



# REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

ONE DROP FOUNDATION™ IS SEEKING PROPOSALS FOR RESEARCH ON ITS  
UNIQUE INTERVENTION MODEL AND IMPACT TOWARDS THE  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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## THE ONE DROP FOUNDATION

The One Drop Foundation ([www.onedrop.org](http://www.onedrop.org)) is a philanthropic organization rooted in learning and sharing. We envision a better world, where all have access to living conditions that allow empowerment and development. Together, we aim to ensure sustainable access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene for the most vulnerable communities through innovative partnerships, creativity and the power of art.

The One Drop Foundation supports initiatives with the aim of **systems change**, to create sustainable **wellbeing** for the most vulnerable. We believe that **people are at the heart of change** and that this change can be attained by

- a) increasing access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services,
- b) increasing the practice of key WASH behaviours with the Social Art for Behaviour Change™ (SABC) approach; and
- c) strengthening local economies to maintain access to WASH services and products.

These three complementary outcomes embody the One Drop Foundation's A·B·C for Sustainability™ model, where "A" stands for *Access*, "B" for *Behaviour change* and "C" for *Capital*.

The One Drop Foundation is always striving to enhance the credibility of its work and improve its impact by documenting its interventions and processes.

About the One Drop Foundation: [https://www.onedrop.org/workspace/uploads/files/about-one-drop\\_1.pdf](https://www.onedrop.org/workspace/uploads/files/about-one-drop_1.pdf)

About the Social Art for Behaviour Change™ (SABC) Approach:  
[https://www.onedrop.org/workspace/uploads/files/sabc\\_email\\_an.pdf](https://www.onedrop.org/workspace/uploads/files/sabc_email_an.pdf)

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## PURPOSE AND OVERALL PROCESS

The One Drop Foundation intends to collaborate with researchers or evaluators who would be interested in pursuing opportunities in applied social sciences in the domains of behavioural sciences, WASH, international development, educational research, artistic inquiry, etc. Together with researchers, the One Drop Foundation wishes to improve its contribution to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) looking towards 2030.

This document describes the process for submitting an Expression of Interest ("EOI"). If invited, the second stage will be to submit a full proposal. To streamline the amount of effort involved by researchers, the first step in the process is simply to prepare and submit a brief EOI. The One Drop Foundation will review the EOI and



establish a short list of applicants. Only Applicants selected in this short list will be invited to submit full proposals.

Please submit your EOI by e-mail by November 26th to both:

Raisa.[mirza@onedrop.org](mailto:mirza@onedrop.org) AND [tania.vachon@onedrop.org](mailto:tania.vachon@onedrop.org)

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#### WHO MAY APPLY

Researchers from around the world are welcome to contact us, in particular those based in Quebec.

EOIs are anticipated to come from:

- Group of researchers;
- Graduate students (Master, PhD, Post Docs) seeking research opportunities;
- Individual researchers, and academic institutions;
- Professional research organizations and other not-for-profit institutions.

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#### THEMES OF INTEREST

Research projects are primarily intended to feed the international community of practice by valuing local knowledge and experience, participatory processes and community-led development.

Research entry points are numerous, and we are open to refining them for this partnership with research collaborators. Some examples could include:

1. Evaluating the impact of our projects through an experimental design with participatory action research;
2. Evaluating the process of incorporating the SABC approach developed by the One Drop Foundation during the implementation of our projects;
3. Evaluating the cost-efficiency, effectiveness and impact results of the SABC approach developed by the One Drop Foundation within our projects through a gender lens;
4. Assessing the scalability of our SABC approach through local leaders of change;
5. Documenting how the Social Art approach developed by the One Drop Foundation is an effective behaviour change methodology.
6. Documenting how our model and the SABC approach developed by the One Drop Foundation can contribute to institutional and systems strengthening;
7. Documenting how the SABC approach developed by the One Drop Foundation contributes to social cohesion and an enabling environment for change.
8. Documenting how the Social Art approach developed by the One Drop Foundation fosters a sense of belonging: a necessary step for ensuring sustainability of initiatives

While these examples have been identified as topics of potential interest, researchers should not feel constrained to focus exclusively on these. The One Drop Foundation will welcome your input on ways to reshape or refine these topics, as well as suggestions for other topics not listed. This implies taking stock of the already existing knowledge within the international programs with the help of the Foundations team.



## SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Previous experiences in research, evaluation, capacity building and knowledge sharing (publications, conferences) in the Water, Sanitation, Hygiene (WASH) and/or behavioral change in the global development sector
2. Researchers or research teams currently working on connected themes with existing allocated resources.
3. Previous work in the evaluation of creative or art-based processes
4. Experience working with interdisciplinary research teams and has significant knowledge in systems thinking.
5. Track record in impact results including the use of mixed and creative methods that encompass both quantitative data and qualitative narratives.
6. Passionate and creative individuals that share the Foundation's values including the motivation to ideate and propose 'out-of-the-box' insights.

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## CONDITIONS

The One Drop Foundation funds and collaborates with several partners in 14 projects and countries including India, Burkina Faso, Mali, Madagascar, Haiti, Mexico, Paraguay, Colombia, Nicaragua and in Northern Canada (Nunavik region). Depending on the final topic, the selected researcher (or the selected team of researchers) could have access to the community of practice virtually but could also, if need be and if conditions allow, have access to local context/field.

The One Drop Foundation will also support potential candidates in the production of external funding applications to undertake research (NSERC, SSHRC, Humanities Council, GAC, Mobility, MITACS, etc).

The One Drop Foundation will publish and diffuse the final report on its network and social media. Findings could be adapted in the form of an article or other knowledge products and be subject of a webinar and/or podcast. OD will support researchers to publish their data in academic or research journals and at conferences, as determined appropriate.

The One Drop Foundation will contribute to the research project with in-kind and financial contributions to be defined later on, at the full proposal stage.

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## TEMPLATE FOR THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST SUBMISSION

As a first step, interested parties are invited to submit a brief Expression of Interest (EOI), providing the following information:

- The topic: a description of the research project theme and how it might be of interest to the One Drop Foundation and the international community of practice;
- Expected outcome: the form of your deliverable, such as a literature review / synopsis, educational / informational article, research paper, software tool, etc.;
- High level budget: an order-of-magnitude estimate of the anticipated funding requirements and potential sources of funding;
- the ability of the applicant(s) to access data necessary for the research; and
- the qualifications of the applicant(s) in the form of brief CVs of key research team members



- Contact person: Name, title, work affiliation, and email addresses of the consortium's project leader and co-principal investigator(s)

To make the EOI process as simple for researchers as possible, and for the Foundation to give quick feedback, we request that EOIs be no more than two to three pages in length (excluding CVs or Bios).

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## QUESTIONS

Thank you for your interest in collaborating with us !

We welcome any questions you may have regarding the attached research themes, and this EOI process. To submit questions or proposals, please reach out to both:

- Raïsa Mirza, Director of Innovation and Knowledge Management [raisa.mirza@onedrop.org](mailto:raisa.mirza@onedrop.org) and
- Tania Vachon, Director of Social Art for Behaviour Change [tania.vachon@onedrop.org](mailto:tania.vachon@onedrop.org).