

**Call for Proposals – Tropical Forest Initiative
Questions and Answers**

Question no	Question	Answer
Eligibility of applicants		
1	What currency exchange rate should we use to verify compliance with the 20.000.000 DKK minimum?	<p>In order to convert currencies, please use InforEuro, the exchange rate of the Euro currency</p> <p>The applicable rate should be from the month the project started.</p>
2	Can we assume that this "The lead applicant should have prior experience of implementing projects with a budget of minimum DKK 20.000.000" means we have earlier been trusted budgets of minimum DKK 20 mio. through different contracts?	The lead applicant must have implemented at least one project with a budget of minimum 20 mio. DKK. The criterion is not reached by adding the budget of various projects with a value of less than 20 mio DKK.
3	Does having a Strategic Partner Agreement (SPA) make you eligible to be a lead applicant under this open call under the Danish Tropical Forest Initiative?	SPA partners are also eligible for this call, but it is not a requirement to be a SPA partner. In order to be a lead applicant, the organisation must live up to the eligibility criteria in point 3 of the Instructions, regardless whether they are a SPA partner or not.
4	Can the lead applicant also be partner in another proposal?	No, the lead applicant cannot be a partner in another proposal.
5	Could you please clarify if a Danish Partner is required in the consortium?	No, there is no requirement that the proposal or consortium must include a Danish organization.

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6	Can a partner be an academic institution/university, or is it exclusive to non-profit organizations?	The lead applicant must be an NGO with experience and expertise in leading, managing and implementing large scale projects. Co-applicants can be NGOs, academic institutions (public as well as private) or think tanks with special expertise on key issues related to the project. It is not a specific requirement that the co-applicants are non-profit organisations, although the project financed under this call must be not-for-profit. This entails ie. that all unspent funds must be returned to the Danish MFA, incl. interests.
7	We would like to know the exact meaning of "local organization": is it a territorial organization related to the area where the project will be implemented? Or 'local organization' may be considered a national foundation, NGOs or a consulting firm of the country in which the project will be implemented?	'Local organisation' is defined as an NGO based and registered in the country of implementation. In case of implementation in several countries, the consortium must have at least one partner in each of the countries of implementation.
8	Our organization has not previously implemented a project with a budget of DKK 20,000,000. Is this requirement strictly mandatory, or might there be some flexibility if we can otherwise demonstrate the necessary experience and capacity?	This is a mandatory requirement for the lead applicant. If your organisation does not live up to this criterion, you can still apply as a co-applicant in a consortium.
9	Given our existing partnership, would our organisation be eligible to apply but have another partner be the lead?	All organizations which comply with the eligibility criteria are eligible to apply as lead- or co-applicant regardless of whether they have previous experience working with the Danish MFA.
10	Is there any requirement to have past funding or experience working with Danida/Danish development cooperation?	See answer to Q9.
11	Are there any specific eligibility criteria for the local organizations?	See answer to Q7.

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12	If we propose a multi country approach, do we need one local organization for each country?	Yes. See answer to Q7.
Geography		
13	Does the phrasing "The geographical focus of the proposed activities should be countries with tropical forest, mainly in Central Africa, the Amazon and South East Asia" on page 2 of the Call indicate that countries outside of Central Africa, the Amazon and South East Asia are eligible but not priority?	Yes, that is correct. All countries and regions with tropical forest are eligible, but priority will be given to the ones in the regions mentioned (Central Africa, the Amazon and South East Asia).
14	Does KLIMA adopt a strict definition for countries it believes to belong to "Central Africa?" If so, can those countries be communicated?	We do not apply a strict definition of countries belonging to Central Africa. See answer to Q13.
15	Which countries are considered part of Central Africa according to the call eligibility? And is Uganda considered eligible?	Yes, Uganda is eligible. See answer to Q13 and Q14.
16	Is the geographic framing of Central Africa, the Amazon and South East Asia, inclusive of Ethiopia?	Projects targeting tropical forest in Ethiopia are eligible. See answer to Q13.
17	As the criteria state that the geographical focus should be mainly in Central Africa, is it acceptable to include eg West African countries connected to Central African countries?	See answer to Q13.
18	Could you clarify if projects targeting tropical forests in Tanzania could be eligible under the project?	See answer to Q13.
19	Does KLIMA consider Miombo to be 'tropical forest'?	Yes, projects focusing on the Miombo forest are also eligible.

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20	We would like to know whether other biodiversity tropical hotspots of South America, namely the area of Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta (in Northern part of Colombia) could be considered as a priority area in the Call for Proposal.	Yes, this area is also eligible under this call.
21	As Danida has ended programming in Bolivia does this means applications should not include Bolivia? Similarly, is DRC less of a priority than e.g. Uganda for this reason?	It is not a criterion that the Danish MFA/DANIDA has current programming or bilateral projects in the country. All countries with tropical forests are eligible and the ones within the regions mentioned (Central Africa, the Amazon and South East Asia) will be given priority. (See answer to Q13)
22	Does this call prioritise projects that focus on a single country or region, or does it encourage projects that span multiple priority regions?	Projects may cover several countries and regions, but we do encourage a strong landscape-based approach to ensure tangible impact.
23	Is there an interest in applications that cover 2 or even 3 of the target regions, or is there a preference for national or regional level applications?	See answer to Q22.
24	Within the regions mentioned (Central Africa, Amazon, South East Asia), are there priority countries or sub-regions? Does this correspond with Danida priority countries or not?	There are no specific priority countries within the regions mentioned and the choice of country does not have to correspond to Danida priority countries. See answer to Q21.
25	Is it acceptable to include two geographies (eg Central Africa and Southeast Asia) in the same proposal, if the lead applicant is working on relevant projects in both places?	See answer to Q22.

Thematic relevance

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26	Do the tropical forests to be restored include also dry tropical forests or only moist and semi-moist? Is there any further guidance to share on eligible forests?	All tropical forests are eligible under this call and as such projects focusing on dry tropical forests are also eligible.
27	Is there any guidance to share on the scale of landscape required for the landscape approach? Could a landscape intervention in a project for example work intensively with 1 or 2 specific forests/gazetted forest areas. Or would a landscape be considered to be a much wider geographic region/area?	There is not strict definition of a landscape-based approach, but the important criterion is to demonstrate a positive and sustainable impact on the selected landscape.
28	Is it acceptable to include work which isn't directly on tropical forests but intersects with them (alongside work on tropical forests)? For example, work to explore governance challenges posed by critical mineral mining where it intersects with social forestry regulations.	The main focus of the proposed projects should be the strategic priorities as indicated in the instructions. However, if other activities are necessary to achieve the strategic priorities, then these can be eligible too, but it should not be the main focus of the project.
29	Do you fund projects which include law enforcement activities, eg independent monitoring and/or training for judges and public officials, and/or litigation?	See answer to Q28.
30	Can the proposal include actions that are improved through small grants, transferred by the Consortium to train and strengthen local associations regularized in accordance with Brazilian legislation, but with little resource management capacity?	See answer to Q28.
Format requirements		
31	For the 'Presentation of Applicant Entities', is there a specific template for this, e.g. 'Annex D - Background information on applicant(s)' and page limit we need to adhere to?	Yes, please use annex D from the full proposal template for the presentation of applicants. Max. 1 page per applicant.

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32	The guidelines mention that a "presentation of applicant entity(ies) should be provided." Could you clarify the expected length or level of detail for this section?	See answer to Q31.
33	Is it possible to modify or add partners between the concept note and full proposal stages?	It is not possible to change the lead- or co-applicant after submission of the concept note. It is however possible to modify or add local partners between the concept note and full proposal stage as long as there is still at least one local partner in each country of implementation. See answer to Q7.
34	Should the project references only come from the lead organization? Or can we also include references from consortium partners?	Project references can be both from the lead applicant as well as co-applicants.
35	For the 'Draft Results Framework', is there a specific template we are required to fill, e.g. 'Annex A Results Framework' shared under the proposal template?	Yes, please use annex A from the full proposal template (max 2. Pages). In order to respect the max. 2 pages requirement, it is possible to omit the 'annual targets' for each output in the draft version of the results framework to be submitted with the concept note.
36	Does the 5-page limit on the Concept Note include the 'General Information' section? Or is the 5-page limit only for the 'Project Information' section?	The 5-page limit is including the General Information section.
37	Should the proposal be a maximum of 5 pages + list of project references + 2 pages for a draft results framework and presentation of the applicant entity(ies)? A total of 7 pages + list of project references?	Yes. The proposal consists of concept note (max 5 pages) + list of references + draft results framework (max 2 pages) + presentation of applicant(s) (max 1 page per applicant).
38	Is co-financing a requirement for the call? If so, is there a specific percentage requirement?	There is no requirement for co-financing.
39	Does MFA encourage the mobilization of co-financing from other donor(s) such as the European Union, etc., which could supplement the amount requested (DKK 25-35 million)?	See answer to Q38. While co-financing is not a requirement, we do not exclude it either. However, if other donors are co-financing part of the project, it must be very clear in the proposal and results framework what is

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		financed by the Danish contribution and how impact will be measured for the Danish contribution to the project.
40	What is the date range in which the funding should/will start?	Grants will be awarded and first payment made before the end of 2025. Projects should start as soon as possible thereafter.
41	Can the projects already be underway or is this funding for new projects only?	Funding can be for either new projects or as a complementary contribution to an existing project. See answer to Q39.
42	Is there a maximum number of organizations that form the Consortium?	There is no maximum number of organisations in a consortium, but the proposal should clearly describe the contributions and value-added of each partner as well as the distribution of roles and responsibilities between the consortium members.
43	Annex 1 mentions "Outline an indicative results-based budget". Does this budget need to follow the Budget Template in Annex 2?	Yes, you can use the annex C from the full proposal.
44	May the other (non-local) consortium partners include their own indirect?	The administration costs (indirect costs) cannot exceed 7% of total project costs (direct costs). The 7% administration fee can be shared between the lead applicant, co-applicants, local partners.
45	May the lead applicant include the payments to the consortium and local partners, as direct expense and, as a result, include indirect applied to those payments?	See answer to Q44.
46	Does the proposal need to have letters from the governments from the countries we aim to work with?	No
Other		

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47	Where can we find the final version of the 'Strategic Framework for the Tropical Forests Initiative for Climate and Sustainable Development 2024 – 2027'?	As indicated in the Instructions, the strategic framework can be found on Meeting in the Council for Development Policy on 12 September 2024 This is the final version.
48	Could you confirm whether the Lead Applicant must be an institution or if an individual researcher can apply as the Lead Applicant?	The Lead Applicant must be an institution/organisation and cannot be an individual.
49	As those two organizations, despite having a "similar" name, are two independent organizations, I would like to know if two proposals can be submitted?	Each independent organisation which has its own legal status and registration can apply.
50	Could you kindly confirm whether there are any specific donor-imposed restrictions, guidelines, or considerations we should be aware of concerning projects implemented in the DRC?	There are no specific restrictions, guidelines or considerations imposed depending on the country of implementation. All projects will be administered according to the Guidelines for single projects and the additional conditions as mentioned in point 10 of the Instructions to applicants.