

Next Generation for Biosecurity Competition 2018 Call for Proposals

NTI | bio is partnering with the Next Generation Global Health Security (GHS) Network to advance the biosecurity-related targets of the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA). In advance of the 5th Annual High Level GHSA Ministerial Meeting—which will be held in Bali, Indonesia from November 5-6, 2018—we are launching our second annual joint competition to foster a biosecurity professional track within the Next Generation GHS Network. The winning team for the 2018 Next Generation for Biosecurity Competition will receive up to \$15,000 to implement their proposal, as well as travel and lodging support to attend and present during the 2018 GHSA Ministerial. We seek creative and innovative proposals that promote cross-sectoral and cross-regional partnerships. Submissions will be assessed by a panel of multi-sectoral experts.

The focus of the 2018 competition will be to:

- 1) Develop training and networking opportunities for professionals of all levels to develop an interest and further proficiency in the biosecurity and biosafety fields; and
- 2) Foster opportunities for educational outreach to raise public awareness around the importance of biosecurity and biosafety.

What do we mean by biosecurity and biosafety? For the purposes of this competition, biosecurity and biosafety are defined by the target and indicators outlined within the [Joint External Evaluation Tool](#) of the World Health Organization¹ and the GHSA Action Package on biosecurity and biosafety (APP3). In general, the term “biosecurity” refers to measures that are taken to protect and control access to—and prevent theft and diversion of—dangerous biological materials and toxins, as well as oversight for dual use research. The term “biosafety” refers to measures that are taken to protect people from exposure to dangerous biological materials and toxins.

More information: From November 5-6, 2018, the Government of Indonesia will host the 5th Annual GHSA High Level Ministerial Meeting. During this meeting, health security leaders from across sectors and around the world will gather to discuss progress and next steps to further implement the [GHSA](#) and achieve its targets. As a key meeting objective, leaders will decide on priorities for the GHSA over the next five years (2019-2024) Strengthening biosecurity and

¹“A whole-of-government national biosafety and biosecurity system is in place, ensuring that especially dangerous pathogens are identified, held, secured and monitored in a minimal number of facilities according to best practices; biological risk management training and educational outreach are conducted to promote a shared culture of responsibility, reduce dual use risks, mitigate biological proliferation and deliberate use threats, and ensure safe transfer of biological agents; and country-specific biosafety and biosecurity legislation, laboratory licensing, and pathogen control measures are in place as appropriate.” (Joint External Evaluation Tool and Process Overview. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2016. License: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.)

biosafety are crucial to health preparedness and are integral to the GHSA, the World Health Organization (WHO) Joint External Evaluation (JEE) and resulting country National Actions Plans.

Prizes for Winning Submission(s)

NTI | bio will provide travel and lodging expenses for up to three members of the winning team to attend the 2018 GHSA Ministerial Meeting in Bali and present the proposal to health security and biosecurity and biosafety professionals. The winning team also will receive up to \$15,000 to bring their proposals to life with the guidance and mentorship of NextGen and NTI | bio.

Submission Requirements

Interested applicants should send an email by midnight ET on August 31, 2018, to NTI-bio@nti.org, and include the following:

- One-page resume or curriculum vitae for each team participant. Each team can include up to three individuals.
- A detailed budget sheet detailing, using line items, how each team would spend up to \$15,000 in implementing their project.
- 1,500-2,000 word submission that outlines how you and your team will work within the Next Generation GHS Network to develop either (1) training and networking opportunities for professionals at all levels to develop an interest and further proficiency in the biosecurity and biosafety fields; or (2) opportunities for an educational outreach project to raise public awareness around the importance of biosecurity and biosafety.
 - Proposals involving the development of trainings or networking opportunities for early- to mid- level professionals may build from existing programs. Successful proposals should include specific mechanisms for engaging and involving one or more biosecurity and biosafety experts in the execution of the proposal. Those experts should be contacted and secured as part of the proposal development process.
 - Proposals for public outreach and education must incorporate and build on existing biosecurity and biosafety best practices, standards, and/or models for policy and legislation to produce a public outreach program targeted at: (i) high school and university-aged students and/or (ii) policymakers. We encourage the proposals to include the design and/or use of multimedia tools and other creative and engaging methods of public outreach and education. Successful proposals should include specific mechanisms for engaging and involving one or more biosecurity and biosafety experts in the execution of the proposal. Those experts should ideally be contacted and secured as part of the proposal development process.
 - Citations, image captions, and footnotes do not count toward the final total word count in the proposals. However, information vital to the submission should not be included in the footnotes.

- Participants are highly encouraged to collaborate on submissions with partners from other institutions and/or across sectors within your country and/or with partners from other countries. The inclusion of collaborators that help build cross-sectoral discussion on biosecurity within and across regions will be a key factor for successful proposals.
- All proposals must be in English and submitted as a single pdf with the proposal, budget sheet, and three curriculum vitae. Supplemental material may be submitted separately.

Eligibility

To participate in this competition, the following criteria must be met:

- Applicants must be a current member of the Next Generation GHS Network. If submitting as part of a team, at least one-third of the applicants must be current members of the Next Generation GHS Network. Applicants also must be currently enrolled in an academic institution or must be a professional working in the field of global health security.
- Teams are strongly encouraged to include Next Gen professionals from more than one country and/or region.
- Teams are strongly encouraged to be cross-sectoral in their makeup.
- Proposals must include a specific focus on biosecurity (solely or in addition to biosafety) and must address the biosecurity-related indicators contained in the JEE. Broader applications focused on other elements of the GHSA and/or WHO JEE will not be considered for this competition.

Timeline

- **July 10, 2018: Call for proposals released and competition launch.** If you or someone you know wants to participate in the competition and does not have a team, please sign up [here](#) and you will be able to find other people also looking for partners.
- **July 23, 2018: Program overview webinar.** An online Q&A will be conducted by the Next Generation GHS Network at 3:00pm EDT. Have a question? Submit it [here](#). We will post the link to the webinar at www.nti.org on July 23.
- **August 31, 2018: Deadline for submissions.** All proposals must be submitted in full by midnight ET on August 31, 2018 to be considered.
- **October 1, 2018: Announcement of winners.** NTI will announce the winners of the competition on our website, www.nti.org, and contact teams for next steps.
- **November 5-6th, 2018: GHSA Ministerial Meeting in Bali, Indonesia.** Members of the winning team (up to three) will travel to the Ministerial to present their proposal.

Competition Goals

The Next Generation for Biosecurity Competition seeks to develop regional and global partnerships among Next Generation professionals to:

- Facilitate relationships between NextGen leaders interested in biosecurity and biosafety across countries and regions in accordance with the GHSA targets on biosecurity and biosafety and linking public health and biosecurity authorities;
- Enhance country and regional capabilities to achieve the biosecurity and biosafety targets within the GHSA and the WHO JEE;
- Inform emerging and established members of the broader global health security community on the significant biological risks posed by advances in technology;
- Improve regional and cross-regional collaboration in the biosecurity and biosafety fields;
- Promote a global cadre of multi-sectoral professionals within the Next Generation GHS Network dedicated to reducing catastrophic biological risks and enhancing biosafety and biosecurity; and
- Provide additional avenues for knowledge transfer to next generation biosafety and biosecurity professionals through mentorships and potential engagement with global health security experts in the field.

About the Sponsors



NTI works to protect our lives, environment, and quality of life now and for future generations. We work to prevent catastrophic attacks with weapons of mass destruction and disruption (WMDD)—nuclear, biological, radiological, chemical, and cyber. NTI has addressed biosecurity issues since our founding in 2001. NTI | bio is developing new initiatives to curb global catastrophic biological risks, catalyze international biosecurity norms and innovation, enhance biosurveillance for emerging threats, and advocate for measurable biosecurity commitments as an integral component of the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA).



The Next Generation Network engages and facilitates contributions by emerging scholars, scientists, and professionals from government and non-governmental institutions to the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) and other global health security projects. Through its mission, the Next Generation Network promotes the values of Education, Innovation, and Participation to approach and overcome the biggest challenges facing the health security fields today.

Basic Proposal Outline

Title Page

- Include the proposal title and all participant's names, affiliations, and email addresses.

Summary

- Provide a synopsis of the proposed project, including the impetus behind the proposal, a brief statement of objectives, the target audience, methods used to achieve proposal, and the project's projected impact. Suggested length: one-half page.

Specific Aims

- Provide a clear and concise bulleted list of the project's aims. Suggested length: one-half page.

Background and Significance

- Explain any necessary background information to give the proposal context. Provide the significance of the project and its short- and long-term effects/outcomes. This section should include a critical evaluation of the status of the issue that the proposal will address and should identify forward progress that the project will provide. Suggested length: one page including references.

Project Design

- Discuss the project in detail. Make sure the target audience, implementers, and location(s) of the engagement are addressed. Describe the methods and means that will be used to achieve the outcomes of the proposed effort. Provide a timeline for the project. Lastly, discuss any potential technical difficulties and/or limitations to the project's implementation. Suggested length: one to two pages.

References

- List all references cited in the text using Chicago Style citations (<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/717/01/>).

Budget

- Should be a separate page. One page maximum. Include all travel and personnel costs.

Curriculum Vitae

- One page per team member. Three pages total.

Supplemental Materials

- Attach any additional materials of your own creation like videos, podcasts, photos, or figures with a description or legend if needed for interpretation. These materials are not required but must appear in the proposal's text if present.