



## Tech for Good 2019

### Tender for digital support and advice for grantees



#### Introduction

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Comic Relief with Paul Hamlyn Foundation have launched a UK Tech for Good funding programme in February 2019. After two previous successful co-funded rounds, this is the first round of funding in our renewed long-term three year Tech for Good partnership,

We are now looking for some additional expertise to provide digital mentoring support, advice as well as mutual learning opportunities for the cohort of organisations funded through the initiative.

**We welcome and would actively encourage bids made in partnership or consortium.**

#### The grants initiative

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The first round of UK Tech for Good funding of Comic Relief and Paul Hamlyn Foundation's 3-year partnership opened for applications in February 2019. The funding will support up to 13 not-for-profit organisations to develop or scale up digital products or services with grants of up to £48,000 over a period of nine months.

The nine months are divided into 3 phases:

- a two-month soft development phase (Aug-Sept 2019)
- an intense four-month hard development phase (Oct-Jan 2020)
- a three-month launch phase (Feb-Apr 2020)

The funded projects will be at various stages of development. We are looking to fund products and services at any stage of development that can be shared with the wider not-for-profit sector. All applicants will have a digital development partner on board when they apply to help them deliver the project unless they have digital expertise in-house.

For more information on this round of funding please see our news article detailing the fund, which you can find [here](#).

Projects will address one of Comic Relief's four core issue areas: Children Survive and Thrive, Global Mental Health Matters, Fighting for Gender Justice, or A Safe Place to Be. We have also welcomed applications addressing challenges related to disability as part of this fund.

The Tech for Good programme was developed in response to the emerging need for charities to use technology to explore different approaches to delivering better services. This programme aims to provide the opportunity for not-for-profit organisations, who already have some technological capacity, to take a significant digital step forward within nine months. For more information on previous rounds of Tech for Good funding please see the Tech for Good Hub, which you can find [here](#). A theory of change was produced for the 2018 programme which can be [found here](#).

### Mentoring support for grantees

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In order to meet these aims, we would like to contract a digital support organisation to:

- Facilitate a one day start-up meeting in August 2019 for successful applicants and their digital partners: this meeting will launch the programme, ensure applicants understand the support offer available to them and the structure of cohort learning, and have the right information to be able to get started on their soft development phase.
- Facilitate a further meeting when appropriate for the beginning of the hard development phase for successful applicants and their digital partners, to ensure they are ready and have the right skills/knowledge to be able to progress on the hard development phase.
- Facilitate a public wrap-up event where grantees present their new digital products or services in May 2020 to other funders and sector stakeholders.
- Identify and facilitate more regular opportunities for peer learning across the cohort between the bootcamp days.
- Provide initial development support to agree an approach and set milestones with each grantee, including a clear sustainability and 'exit plan' embedded into the development support approach.
- Provide regular support for each grantee, ensuring they are meeting milestones at each stage of the programme structure defined above
- Troubleshoot support for grantees, signposting them to additional and relevant support, as appropriate, for examples other expert areas such as GDPR support. Grantees will have some additional budget for external specialist support (e.g. legal advice), and we would expect a digital organisation to advise and consult with grantees on how best to spend this budget dependent on their needs.

## Working with Comic Relief:

- Work with Comic Relief to develop new reporting templates (within the constraints of Comic Relief's existing grant management system) for grantees to report to Comic Relief at the beginning of their grant, at the end of the hard development phase and at the end of the grant. The reporting template could incorporate information routinely collected by the digital support organisation as part of its regular support to grantees. The report would ideally be written in partnership between the digital support organisation and grantee before being submitted to Comic Relief for sign-off. The aim of this change to reporting is to improve the quality of reporting to Comic Relief, as well as reduce the burden on grantees of having to update Comic Relief separately and in a different format.
- Capture learning from the cohort and share with the Comic Relief team, including suggestions for the dissemination of the learning more widely, during regular updates to the grant manager at Comic Relief.
- Work with Comic Relief and grantees to develop some practical case studies of their digital journey on the programme which could be shared publicly to support other non-profits to better understand the practicalities of digital development.

## Timeframe, budget and process

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The Tech for Good 2019 initiative opened for applications on midday on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019. The final decisions on grants will be made by mid-July 2019.

The grants will begin in August 2019, and will last for 9 months from the award date. The digital support organisation will begin work in July 2019, one month before the grants start, and finish by May 2020.

Individuals/ organisations cannot be a digital partner to a successful Tech for Good applicant and provide the support/ mentoring role. Please highlight in your tender response if you have been named as a tech partner on a Tech for Good application.

The budget for the mentoring support is £50,000 (inclusive of VAT).

Consortia bids are welcome and actively encouraged to build expertise in this space.

Bids should clearly demonstrate a project plan, including methodology and risk mitigation.

A four-side proposal including a project plan, budget breakdown, and a list of the team who would undertake the work, should be submitted by midday on **Friday 7 June 2019**.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to interview on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June. We will aim to appoint a successful candidate by Monday 24 June, and they will be expected to attend an inception meeting at Comic Relief in the week commencing 1<sup>st</sup> July.

We are looking for organisations that have good experience of supporting non-profit digital projects and are able to demonstrate good networks to facilitate additional support that grantees might encounter.

Please contact Dalia Abu Yassien on [d.yassien@comicrelief.com](mailto:d.yassien@comicrelief.com) by 20<sup>th</sup> May if you have any questions.