

## 100&Change White Paper Guidelines

February, 2019

Please email white papers to Melissa Buell, [limited@msu.edu](mailto:limited@msu.edu), by noon, March 8, 2019.

In its transformative [100&Change program](#), MacArthur Foundation competitively funds a single \$100 million grant to make measurable progress toward solving a significant problem affecting people, places, or the planet. In anticipation of the April, 2019, call for proposals, the Office of the Senior Vice President for Research and Innovation is inviting expressions of interest from MSU faculty in order to provide institutional support to proposals that are likely to be competitive in the upcoming competition. **Note: Fundamental and applied research proposals are not suitable for this competition, which is oriented toward scaling innovative solutions to challenging problems.**

In a white paper not to exceed three pages and 11 point font, please address the following:

MSU PI:	Department and College:	Email:
MSU co-PIs:	Department and College:	Email:

**Title of 100&Change Proposal:**

**Estimated Budget** (should target \$90-\$100million):

### 1. Problem

- Describe the specific problem the team is committed to solving.
- Who or what is impacted by this problem?
- What are the current resources available to address the problem, and why they are insufficient to support meaningful progress toward the solution?
- Describe any previous attempts to solve the problem.

### 2. Solution

- Describe the proposed solution to the problem.
- What are the direct benefits (outcomes) of the proposed solution?
- Who are the direct beneficiaries?
- Why have you chosen this solution as compared to alternative solutions?
- What is the evidence the proposed solution will work?

### 3. Tactics and Technology

- Describe your technical approach and/or related technology.
- What evidence do you have for the efficacy of the approach/technology and how will you implement the proposed solution at a larger scale?
- What are the circumstances to achieve optimal, scalable results, including experience to date?
- What is the implementation timeline (proposed solution must be implemented over a period of three to six years)?

### 4. Partnerships

- Who are the established partners for this proposal, and how have they been involved to date?
- If this proposal is not selected for MSU institutional support, could any of these partners lead a submission in which MSU participates? If yes, which partner(s)?

**White Paper Review Criteria**

Scale is 1-5 points: 1 low and 5 high.

Note: The internal reviewers will understand that white papers will not contain sufficient detail to fully evaluate. Even so, a team’s ability to address these likely questions will be considered.

**Meaningful:** The proposal presented an appropriate solution to a serious and pressing problem; met the needs of beneficiaries with an understanding of local conditions; noteworthy public benefit.

	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Is the proposal bold?</i>					
<i>Does it seek to solve an important and urgent problem?</i>					
<i>Will the proposed solution significantly improve the condition of the target beneficiaries and result in broad public benefit?</i>					

**Verifiable:** The proposal established a reasonable record of effectiveness; methodology, technology, and/or science are reliable and dependable.

	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Does the proposal present evidence that the solution has previously yielded practical and concrete results?</i>					
<i>Does the proposed solution rely on existing methodology, technology, and/or provable science?</i>					

**Feasible:** The proposal presented a competent, qualified team with clear strengths; presented a realistic budget and a project plan with sufficient attention to detail.

	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Does the team (all partners) have the skills, capacity, and experience to deliver the proposed solution?</i>					
<i>Do the budget and project plan align with a realistic understanding of the costs and tasks to implement the proposed solution?</i>					

**Durable:** The proposal focused on a reliable solution with a clear pathway toward sustainability; presented a sufficient plan for support.

	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Does the team propose a solution that has staying power?</i>					
<i>Is there a plan in place to support the resolution of the problem, including any need for ongoing support if necessary?</i>					