



# FALCON AWARDS FOR DISEASE ELIMINATION INTEGRATION EDIT

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*This document aims to anticipate and address questions relating to the Falcon Awards for Disease Elimination – Integration Edit.*

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### GENERAL

#### **What is the Global Institute for Disease Elimination (GLIDE)?**

The Global Institute for Disease Elimination (GLIDE) is a global health institute based in Abu Dhabi that envisions a world free of eliminable infectious diseases by 2030 and beyond. GLIDE works across three strategic pillars: operational research, capacity strengthening, and advocacy to advance its mission. GLIDE seeks to promote integrated solutions to help partners go further and faster to achieve sustainable disease elimination.

#### **What are the Falcon Awards for Disease Elimination?**

The Falcon Awards for Disease Elimination is an awards scheme that aims to help partners go further and faster towards their disease elimination goals.

Since its inception, the Falcon Awards for Disease Elimination has evolved to tackle critical challenges in disease elimination. In 2021, GLIDE launched the [inaugural Falcon Awards](#), supporting four recipients to advance the elimination of its four focus diseases—malaria, polio, onchocerciasis, and lymphatic filariasis in endemic countries. Building on this momentum, the 2023 edition, [The Climate Edit](#), supported formative research to explore the intersection of climate change and infectious diseases. Nine winners were selected, and their six-month research findings were released around COP28, contributing valuable insights to the field. In 2024, GLIDE introduced the [Western Pacific edition of the Falcon Awards](#), aimed at driving disease elimination efforts in the region. Five formative research projects and one advocacy initiative were awarded to conduct six-month projects, strengthening efforts to combat infectious diseases across the Western Pacific. Collectively, these editions of the



Falcon Awards demonstrate GLIDE's ongoing commitment to generating evidence through innovation, fostering collaboration, and advancing context-specific strategies for disease elimination.

### What is the Falcon Awards for Disease Elimination – *Integration Edit*?

This fourth iteration of the Falcon Awards aims to advance the body of knowledge and evidence for **integrated strategies** for the elimination of infectious diseases. Through these awards, GLIDE is accepting concept proposals for research projects and advocacy initiatives that (upon selection) will be co-created with GLIDE, meaning selected applicants will have the opportunity to collaboratively refine and develop full project plans with the GLIDE team. All concepts should aim to meet one or more of the following objectives:

1. **Generating evidence and testing approaches** to advance the elimination of infectious diseases through integrated approaches.
2. **Disseminating knowledge** to enhance understanding and catalyse action for integrated disease elimination strategies.
3. **Supporting local or regional advocacy** efforts to advance integrated approaches to disease elimination.
4. **Raising awareness of and** for integrated disease elimination strategies and approaches.
5. **Cultivating partnerships** aimed at advancing elimination through integrated approaches that enhance knowledge or evidence around the transmission, control, elimination, and eradication of infectious diseases.

### What is the funding availability for the awards?

The Falcon Awards have a total funding envelope of up to **US\$2.4 million**, allocated across two key categories: **Research** and **Advocacy**. Funding is awarded to winning concepts on a tiered basis, with longer-duration projects eligible for higher grant amounts. Please note that the total award amount will depend on the final, agreed project plan, developed in collaboration with GLIDE.

Category	Project Type	Duration	Funding Amount	Total Available
Research	Formative, operational, and implementation research	12–18 months	Up to US\$100,000	US\$1,600,000
		18–24 months	Up to US\$200,000	
Advocacy	Awareness-raising, policy engagement, coalition-building	Up to 6 months	Up to US\$50,000	US\$800,000
		6–12 months	Up to US\$200,000	
Total Funding			Up to US\$2,400,000	



## DEFINITIONS

### What is the definition of “disease elimination” in the context of the Falcon Awards?

The definition of elimination in the context of the Falcon Awards is based on [WHO guidelines](#).

- Elimination (interruption of transmission): Reduction to zero of the incidence of infection caused by a specific pathogen in a defined geographical area, with minimal risk of reintroduction, as a result of deliberate efforts; continued action to prevent re-establishment of transmission may be required.
- Elimination as a public health problem: A term related to both infection and disease, defined by the achievement of measurable targets set by the WHO concerning a specific disease. When reached, continued action is required to maintain the targets and/or to advance interruption of transmission.

### What does “integration” mean in the context of the awards?

In the context of infectious disease elimination, integration broadly refers to the strategic alignment and coordination of programs, interventions, and systems across diseases and/or sectors to maximize impact, efficiency, and sustainability. Integration can strengthen service delivery, reduce duplication of effort, and promote the use of shared platforms, tools, and resources to achieve elimination goals. For the 2025 Falcon Awards, we are accepting concept proposals that apply *integrated approaches* across one or more of the following dimensions:

**Cross-Disease Integration<sup>1</sup>:** Grouping or packaging multiple diseases—based on shared epidemiology, affected populations, or intervention strategies—into a common delivery platform. This can include:

- Joint delivery of interventions (e.g., preventive chemotherapy, vector control)
- Use of multiplex diagnostics
- Shared systems for monitoring, evaluation, and reporting

**Cross-Sector Integration<sup>2</sup>:** Coordinated action across different sectors (e.g., health, education, water and sanitation, agriculture, environment) to address the broader determinants of health and support disease elimination. This can include:

- Aligning with WASH, nutrition, animal health, or other non-human health programs
- Joint planning and data sharing between ministries or agencies
- Public and private cross-sector initiatives
- Incorporating disease elimination goals into universal health coverage (UHC) and primary health care agendas

**Cross-Border Integration/Collaboration:** Collaborative efforts between neighboring countries to address transboundary health threats and ensure consistent implementation of elimination strategies across countries. This can include:

- Harmonized surveillance and case definitions
- Coordinated campaigns and response plans
- Shared data systems and regional coordination platforms

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<sup>1</sup> Source: [WHO NTD Roadmap 2021–2030](#)

<sup>2</sup> Source: [WHO 2016; Integrating Disease Elimination Programming](#), *GLIDE-Bridges to Development* 2022



### **What is a “concept proposal” in the context of the awards?**

A concept proposal is a high-level, structured idea that outlines a proposed initiative before it is fully developed into a detailed project plan. It serves as a foundational document that communicates the project's vision, objectives, and strategic approach while leaving room for further refinement and co-creation. A strong concept proposal should:

1. Clearly define the problem it seeks to address
2. Present a compelling solution, and establish a hierarchy of objectives, including impact, outcome, and output goals.
3. Describe the expected impact, identify key beneficiaries, and
4. Align with the overarching mission of the Falcon Awards.
5. Consider feasibility, including estimated timelines and potential risks

*For more details on what will be requested in your application, please see the Falcon Awards Integration Edit [Application Guidelines](#)*

### **What is meant by “formative research” in the context of the awards?**

Research conducted to generate hypotheses and/ or insights that guide the design, adaptation, or refinement of integrated infectious disease elimination interventions. This research aims to better understand the context, needs, and preferences of target populations, as well as the health systems and social factors that could influence intervention design and delivery.

Formative research projects are typically shorter than large-scale empirical studies. While we welcome a diversity of project ideas, for reference, GLIDE has previously supported formative research on the potential health impacts of climate change, qualitative studies on care-seeking behaviors, and stakeholder mapping exercises. For this call, we anticipate project timelines of approximately 12 months. To see previous examples of GLIDE’s work in this area, click [here](#) and visit the GLIDE [website](#).

### **What is meant by “operational research” in the context of the awards?**

Research conducted to identify and address specific operational challenges or inefficiencies in the delivery of infectious disease elimination programs where integration is possible. This type of research aims to optimize program performance by evaluating processes, resource allocation, and service delivery models.

While we welcome a wide range of operational research proposals, GLIDE has previously supported studies in areas such as integrated disease surveillance, diagnostic innovation, and community-level behavior change. Given the complexity of such projects, we anticipate timelines of approximately 12 to 18 months. To see previous examples of GLIDE’s work in this area, click [here](#) and visit the GLIDE [website](#).

### **What is meant by “implementation research” in the context of the awards?**

Research designed to understand and improve the uptake, delivery, and scale-up of integrated infectious disease elimination interventions in real-world settings. This research explores the barriers and facilitators to effective implementation and generates evidence to enhance the quality, reach, and sustainability of integrated interventions.

GLIDE welcomes a broad range of implementation research proposals. To date, we have supported projects focused on evaluating real-world intervention delivery, identifying health system bottlenecks, and improving program performance. Given the applied and iterative nature of this work, project timelines are typically expected to span approximately 18 to 24 months.



### **What is meant by “advocacy initiative” in the context of the awards?**

Initiatives that are conducted to promote the integrated use of resources, cross-sector collaboration, and effective policies aimed at eliminating infectious diseases through a unified, cross-border, cross disease and/or cross-border approach. These initiatives should seek to raise visibility, build support, and advocate for integrated strategies at local, regional, and/or global levels. GLIDE is open to a broad spectrum of advocacy-focused proposals that promote integration and collaboration. Past initiatives have included campaigns to elevate political will, convenings to foster multisectoral collaboration, and efforts to align national and regional strategies for disease elimination. Given the strategic and time-sensitive nature of advocacy work, project timelines are typically expected to span 6 to 12 months. Visit the GLIDE website for more information.

## **PROJECT AND APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY**

### **What is the country scope of these awards?**

This year’s Falcon Awards are open to global disease elimination stakeholders that meet the [Eligibility Criteria](#).

### **What is the disease scope for the awards?**

Concepts focusing on integrated disease elimination strategies are eligible for submission. Proposals must aim to advance the elimination of one or more infectious diseases where integration with other efforts is feasible and beneficial.

### **Is the topic of my Research Project/Advocacy Initiative eligible?**

This year’s Falcon Awards is accepting concepts that aim to advance integrated elimination strategies for infectious diseases that are cross-border, cross-sector, or cross-disease. Concepts may focus on, but are not limited to, the following sub-categories:

1. Pilot field projects on the integration of eliminable diseases
2. Mainstreaming eliminable diseases into national health systems
3. “Sustaining elimination” Post Validation Surveillance/preventing reintroduction
4. Community-centered approaches to disease elimination
5. One Health approaches to disease elimination
6. Innovative approaches to disease elimination
7. Investment cases for disease elimination

### **Is my institution eligible?**

Applications must come from within an organisation or entity with demonstrated experience in disease elimination. The following entities are eligible to apply:

1. National or regional academic or research institutions
2. Government entities
3. Public, private or non-governmental sector institutions
4. Consortia, coalitions or networks may apply but must meaningfully include either an academic institution, Civil Society Organization (CSO), or Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO).
5. Early career researchers

### **Are multiple applications from an institution allowed?**

Organisations are welcome to submit more than one concept however, only one application will be selected per institution.



**Can I apply in partnership with another institution?**

Yes, provided that both institutions fall within the categories of eligible institutions.

**I am not presently employed by or affiliated with an organisation, can I still apply?**

Applicants must be part of an organisation or affiliated with an organised initiative. Awards will not be granted to individuals.

**Are there any other eligibility criteria?**

GLIDE welcomes applications that prioritize inclusive collaboration. We encourage proposals that bring together different experiences, including gender representation, community voices, varied expertise, and cross-institutional cooperation.

## AWARDS PROCESS

**If my application is selected, how will the monetary amount for the grant be determined?**

The granted amount will be determined based on the concept's submitted budget in the application submitted, and after consultation with GLIDE. The final amount, as well as details on how it will be allocated, will be cited in the partnership agreement.

**What is the awards process?**

Applicants are invited to submit their proposals via GLIDE's Falcon Awards Application Portal for review and evaluation. Awardee selection will be determined through a two-stage process. In the first stage, proposals are assessed for eligibility and fit; a shortlist will then be reviewed and any necessary outreach to applicants for more information will be conducted before finalists are selected to co-create their project with their GLIDE lead.

**What is the timeline for the award selection?**

- 7 April 2025 - Open for submissions
- 7 May 2025 - Close for submissions
- Summer 2025 - Co-development and finalisation of project design
- September 2025 – Winner Announcement

**What is the timeline for project delivery?**

The timeline for delivery for each awarded project will be determined during the project development phase of the awards. All awarded projects must start in 2025 and be completed no later than 2027.

## APPLICATIONS

**What information do I need to include in my application?**

All information regarding your application can be found on [the Falcon Awards webpage](#), including an [Application Guidelines](#) document, which sets out what should be included in your concept proposals. Please note that all concepts must be submitted via the Falcon Awards Application Portal which can also be found on the webpage.



**Are there any budget considerations I should be aware of?**

Yes. When preparing your application, please note that the high-level indicative budgets provided should reflect that GLIDE will not fund projects with overhead costs exceeding 7%.

**Can I submit a fully developed proposal as part of my application?**

While we are only accepting concepts via the online application form, you may submit a fully developed proposal as an attachment in the space provided at the end of your application which will be considered for funding.

**When and how do I submit my proposal? How will I know that my application has been received?**

You can submit your concept proposal at any point during the application window between April 7 – May 7, 2025. All applications must be submitted via the Falcon Awards Application Portal. An email confirming receipt of your application will be sent to your email address following your submission. Please note that any application received via any other method will not be considered.

**If I need to make changes to my original concept proposal, what should I do?**

The application portal allows for submissions to be saved and edited at a later date. If you have already submitted your application and need to make changes within the application window, please contact [FalconAwards@glideae.org](mailto:FalconAwards@glideae.org) for support. Applications may not be edited after 7 May, 2025.

**I'm having trouble submitting my proposal. What should I do?**

If you are having trouble with the online application process, you can email us [FalconAwards@glideae.org](mailto:FalconAwards@glideae.org).

## SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS

**How will I know if I have been selected to receive a Falcon Award?**

Once your application has been reviewed, a member of the Falcon Awards team will contact you to confirm your concept has been selected.

**What is the process for the co-development of projects with GLIDE?**

If your concept is successful, a meeting will be arranged with an assigned GLIDE team lead who will work with you to further refine and co-develop your concept to finalise the project design over the course of June-August, 2025. Once the project design is finalised, a Partnership Agreement will be signed, formalising the collaboration and its terms.

**When will the funds be disbursed?**

GLIDE will be disbursed as per the timeline agreed with the awardee and outlined in the Partnership Agreement.

**What are the reporting requirements?**

Winners of the Falcon Awards are required to submit updates/reports as per the terms outlined in the Partnership Agreement.

**If I am applying to conduct research, what are the expectations for the final report?**

Final research reports must be submitted in the following format:





- **Abstract:** Indicate the purpose and objective of the research, the hypothesis that was tested, or a description of the problem being analysed or evaluated.
- **Methods:** Describe the study period, setting and location, study design, study population, data collection and methods of analysis used.
- **Results:** Present as clearly and in as much detail as possible the findings and/or outcomes of the study. Please disaggregate data by age and gender, where possible and summarize any specific results.
- **Conclusions:** Explain the significance of your study's findings and/or outcomes for disease elimination and the future implications of the results.

### **If I am applying to launch an advocacy initiative, what are the expectations for the final report?**

Final reports for advocacy initiatives must be submitted in the following format:

- **Background:** Summarize the purpose, scope and objectives of the initiative, project, or policy.
- **Description:** Describe the initiative, project, or policy period, setting and location, structure, key population/target audience and activities and interventions undertaken in support of the initiative, project or policy.
- **Lessons learned/impact:** Present as clearly and in as much detail as possible the findings and/or outcomes of the initiative, project, or policy. Include an analysis or evaluation of lessons learned, challenges faced and how they were addressed, best practices, and/or impact of the advocacy activity. Please summarize any specific results that support your lessons learned and best practices, and include the sustainability outlook of the intended impact.

### **Is there a word limit for the final report?**

The final reports can be of any length. There are no restrictions on word count, number of figures or amount of supporting information.

### **When will I need to submit the results of my project?**

Winners are expected to deliver their final reports according to the terms agreed upon signing of the Partnership Agreement and the track selected during the application process.

### **How will the final report be utilised?**

The final reports will be disseminated by GLIDE to its network to advance knowledge and inform integrated disease elimination strategies for a global audience.

### **What other awardee commitments are expected besides the final report?**

Aside from the final report, successful applicants will be expected to:

- Join a (virtual) kick-off call to present their projects and meet other awardees
- Prepare presentations on project progress
- Prepare a two-page synthesis of the final report
- Prepare a final presentation based on project outcomes

### **Where can I find the full terms and conditions that are applicable to my application and award?**

The applicable terms relating to your submission can be found in the [Terms and Conditions](#) document.

### **I still have questions, who can I reach out to?**

For any other queries, you can email [FalconAwards@glideae.org](mailto:FalconAwards@glideae.org).