical responses to contemporary or emerging challenges of direct relevance to the VicHealth Action Agenda for Health Promotion. Applicants are advised to read both [VicHealth’s Action Agenda for Health Promotion](#) and its [2016 update](#) to ensure their application is aligned with our approach, goals and priorities before applying.

- Projects MUST contribute to the evidence base for achievement of at least one of the five VicHealth strategic imperatives, particularly our three-year priorities and ten-year goals. VicHealth’s five strategic imperatives are:
  - promoting healthy eating
  - encouraging regular physical activity
  - preventing tobacco use
  - preventing harm from alcohol
  - improving mental wellbeing
- Please refer to [VicHealth’s Action Agenda for Health Promotion](#) on pages 24 to 35 for more information.
- Projects MUST also be aligned with VicHealth’s health promotion and operational models. See pages 38-41 of the Action Agenda document. Projects focusing upon disease treatment or management will not be considered.

## Eligibility criteria

### Criteria for researchers

Funding will NOT be granted if any of the researchers and/or their host organisations are in receipt of any support from the Australian Tobacco Research Foundation, or other like bodies.

Funding will also NOT be granted if any of the researchers and/or their host organisations are in or have been in receipt of funding for RESEARCH purposes from the alcohol industry over the last five years. ‘Alcohol industry’ is defined as the commercial industry involved in the production of alcoholic beverages.

Please note, Research Officers, Research Assistants, and current PhD students cannot usually apply as Chief Investigator for these grants.

In the interests of equity, funding may be prioritised towards applicants who are not currently in receipt of VicHealth funding for any other project.

### Application criteria

Applications are expected to consist of a proposal for a partnership collaboration to investigate and report on the risks and opportunities arising from global megatrends on SDG goal targets.

The administering organisation for this funding MUST be based in Victoria.

Applicants must comprise partnerships of

- one (1) Victorian based research institution as partner, who will be the grant recipient
- at least one (1) body, organisation or agency not based in Australia
- at least one (1) health promotion industry partner, for example health promotion foundation, policy maker or service provider

Applications MUST:

- address at least one (1) and up to three (3) global megatrends
- address one of UN Sustainable Development Goal targets 3.4, 5.C or 11.3, including a focus on the principles of achievement (knowledge-sharing, capacity-building or innovation)
- align with at least one of the strategic imperatives outlined in the 2016 update of the VicHealth Action Agenda for Health Promotion
- complete an application.

In addition, VicHealth will view favourably research that considers the social determinant of health inequities. See '[Fair Foundations: the VicHealth framework for health equity](#)' for more information.

VicHealth prefers to support cross disciplinary teams working on practical problems that have the potential to generate large health gains for Victorian population groups.

VicHealth has committed itself to collaborative knowledge processes at the level of production, synthesis, translation and transfer. There is an expectation that successful applicants will engage with knowledge translation activities with VicHealth.

## What will not be funded

VicHealth will not fund:

- Biomedical and clinical research that does not have a clear link to health promotion. In particular, we will not fund laboratory-based science or health services research unless there is a strong rationale for its relevance to health promotion
- Research which is unrelated to the research priorities listed in these guidelines
- Capital works (e.g. buildings or maintenance or purchase of major equipment, purchase and lease of land/vehicles)
- Commercial activities or individual persons
- Core organisational operating costs
- Projects that are considered by VicHealth to be the funding responsibility of local, state or federal government (e.g. population-based surveillance)
- Organisations that accept any form of sponsorship or support from tobacco companies, or research income from the alcohol industry
- Projects that have commenced or have already been funded to commence
- Videos, films, publications, conferences or travel in isolation of the specific project.

## Process

The VicHealth Sustainable Development Goals partnership grant round will be conducted via an online application form on our website, under '[Funding - Innovation Research Grants](#)'.

## Selection criteria and assessment

Applications will be assessed for eligibility and shortlisted by senior VicHealth staff, then assessed by a panel including with one external expert who holds a PhD in the specific or broader field of the proposed research project on the basis of established selection criteria. Conflict of interest processes are managed and transparent.

Applications will be screened for alignment with VicHealth's Action Agenda for Health Promotion, then assessed against the following criteria:

Criteria	Weighting
Originality and importance of the issue/s to be explored for achievement of an identified SDG goal target	30%
Strength of proposed collaborative partnership between researcher/s and industry partner/s	30%
Potential to build capacity for action in non-Australian partner country	20%
Potential to result in practical action by 2022	20%

A panel will make the final decision on successful applications based on the alignment with the above criteria and external reviews.

## Funding available

VicHealth will provide up to \$20,000 cash per project over one year. In this round, up to five (5) projects will be funded. Expenditure must be justified in the application and VicHealth reserves the right to negotiate with successful applicants in relation to their requested funds. Funding and projects are expected to commence in June 2017.

## Grant conditions

All applicants are required to accept the Terms and Conditions relating to the grant. In addition, the successful applicants will be required to enter into a Standard Funding Agreement with VicHealth and must:

- agree on a partnership project plan
- deliver a report of publishable standard of maximum 5000 words which:
  - a) articulates the evidence-based case for a critical issue emerging from global megatrend/s for achievement of one SDG target specified above,
  - b) describes the risks and opportunities associated with this issue for achievement of the SDG target, and
  - c) makes recommendations for action, specifically informing the development of:
    - i. the evidence base for action
    - ii. collaborative partnerships between countries, sectors and/or organisations
    - iii. capacity in the non-Australian partner country.

NOTE: To be strongly considered for the additional two-year funding, reports should be delivered accompanied by a partnership proposal (separate or as an appendix) comprising an implementation plan, confirmed partners and indicative budget (to budget of \$200,000 over two years in 2018–2020).

- comply with VicHealth branding, acknowledgment and publication guidelines
- comply with VicHealth evaluation and reporting processes.

Research reports must be suitable for publication on the VicHealth website, within three months of the end of the funding period. Funding recipients may also be requested to participate in VicHealth research forums or further evaluation activities.

## Funding agreements

By submitting an application, you agree to be bound by the Terms and Conditions and the VicHealth Standard Funding Agreement if successful in receiving VicHealth funding. For a copy of the funding agreement, please email [sdgpartnershipgrant@vichealth.vic.gov.au](mailto:sdgpartnershipgrant@vichealth.vic.gov.au).

The conditions of funding within these documents relates to:

- timely completion of the project
- appropriate financial management, and
- compliance with VicHealth evaluation and reporting processes.

In addition to these conditions, it is expected that successful applicants will work closely with VicHealth staff to set additional project-specific deliverables and requirements, such as a projects plan and meeting schedule.

## Further information

Applicants are advised to consult the VicHealth Sustainable Development Goals partnership grant FAQs and Terms and Conditions on the VicHealth funding page. If you have queries after reading these documents, or wish to speak with VicHealth staff regarding the VicHealth Sustainable Development Goals partnership grant round, please email [sdgpartnershipgrant@vichealth.vic.gov.au](mailto:sdgpartnershipgrant@vichealth.vic.gov.au).

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