



Programme “Strengthening the Ghanaian Pharmaceutical Sector with a Focus on Vaccine Production” (PharmaVax Ghana)

Call for Proposals

Grants for research and development projects fostering innovation in vaccine and pharmaceutical manufacturing in Ghana

Applicant Information Pack

Deadline for the submission of proposals: 1 June 2025

Final version 1 (21 February 2025)

This call for proposals is organized by the National Vaccine Institute (NVI) of Ghana and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. It is part of a programme implemented with the financial support of the European Union (EU) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) as part of the Team Europe Initiative MAV+. The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of GIZ and do not necessarily reflect the views of the EU or the BMZ.

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Annexes:

- Application form
- Budget template

1. Key information on the call for proposals

Table 1 Summary

Title	Grants for research and development projects fostering innovation in vaccine and pharmaceutical manufacturing in Ghana
Specific objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify impactful and innovative vaccine and pharmaceutical R&D projects that are relevant to public health in Ghana and Africa. 2. Support concrete R&D projects jointly led and carried out by Ghanaian research institutions and pharmaceutical manufacturers, thereby fostering partnerships and local innovation. 3. Contribute to innovation in discovery and product development in Ghana as well as sustainable commercialisation of locally manufactured vaccines and other pharmaceutical products. 4. Support Ghanaian stakeholders in strengthening their R&D capacity, sharing results of the R&D projects and build their capacities to apply for further large-scale R&D grants.
Target recipients	Ghanaian public and private Research Institutions, and Universities; public and pPrivate Ghanaian pharmaceutical manufacturers
Funding windows	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Up to EUR 125,000 B. Up to EUR 300,000 C. Up to EUR 500,000 (targets R&D projects for vaccines, sera and other biological products)
Application form	See annexed application form and budget template
Launch of Call for Proposals	24 February 2025
Virtual information Sessions	<p>1st session: 4 March 2025, 10-11am GMT, MS Teams (Link to join the meeting)</p> <p>2nd session: 1 April 2025 10-11am GMT, MS Teams (Link to join the meeting)</p>
Application deadline	1 June 2025
Project selection	15 August 2025
Project start	November 2025 (tentative), after conclusion of grant contract
Project duration and end	Up to 24 months (up to November 2027)
Contact	CFP-PharmaVaxGH@giz.de (for the submission of proposals, Invitation to the webinar sessions and any queries)
<i>These timelines are tentative and as such are subject to change. For more details, see the calendar in chapter 6.</i>	

The call for proposal will be published on the GIZ website and will also be distributed via email to relevant stakeholders. Feel free to forward it to other potential stakeholders.

2. Programme background

Access to affordable and high-quality vaccines and medicines is fundamental to ensuring the well-being of any population. Today, Ghana imports 70 % of the pharmaceutical products and 100 % of the vaccines it needs. As in many African nations, this reliance on imported pharmaceutical products is straining both the economy and public health security. The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the vulnerabilities inherent in this dependency, highlighting the importance for self-reliance and resilient healthcare systems.

Ghana is therefore embarking on an ambitious initiative aimed at enhancing local manufacturing capacities for vaccines and medicines to foster availability and accessibility. The pharmaceutical sector has also been identified as an anchor industry for Ghana's industrial transformation and the creation of decent jobs. On the one hand, Ghana's pharmaceutical industry faces challenges such as cost-intensive procurement of primary products from abroad, a lack of product diversification, high financing costs and a lack of the necessary technologies, technical capacities and skilled workforce. On the other hand, market opportunities are growing and the industry has a strong basis to build on, such as a network of existing local manufacturers, international collaborations for technology transfer, supply, skills development and research, as well as an enabling policy framework. Ghana thus has the potential to become one of the regional vaccine and pharmaceutical manufacturing hubs in Africa.

Building on this momentum, the European Union (EU) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) are co-financing the programme "Strengthening the Ghanaian Pharmaceutical Sector with a Focus on Vaccine Production" (PharmaVax Ghana) as part of the Team Europe Initiative on Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines, Medicines and Health Technologies in Africa (MAV+). GIZ is the implementing agency for this €33 million technical cooperation programme running from July 2024 to March 2028.

The programme's specific objective is to ensure that the public and private ecosystems of Ghana's pharmaceutical industry contribute to more competitive local manufacturing of vaccines and other pharmaceutical products. Within this ecosystem approach, the programme works on strengthening key enablers for efficient and sustainable vaccine and pharmaceutical manufacturing in Ghana. In particular, it focuses on four key result areas:

- (1) improving the capacities of public actors for governance and regulation of pharmaceutical production,
- (2) supporting skills development for pharmaceutical workforce,
- (3) promoting applied research and development through cooperation of the pharmaceutical industry and research institutions
- (4) private sector development to strengthen manufacturers' production capacities and market access.

Ghana's Ministry of Finance is the programme's political partner, with the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the National Vaccine Institute being the key Ghanaian implementing partners. The programme also works in collaboration with the Food and Drugs Authority, line ministries for health, education and sciences, Ghana's pharmaceutical manufacturers, private sector associations as well as relevant research and training institutions and it will create linkages with other African, European and international initiatives, research institutions and companies.

3. Rationale and objectives

Strengthening the capacities for Research and development (R&D) in Ghana's vaccine and pharmaceutical manufacturing ecosystem is a key enabler for increasing the competitiveness of the local industry and positioning Ghana as a regional vaccine and pharmaceutical manufacturing hub. R&D creates local innovation, spurs investment and adds value to locally manufactured products and makes them more relevant to market needs. Ghana has a number of regionally leading academic research institutions and experienced pharmaceutical manufacturers, mainly focused on generic products. In the area of vaccine discovery, development and manufacturing, a couple of local research projects have been underway as well as the building up of domestic vaccine manufacturing capacities, focused in a first step on fill and finish approaches. There is still insufficient applied R&D capacity in Ghana's pharmaceutical industry, only sporadic cooperation between academia and industry on R&D projects and a lack of commercialisation of research. In sum, there is a need to foster the requisite collaborations and partnerships that are needed to drive R&D projects that have the potential to develop, produce and deliver life-saving vaccines and medicines.

This call for proposal (CfP), therefore, is aimed at bridging the gap between the pharmaceutical industry and research institutions/academia in Ghana. Specifically, the call aims at helping to foster collaboration between local research institutions and manufacturers, building local applied R&D capacities and the ecosystem, foster through concrete projects local innovation that enhances R&D and manufacturing of vaccines and other pharmaceuticals that are relevant to public health in Ghana and the African continent. The CfP focuses mainly on supporting Ghanaian stakeholders, while also allowing for connections with international networks.

The specific objectives of this CfP are to:

1. Identify impactful and innovative vaccine and pharmaceutical R&D projects that are relevant to public health in Ghana and Africa.
2. Support concrete R&D projects jointly led and carried out by Ghanaian research institutions and pharmaceutical manufacturers, thereby fostering partnerships and local innovation.
3. Contribute to innovation in discovery and product development in Ghana as well as sustainable commercialisation of locally manufactured vaccines and other pharmaceutical products.
4. Support Ghanaian stakeholders in strengthening their R&D capacity, sharing results of the R&D projects and build their capacities to apply for further large-scale R&D grants.

The projects supported through this CfP are expected to contribute to the following indicators of the PharmaVax Ghana programme:

- Number of applied research collaborations between research institutions and manufacturers on developing new products or further developing existing ones
- Percentage of applied research projects that manufactures (intend to) further pursue for their production pipeline the end of support
- Number of researchers (disaggregated by gender) who present their applied research results at international events and through peer-reviewed publications

4. Technical scope and funding windows

Priority areas

This CfP is expected to attract proposals for collaborative R&D projects involving (at least) a Ghanaian research institution and a Ghanaian pharmaceutical manufacturer (see chapter 4 for more detailed eligibility criteria).

The projects shall consist of applied R&D work regarding one of the following broad thematic areas:

1. Vaccines (including biosimilars) and other biological products
2. Sera including anti-venoms
3. Herbal medicines
4. Medicines for Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) and orphan drugs
5. Medicines for conditions of public health relevance in Ghana including Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and infectious diseases
6. Medical diagnostics for preliminary or emergency medical screening and devices for drug application
7. Veterinary vaccines (other veterinary drugs are not eligible)

Types of projects

The CfP targets applied R&D projects, i.e. R&D work that is directed towards developing practical pharmaceutical applications. This may include (non-exhaustive list):

- i. The screening, identification, as well as efficacy and safety testing for (innovative) chemical and biological molecules in the context of (clinical) development of drugs including herbals, vaccines and sera.
- ii. Innovations in product formulation (e.g. formulations, prolonged release formulations, biosimilars, generics) medical diagnostics and devices for drug application, and product development for under-served patient groups.
- iii. (FDA-approved) Clinical trials of drugs including herbals, vaccines and sera and medical diagnostics and devices for drug application.

The projects may include elements of sourcing, manufacturing and commercialisation, as long as R&D is the main focus. Systematic reviews, i.e. reviews that use repeatable methods to find, select, and synthesize all available evidence, are excluded from funding from the CFP.

Project duration

Each project shall not exceed 24 months. Extensions are normally not foreseen and thus funds not used by the end of the contract period may have to be returned. Shorter project periods are possible. Proposals and budgets must thus be formulated in a realistic manner.

Funding windows

The CfP has an overall envelope of 1,700,000 EUR and three funding windows. The applicants have to choose a funding window in the application form. (See chapter 8 on the differing audit requirements for the funding windows).

- A. **Funding window A** comprises grants with a **value of up to EUR 125,000 each**. It is aimed at smaller organisations and/or shorter or less complex projects.
- B. **Funding window B** comprises grants with a **value of EUR 125,000 to EUR 300,000 each**. It is aimed at bigger organisations and/or longer or more complex projects.
- C. **Funding window C** comprises grants with a **value of EUR 300,000 EUR up to 500,000 EUR**. It specifically targets R&D projects for vaccines, sera and other biological products (but these topics can also be covered under windows A and B).

5. Eligibility criteria

The following **eligibility criteria** will be used in determining if a proposal is deemed eligible for evaluation. Proposals not corresponding to the criteria will not be further evaluated and considered.

1. The **technical scope of the proposed R&D project** must fall within the requirements outlined in chapter 4.
2. The **public benefit** of the proposed project must be clearly stated and explained in the proposal.
3. The **lead applicant must be a Ghanaian research institution**, i.e. a locally registered public or private entity that has research as a primary organisational objective (e.g. public or private academic departments or research institutes, private R&D companies).
4. The proposal must **involve at least one FDA-approved, private or public Ghanaian pharmaceutical manufacturer as a co-applicant**. The involvement must be proven through a letter of engagement by the manufacturer. This is to be attached to the proposal. The proposal should clearly describe the intended involvement, the contributions (financial, in-kind) and the interest of the manufacturer (see also the evaluation criteria in chapter 7).

Additional provisions

- It is possible, but not a prerequisite, to involve further stakeholders, such as international research institutions or pharmaceutical companies. It is equally possible to submit a joint application involving several Ghanaian research institutions (in the sense of criterion 3) or several Ghanaian pharmaceutical manufacturers) (in the sense of criterion 4).
- If a research institution is acting at the same time as the manufacturer, the proposal must involve at least another Ghanaian or international research institution in order to be eligible.
- It is also possible to link the project to be funded by the grant to a larger R&D project which may involve other funders. But the GIZ-funded contribution must be clearly distinguishable in terms of the activities, budget and accounting.
- Profit-oriented entities are eligible to apply but the project itself must have a clear public benefit purpose (see criterion 2).

Number of proposals per applicant

- A Lead Applicant may not submit more than three (3) proposals under this call for proposals.
- A Lead Applicant may not be awarded more than two (2) grants under this call for proposals.
- A Lead Applicant may be a Co-Applicant in another application at the same time, under this call for proposals.
- A Co-Applicant may not be a Lead- or Co-Applicant in more than three (3) applications under this call for proposals.
- A Co-Applicant may not participate in more than two (2) grants under this call for proposals.

There must be at least one (1) and at most four (4) co-applicants. (See chapter 8 on the related topic of sub-recipients.)

6. Application process and calendar

Table 2 presents the tentative calendar of the CfP:

24 February 2025	Launch and distribution of the Call for Proposals
4 March 2025, 10-11am GMT	1 st virtual information session for prospective applicants (Link to join the meeting)
1 April 2025, 10-11am GMT	2 nd virtual information session for prospective applicants (Link to join the meeting)
1 June 2025	Deadline for the submission of proposals (see below)
27 June 2025	Eligibility check, preliminary evaluation of proposals and request for interviews and site visits of short-listed applicants
15 August 2025	Announcement of final decision of selected proposals
August - October 2025	Contracting
October 2025	Award ceremony
1 November 2025	Start of project implementation (expected)
30 October 2027	End of project implementation (if 24 months)
31 December 2027	Deadline for final project reports (2 months after project end)
15 February 2028	Conference to present results of the projects (financed by GIZ)

Two virtual information sessions (Webinars on MS Teams) will be conducted at the dates indicated above for interested applicants and stakeholders to:

1. Explain the Call for Proposals.
2. Detail the expected collaboration/relationship between research institutions and pharmaceutical manufacturing companies.
3. Address questions related to the application process and selection criteria.
4. Address questions related to budgeting, financial management and requirements and other administrative questions.

In addition, questions regarding the CfP can be directed any time to GIZ for clarification. Bilateral calls can also be arranged for this purpose. Initial ideas for project proposals can be discussed with GIZ for advice (while the actual evaluation and selection will strictly follow the process described in chapter 7). The aim of this support during the application phase is to ensure interested applicants provide high quality proposals.

For any queries, in order to receive the invitation/link to the virtual information sessions and to submit the proposal, please use the following email address:

CFP-PharmaVaxGH@giz.de

Only complete applications containing the following will be considered:

1. **Application email** from the lead applicant's representative.
2. **Completed application form** using the template provided (submit both word and pdf).
3. **Completed budget**, using the template provided (submit both excel and pdf).
4. **Annex of supporting documents** required according to the application form or otherwise deemed relevant by the applicant.

Each proposal shall be submitted separately. Applicants will receive confirmation of receipt of their submission.

Applications submitted after the stated application deadline will not be considered.

7. Evaluation process and criteria

The selection of the proposals will be by an **evaluation committee (jury)** made up of experts and stakeholders of the PharmaVax Ghana programme. The committee members are required to sign confidentiality / non-disclosure, neutrality and conflict of interest declarations. In case of a conflict of interest, e.g. a personal or institutional connection with one of the (co-)applicants, the respective committee member(s) shall recuse themselves.

The **evaluation process** is as follows:

- After an initial eligibility check, the jury will review the proposals received and establish a short list of applicants based on the technical criteria.
- The proposals with the highest ranking per funding window will be further assessed through in-person interviews with applicants during a site visit. Based on this, the jury will finalise the ranking of the proposals and the top-ranked proposals will be selected based on their budgets until the overall budget envelope for each funding window of the CfP is exhausted. The final selection will also be subject to approval by the Steering Committee and the donors of the PharmaVax Ghana programme.
- All applicants – successful or not – will be informed by GIZ about the outcome of the selection including a summary of the jury feedback on their proposal. Letters of regret will be sent to those not selected and formal letters of selection to those retained. There will also be a public announcement of the successful applicants.
- Should a selected proposal during further processing not meet the administrative requirements to conclude a grant agreement, the next highest-ranking proposal will be selected.

The following **technical scoring criteria** for all eligible proposals will be utilised for the weighted assessment of all eligible proposals. Proposals can score 0 to 10 points per criterion, which is then weighted to calculate the overall points score.

1. **Technical Merit (35%):** Assessment of the feasibility, novelty, and scientific rigor of the proposed project. Projects should have well-defined methods, supported by strong preliminary data (if applicable), addressing challenges in the priority areas of the call. The consortia formed must show they have the technical capacity to carry out the projects proposed, e.g. qualified staff, experience in similar R&D work.
2. **Impact (20%):** Evaluation of the potential impact of the proposed project and the targeted solutions on public health, particularly in Ghana or the wider African context.
3. **Sustainability (20%):** Assessment of plans, especially those of the participating pharmaceutical manufacturers, for further pursuing, sustaining, scaling up and commercialising the proposed R&D work and solutions beyond the project period, e.g. to develop new products or further develop existing ones. Projects should incorporate strategies for strong collaboration of research institutions (academia) and manufacturers, long-term sustainability and scalability, such as business models or plans for regulatory approval and market access.
4. **Innovation (10%):** Evaluation of the creativity and innovativeness of the proposed solution. Projects are encouraged to develop or use novel products, technologies, methods, or approaches that have the potential to positively impact existing paradigms or address unmet needs in healthcare.
5. **Gender Equality (5%):** Assessment of measures to address gender equality both in terms of the expected R&D results and in terms of equitable involvement of women and men in the project implementation (e.g. women as project leads, share of women and men among researchers/technicians).
6. **Environmental Impact (5%):** Assessment of measures to address environmental impact. Projects should include strategies related to waste management and disposal and use of sustainable resources.
7. **Applicant's own contribution to budget (5%):** Assessment of applicants' contribution to the total budget presented (see further instructions in chapter 8).

8. Budgeting and administrative matters

This chapter provides information and guidance for the budgeting of the projects and on relevant administrative matters. However, it is not binding and does not cover all aspects to be included in the actual grant agreement, which will be the only comprehensive and binding contractual basis for the collaboration between GIZ and the recipient (lead applicant).

General provisions

Awardees who then become grant (sub-)recipients shall ensure that the principles of proper accounting in the implementation of their project and in particular project-specific account settlement and documentation are complied with. Recipients shall further ensure that all guidelines on financial processing are strictly adhered to. These can be found on the GIZ website related to “Financing: Contract management and contract processing” (<https://www.giz.de/en/workingwithgiz/34529.html>), see the section “grant agreement for non-German recipients”. The following guidelines in particular are relevant for the preparation of the budget:

- <https://www.giz.de/en/downloads/giz2024-en-annex-3a-financial-requirements-grant-recipients.pdf>
- <https://www.giz.de/en/downloads/giz2024-en-annex-4a-requirements-on-procurement.pdf>
- <https://www.giz.de/en/downloads/giz2022-en-annex-procurement-medicines.pdf>

(In case these links no longer work, search for the GIZ financing website or contact GIZ.)

Budgeting

Applicants must use the GIZ budget template in the Annex. Fill out the tab “key data” first and then the tab “financing budget” for the lead applicant / recipient. In case there is a sub-recipient (see below), use the tab “forwarding of funds” for their budget. Budgeting must be done in EURO. The template as well as the links provided in “General Provisions” contain tips on how to fill out the budget. You can contact GIZ for further enquiries (see contacts provided in Table 1).

A grant, if awarded, is always subject to the condition that the checks preceding the signing of the grant contract do not reveal problems requiring changes to the budget (such as arithmetical errors, inaccuracies, unrealistic costs and/or ineligible costs). Where such issues arise, requests for clarification leading to possible modifications or reductions may be demanded to address such mistakes or inaccuracies. It is not possible to increase the grant volume because of these corrections. It is therefore in the applicants' interest to provide a realistic and cost-effective budget.

Please note that recipients are required to open a separate sub-account at their bank or a separate cost unit in their own accounting system to handle the financial transactions relating to their grant.

Eligible costs

Under the grant implementation, only verifiable costs related to project-specific activities are eligible. These costs include:

1. Staff costs
2. External services
3. Transport costs/travel expenses
4. CO2 compensation for flights
5. Procurement of materials and equipment

6. Other costs/consumables
7. Funds for direct support to third party beneficiaries
8. Fair-shared costs
9. Administrative costs (pro rata on the reported direct costs, please indicate %)
10. Forwarding of funds to third party recipients

Please note the following special provisions regarding procurement (budget line 5):

- Procurement of goods (line 5) must not exceed 50% of the total direct costs (without administrative costs)
- Compliance with the provisions on procurement procedures as set out in the procurement guidelines must be ensured (see link above).
- The procurement of medicines, including active pharmaceutical ingredients, as well as animals for pharmacological assessments has a specific approval process. While such purchases are in principle not excluded we recommend that, if possible, these purchases are done using the recipient's counterpart contribution rather than grant funds to avoid this approval process. Only medicines/API that are on the WHO or Ghanaian national essential medicines lists are eligible for GIZ funding. See guidelines under "General provisions".

Ineligible costs

Among others, the following costs are considered ineligible. See the budget template for further information.

1. Staff bonuses, provisions, reserves or non-remuneration-related costs
2. Debts and debt service charges
3. Provision for losses, debts or potential future liabilities
4. Costs of purchase of land or buildings
5. Purchase of vehicles
6. Construction costs

Forwarding of funds to third-party recipients (sub-recipients)

The forwarding of funds to third-party recipients or disbursement of funds to third-party beneficiaries is only permissible if provided for in the budget and in the project proposal. Third-party recipients (sub-recipients) are third parties to which the principal recipient, which must be the lead applicant, forwards part of the grant for joint (partial) implementation of the project. This call for proposal allows a **maximum of one sub-recipient per grant. The sub-recipient must be a Ghanaian entity** (i.e. international partners/co-applicants may not be sub-recipients). A sub-recipient must be a co-applicant (but not all co-applicants are automatically sub-recipients, they can also make other third-party contributions to the project, see below). **For-profit manufacturers** may be sub-recipients if their activities contribute to an overall public-benefit project. Activities that are purely aimed at profit making are not eligible to be financed through the grant. A positive assessment of the integrity and eligibility of the respective sub-recipient, taking into consideration the public-benefit purpose of the project, is a prerequisite for forwarding funds. The lead applicant must document the assessment and make this documentation available to GIZ in the proposal.

The principal recipient (lead applicant) must demonstrate to GIZ that forwarded funds have been used properly by submitting appropriate financial reports from the sub-recipient and, upon request by GIZ, copies of vouchers. Disbursements by the recipient to the sub-recipient must be made in accordance with the grant agreement and be shown separately in the financial report submitted by the recipient. The recipient undertakes to verify the financial report submitted by the sub-recipient in accordance with the terms of the grant agreement and to submit this financial report to GIZ together with the findings of its own assessments.

Forwarding of funds for direct support of third-party beneficiaries

Third-party beneficiaries are third parties (individuals / entities) that receive funds from the Recipient or sub-recipient as the direct and final beneficiary of the project. For example, this could be beneficiaries of scholarships funded through the grant. The selection process of third-party beneficiaries must be described in the proposal and subsequent reports. Costs must be appropriate and effective and the selection process must be based on criteria that ensure transparency, fairness, equality and non-discrimination.

Own contributions

While it's not a requirement, both lead and co-applicants are strongly encouraged to consider also own contributions in their budget (budget line 11) and project proposal. This will be positively considered in the technical evaluation (see chapter 7). This could be financial or in-kind contributions such as staff time, materials, infrastructure and premises. However, own contributions shall be clearly distinguished from budgets funded by GIZ. Only for personnel and fair share costs can pro-rate financing be applied (e.g. percentages of salaries for the same personnel funded by GIZ and the recipient). Own contributions of sub-recipients are to be recorded in the budget of the principal recipient.

Third-party contributions

While it's not a requirement, it is possible to include third-party contributions and financing in the project. This may significantly enhance the impact and sustainability of a project. This could include financial and in-kind contributions of co-applicants which are not sub-recipients, including international co-applicants. These contributions can also be recorded in budget line 11. Third-party contributions shall be clearly distinguished from budgets funded by GIZ.

Contracting process

After the selection and announcement of the successful proposals, the following main steps are necessary to conclude the respective grant agreement:

- Administrative review and, if necessary, revision of the proposals and budget to comply with GIZ requirements
- Successful completion of the commercial and legal suitability assessment of the grant recipient (and sub-recipient, if applicable).
- Contract drafting, including special conditions if required as a result of the commercial and legal suitability assessment
- Signing of the contract by GIZ and the recipient

Commercial and legal suitability assessment

The conclusion of the grant agreement is subject to a successful commercial and legal suitability assessment by GIZ. This due diligence check may also result in risk mitigation measures. The application form requires applicants to submit information and documents that will be used for this assessment. Full provision of information during the application stage will substantially shorten the contracting period and allow earlier project start. GIZ may require additional information during the contracting period to complete the assessment. Sub-recipients are also subject to an assessment.

Audit requirements

Contracts with a volume of 125,000 EUR and above (i.e. those in funding window B) are subject to an external end-of-project audit, if the contract volume is 250,000 or above, there

will be annual audits. Contracts in funding window A are not subject to a regular external audit, unless there is a specific reason to conduct an audit.

Reporting requirements

Subject to the final contract arrangements, recipients must provide short interim project progress reports every six months and a final project report no later than two months after the end of their project. GIZ will provide reporting templates to the recipients.

Communication and visibility

The communication and visibility requirements of GIZ, the EU and BMZ will be contractual obligations for the recipients and shared with them.

Recipients must take all necessary steps to publicise the fact that the EU and the BMZ have financed their project as part of the PharmaVax Ghana programme and under the Team Europe Initiative MAV+. Activities designed to raise the awareness of the results and the impact of this support are encouraged to be part of the proposals and their implementation.

All scientific publications based on contributions funded through the grant should be in open-access, peer-reviewed journals.

Intellectual property

For the purpose of optimising business activities as set out in GIZ's articles of association and securing the work results for public-benefit purpose, the recipient shall grant GIZ, free of charge, an irrevocable, simple, worldwide and transferable right of use to all work results which are created or procured in connection with implementation of the project and financed wholly or partially out of the Grant, with particular regard to the reports produced pursuant to the grant agreement, studies and documents; GIZ is entitled to exercise this right of use without restrictions on time or content in fulfilment of its public-benefit purpose as stated in its articles of association. At the request of GIZ, the recipient shall provide GIZ with a copy of the materials available. GIZ is entitled to grant third parties simple sub-rights of use free of charge in fulfilment of its public-benefit purpose as stated in its articles of association. The recipient shall ensure that the work results provided to GIZ during the course of implementing the project are not subject to any copyrights or other rights of third parties which would impair their use within the scope set out above.

Ethics clauses and code of conduct

Absence of conflict of interest: The applicant must not be affected by any conflict of interest and must have no equivalent relation in that respect with other applicants or parties involved in the actions. Any attempt by an applicant to obtain confidential information, enter into unlawful agreements with competitors or influence the selection committee or the contracting authority during the process of examining, clarifying, evaluating and comparing applications will lead to the rejection of its application.

Respect for human rights as well as environmental legislation and core labour standards: The applicant and its staff must comply with human rights. In particular, and in accordance with the applicable act, applicants who have been awarded contracts must comply with the environmental legislation including multilateral environmental agreements, and with the core labour standards as applicable and as defined in the relevant International Labour Organization conventions (such as the conventions on freedom of association and collective bargaining; elimination of forced and compulsory labour; abolition of child labour).

Anti-corruption and anti-bribery: The applicant shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations and codes relating to antibribery and anti-corruption. GIZ reserves the right to suspend or cancel project financing if corrupt practices of any kind are discovered at any stage of the award process or during the execution of a contract. For the purposes of this provision, 'corrupt practices' are the offer of a bribe, gift, gratuity or commission to any person as an inducement or reward for performing or refraining from any act relating to the award of a contract or execution of a contract already concluded with the contracting authority.

Ethics approvals: It is the responsibility of the applicants, not GIZ or its donors, to obtain from the competent bodies the required ethical approvals for their research work funded through the grant. The applicants shall outline in their proposal which approvals are required and report on their status during implementation. All clinical trials, for example, must be FDA approved.