



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Thank you for your interest in sharing your solution with the Social Innovation in Health Initiative, Malawi (SIHI). Below you will find answers to some frequently asked questions by innovators.

1. WHAT IS A SOCIAL INNOVATION IN HEALTH?

Social innovation is **creative solution** to systemic **health challenge**. It can be developed by individuals, organizations and institutions from **all backgrounds and sectors** through involvement and **collaboration with communities**.

Social innovation helps to make **healthcare delivery more inclusive, effective, and affordable** for all people. Social innovations improve **the health and wellbeing** of people and holds transformative potential to achieve a **stronger and more resilient health system** in Malawi.

[Social innovation](#) is contrary from invention or traditional innovation in that it is not done in pursuit of 'newness' or great profit margins but with the intention of improving quality of life, achieving justice and equity, and positive social change

Watch this short video to learn more: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ncu8NEzKVQU>

2. AM I AN INNOVATOR?

If you have developed a creative solution to a healthcare delivery problem experienced in your community, then you are an innovator! If you have tried something new or different to make health care more affordable, accessible or effective, then we want to hear from you! You could be a frontline health worker, an entrepreneur, a government official, a student or a community member. You could be working in a not-for-profit organisation, a company, a public-sector institution or a university.

We are searching for passionate and inspirational individuals from all walks of life!

3. WHO IS SIHI?

The Social Innovation in Health Initiative (SIHI) is a network of passionate individuals and institutions combining their skills and resources in support of key activities to promote social innovation in health.

Sharing a common goal to advance social innovation in achieving Sustainable Development Goals and improving lives of communities in low- and middle-income countries.

The network was launched in 2014 through joint efforts of the Bertha Centre for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the University of Cape Town, the Skoll Centre for Social Entrepreneurship at Oxford University, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and TDR, the UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases.

In 2017, the network expanded to include partners from low- and middle-income countries: University of Malawi College of Medicine in Malawi; Makerere University School of Public Health in Uganda; University of Philippines Manila College of Medicine; Social Entrepreneurship to Spur Health initiative in China; and Centro Internacional de Entrenamiento e Investigaciones Medicas (CIDEIM) in Colombia in collaboration with ICESI University and the Pan American Health Organization. In addition, SIHI is collaborating with several organizations such as the Fondation Mérieux, the Ahimsa Fund, the WHO Department of Service Delivery and Safety, WHO AFRO, and the United Nations University-International Institute for Global Health.

SIHI Malawi identifies, researches local based innovations, and builds multidisciplinary capacity for social innovation to catalyse local based innovations for improved access to healthcare. Learn more: <https://socialinnovationinhealth.org/malawi/>

4. WHY SHARE YOUR SOLUTION WITH SIHI?

We believe that across Malawi there are innovators who have successfully solved some of healthcare's biggest problems. We believe that by learning from innovators, like you, we can not only improve health in your country but also share the learning with other countries. We can't only look to governments or international organizations to improve healthcare. We all have a role to play together! SIHI is thus searching for examples of social innovations in health.

The opportunities for you include:

- Recognition by the University of Malawi, Ministry of Health and World Health Organization – TDR
- Have your solution studied by researchers and documented as a case study
- A professional video and communication materials produced on your solution
- Have your solution shared in Malawi and internationally through our global network including WHO-TDR
- Participation in learning sessions for innovators.
- Contribute to rethinking of health care delivery in Malawi and in the global south.

5. IS MY SOLUTION ELIGIBLE?

Your solution will be eligible if it meets the following conditions:

- Focused on improving healthcare delivery, specifically for **primary health care**.
- **Implemented in Malawi**
- Operational for **more than 1-year**. We are not looking for new ideas but existing solutions
- The solution is **not a medical or scientific innovation (drugs, devices, etc)** as we don't consider this social innovation. Read more about what is [a social innovation](#).
- The application has been **fully completed**. All incomplete forms will be excluded

6. HOW DO I SUBMIT A SOLUTION?

- Download the form [here](#) and email it to us
- Request a form via
 - ✉ malawi@socialinnovationinhealth.org
 - fb [@SIHIMW](#)
 - whatsapp +265882804735 or tell us about anyone we should contact
- Complete the online form: <https://socialinnovationshare.org/login/index.php>
- Get an application form from our office
 - University of Malawi, College of Medicine
 - Malaria Alert Centre
 - Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital Premises
 - Blantyre

7. HOW DO I SUBMIT A SOLUTION ON WWW.SOCIALINNOVATIONSHARE.ORG?

To submit your solution through our online platform, please follow the steps below:

- STEP 1: Visit our SIHI Sharing Platform at www.socialinnovationshare.org
- **STEP 2:** Create a new user account using your email address and a password you select. An email will automatically get sent to you when you sign up so you can verify your account. Please click on the link in this email to activate your account. You will then be able to log in using these details.
- STEP 3: Select your country or region by clicking on the “topic” button in the box with the appropriate flag (these lead you to your country’s topic homepage).
- STEP 4: Read the submission tips online, and download the FAQ’s document to guide you through the process.
- STEP 5: Download the SIHI Share Sample Submission Form. This will allow you to read the questions and to prepare your response ahead of time.
- STEP 6: Click on the icon to go to the online submission form. This will take you to a landing page where you can continue to the submission form and share your solution, or view any previously submitted solutions (you are able to submit different solutions if you have more than one you wish to share)
- STEP 7: You can save and return to your online form at any time and as often as you like before the closing date. If your internet cuts out, you will not lose your data as everything is automatically saved. However, once it is submitted, you are unable to revise it.
- STEP 8: Upload any videos or images you feel capture the work you do. You are limited to 2 videos at a maximum size of 200MB each, and 15 images at a maximum size of 2MB each. This is an optional step that is available to you once you complete the nomination form and on the country topic homepage if you wish to do it at a later point.
- STEP 9: The SIHI team will get in touch with you after the call closes. Your submission will be reviewed by an external expert panel. Thank you for sharing your solution!

8. HOW DOES MY SOLUTION GET SELECTED?

All eligible solutions received will be submitted to an independent expert review panel. This panel will be country specific and comprised of experts in innovation, public health, social entrepreneurship and medicine. Experts may come from universities, technical agencies or the Ministry of Health.

Their task will be to assess your solution according the call criteria. Following the selection

[process](#), there may be a need for our team to conduct a telephonic interview with you. Once you have passed through the selection process successfully, a shortlist of successful applicants will be announced.

9. WHAT HAPPENS IF I AM SELECTED?

A SIHI selection means that we believe your solution has a lot of valuable learnings to contribute to improving global health. Our team will inform you of your selection.

A small team of researchers would come spend 3 – 4 days with you, to learn more about your work. They will produce a SIHI case which will be featured on our website: socialinnovationinhealth.org. These cases are actively shared with decision makers in the country and at an international level.

In addition, your work could be featured in a short film. These films will be distributed locally and internationally to help raise awareness and promote your work.

GET IN TOUCH:

If you have a question, not yet answered above. Please feel free to contact our team via:

✉ malawi@socialinnovationinhealth.org

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