

Q&A In relation to NGO Thematic Call for Proposal (CfP) – Reducing deforestation and increasing the sustainability of the Danish soy supply chain

Question 1: [Vil] et sæt Terms of Reference designet specifikt til at adressere (inkludere) vores 'capacity to manage financial contributions from Danida' udført af en ekstern konsulent – evt. udpeget af UM – [...] opfylde kravet?

Answer: No.

Question 2: Considering the eligibility criteria of the call, and our role as secretariat for the Danish Soy Alliance, we would like clarification on whether the Ethical Trade Initiative Denmark (DIEH) is eligible as lead applicant.

Answer: Like other applicants, DIEH must be able to document that it has undergone a formal Danida capacity assessment (review or financial monitoring visit) within the last five years to qualify as an eligible Lead Applicant.

Question 3: Considering the level of ambitions for the call, we would like clarification on whether the Ministry could consider to postpone the deadline to 1 April 2022.

Answer: It will not be possible to postpone the deadline beyond 1 March 2022.

Question 4: On page 5 of the Information Note, priority issue "Evidence based Solutions", it is stated that "... the proposal should not seek to pilot and test out new field level approaches but must clearly demonstrate adherence to proven landscape approaches with necessary geography-specific adaptations". Landscape approach is a very broad term. Could you kindly clarify what constitutes a 'proven landscape approach' and possibly the difference to 'new field level approaches'?

Answer: Deliberations on what constitutes a proven landscapes approach should be part of the analysis of the proposal. Research literature to guide such deliberations is available in abundance. The point of the priority issue is that the proposal should take stock of and take into account "what is there" and focus on synergies/cooperation with proven/existing approaches rather than test out and pilot new approaches and ideas in isolation/parallel.

Question 5: Under priority issue "Geographical Scope", it is stated that the proposal may only focus on one country. Does this mean that it must focus on one country only? And if the intended main country is Brazil, can transnational landscapes with the same problems regarding soy e.g in Bolivia or Paraguay or Argentina be included in the same proposal?

Answer: The proposal can operate with or within landscapes that are transnational (e.g. spanning more than one country).

Question 6: The Information Note states: "The maximum grant amount to be requested is DKK 30 million. Of the total grant, a maximum of 20% (including administrative costs of maximum 7%) of the proposal budget may be allocated to staff salaries and administration outside the recipient country". Is this to be understood as corresponding exactly to the guidelines regulating grants under a Strategic Partnership Agreement with Danida? If not, would you kindly specify the difference?

Answer: Yes, this is to be understood as aligned with the administrative guidelines of the Strategic Partnership Agreements.

Question 7: Exclusivity (“Exclusivity deals between any Danish, international and/or local partner and/or stakeholders are not allowed for this CfP”): Can you please confirm that ANY kind of exclusivity agreements between any partners of a consortium/proposal are strictly prohibited?

Answer: For the purpose of this CfP, an exclusivity deal is defined as a lead applicant (or partners of that lead applicant’s consortium) denying any of its participating partners or stakeholders the right to be involved in other competing proposals.

Question 8: Are there page limitations for the whole application and/or specific sections within this?

Answer: No.

Question 9: Is it permissible to add additional sections and/or sub-sections to the template?

Answer: No.

Question 10: While the detailed guidance states that ‘objectives, outcomes and outputs should be SMART’ and that indicators should include means of verification, this seems to be contradicted by the evaluation criteria that indicators are SMART. Can it be confirmed whether results themselves should be SMART, or indicators for the results be SMART?

Answer: It is the objective, outcome and output indicators that should be SMART – not the objectives, outcomes and outputs themselves.

Question 11: The CfP outlines that the specific objective must be achieved through three outcomes (production, protection/conservation, social inclusion/improved livelihoods). Is it permissible to include extra outcomes to the proposal?

Answer: No.

Question 12: It seems most appropriate that the project’s objective be aligned with the Specific Objective of the CfP, and this is implied by what has been pre-filled in the Results Framework. Can you confirm that the project objective should be the same as the specific objective in the CfP?

Answer: Yes, this can be confirmed.

Question 13: Are proposals allowed to submit additional Annexes, apart from those described in the application template?

Answer: No.

Question 14: Given that the CfP was launched shortly before Christmas and summer holidays in South America, on top of the current wave of the Covid-19 pandemic, would the Danish MFA consider extending the deadline for submission of project proposals?

Answer: It will not be possible to postpone the deadline beyond 1 March 2022.

Question 15: Section 2 of the Draft Project Template (page 1) makes reference to the need for alignment with the overall purpose of Danish Development Cooperation as defined in the Act on International Cooperation. Could you provide a link to this document?

Answer: *The Danish Act on International Cooperation and amendments can be accessed here: [Lovgrundlag \(um.dk\)](http://lovgrundlag.um.dk)*

Question 16: For results achievement and measurements as well as risk management, the Information Note mentions alignment to the DANIDA AID MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES (AMG). Could you provide a link to the relevant document(s) for this CfP?

Answer: *The Danida Aid Management Guidelines can be found here: www.amg.um.dk*

Question 17: Is it permissible to have sub-grants/sub-grantees for implementation, and must all implementing partners sub-grantees be identified in the proposal, or can new partners / sub-grantees be added during project implementation?

Answer: *Sub-grantees can be included, but should be identified and described in the proposal and relevant annexes same as for other partners of the proposal.*

Question 18: How often do audits need to be carried out? Are there any limits on audit costs?

Answer: *Please refer to the MFA guidelines for administration of single projects ([Enkeltprojekter \(um.dk\)](http://www.um.dk)) referenced in the CfP Information Note.*

Question 19: Annex 1 provides guidance on what is required for Theory of Change and Scenario Analysis & Planning, but provides no template. Is there a set template for Annex 1?

Answer: *The Results Framework template on the last page of Annex 1 should be used. Apart from this, there is no set template for Theory of Change and Scenario Analysis & Planning.*

Question 20: The guidance in Annex 1 states 'Scenario analysis and planning is most relevant for programming in fragile contexts and situations.' Is scenario planning required for all proposals, even those for contexts not considered fragile?

Answer: *Scenario analysis and planning can be included if deemed relevant in the local setting but is not mandatory.*

Question 21: The guidance in Annex 1 states a maximum of 5 outputs, and this is also stated in the Results Chain. Can you confirm that this is a total of 5 outputs for the whole project, and not 5 outputs per outcome?

Answer: *The maximum of five outputs is per outcome but fewer are welcomed.*

Question 22: Page 3 of Annex 1 states 'The objective should respond to the context and development problem analysis from Standard annex 1' What is this Standard Annex 1?

Answer: *What is referred to here is the context and development problem analysis provided in the proposal itself. Please disregard the reference to "Standard Annex 1".*

Question 23: Is there any guidance on supplementary materials that should or can be attached to the application (Annex 4)?

Answer: *The list of supplementary materials is a mandatory annex to the proposal. The list of supplementary materials should refer documents used for – or of interest to – the development of the proposal in accordance with the objectives and priority issues of the CfP Information Note.*

Question 24: Is there a template for the mandatory Annex 5 (Partner Descriptions)?

Answer: *No.*