

# MATRIX Technology Accelerator Domain 1

Prevention Challenges: Overcoming Impediments to HIV  
Prevention

RFA2024-016

Fact-finding questions and responses

19 August 2024



## Fact-finding questions and responses

The MATRIX team thanks applicants who expressed interest in submitting a response to this Request for Application (RFA).

As a reminder, full applications are due by 8:00 AM Pacific time on September 16, 2024, and applicants should be from institutions in Kenya, South Africa, and Zimbabwe. Applicants should ensure that their application describes the training and mentoring as well as the innovative research in HIV prevention. Refer to the RFA for more details on responsive and non-responsive areas of research.

Please [refer to the RFA](#) for additional information or reach out to the PATH team at [MatrixTechAcceleratorRFA@path.org](mailto:MatrixTechAcceleratorRFA@path.org).

### Fact-finding questions from applicants and responses:

1. Can a mentoring team include a mentor located in Canada while the primary mentor is co-located with the mentee in Kenya?  
**Yes, mentors can be in Canada as long as the primary mentor is co-located with the mentee in Kenya, South Africa, and Zimbabwe. Mentors cannot be in countries that have been identified by the United States Department of State as state sponsors of terrorism (currently, Cuba, Iran, North Korea, and Syria).**
2. Our project proposes additional biological analyses on samples from an ongoing clinical study that examines the impact of [Drug A] use on [Factor A], [Factor B], and HIV susceptibility in female sex workers. Although [Drug A] does not possess anti-HIV activity, we aim to explore its potential synergistic effect with PrEP in HIV prevention. Would this fall within the research interest scope of the RFA?  
**The use of samples from an ongoing clinical study is allowable under the scope of the RFA. The proposed work is responsive to the RFA under point 4, 'Interrogate drug-drug interactions (DDI) between HIV active pharmaceutical ingredients and other commonly used drugs.'**