

Q&A as of 28<sup>th</sup> of October 2021 for the NGO call for proposals for Syria and Afghanistan:

Topic	Question	Answer
General	How many pages should the proposal narrative be?	As stated in the project proposal template, the narrative should be max 20 pages, excluding annexes.
General	In previous information notes, you included how many allocations you planned to make. This was not included in the information note for Afghanistan and Syria. Are you able to provide some indication of this in relation to this CfP?	At this stage, it is not possible to give an indication of how many allocations will be made.
General	Is it possible for a non-CHS certified organisation to apply to the call?	A non-CHS certified organization can only apply if a certification process has already been initiated, and documentation hereof can be provided. This may involve steps toward either of the three verification options under the CHS, i.e. self-assessment, independent verification or certification.
General	<p>There is a discrepancy between the definition of "local independent partners" in the call budget note and the SPA II. Please clarify which we should depend on.</p> <p><i>In the budget note under A2 Implementation through local independent partners, it is stated: "Independence' analysed and justified in terms of the following indicative criteria: 1) judicial independence 2) independent governance structure, 3) financially diversified source of funding and 4) degree to which it is rooted in local community (e.g. through volunteers, membership base, local donation). (I.e. excluding transfers to country and regional offices, functioning as extensions of the DANIDA-funded organisation or the international alliances to which the DANIDA funded organisation is a member)."</i></p> <p><i>However, during negotiations in the SPA II process, the following formulation was agreed on: "Where partnerships are made up of organisations in Denmark (HQ level) and in the global South that are part of the same international alliance or similar, the South-based member of such an alliance must be able to demonstrate that it is rooted in local civil society to be defined as a local partner. This</i></p>	<p>Either of the two interpretations may be applied.</p>

	<i>includes local leadership (board and management), local fundraising and an overall autonomy. Where this is not the case, the South-based member of the alliance is not recognized in this definition as a local partner, but may still contribute meaningfully to the partnership."</i>	
General	Is it advised to develop one Results Framework per country - or - an overall Results Framework wherein each country intervention is specified as much as possible?	Overall, one results framework should be submitted, also for multi-country proposals. However, the results framework should provide the necessary detail to substantiate the proposal. The result framework may be organised according to what makes most sense for the specific proposal (e.g. country-specific outcomes may be applied if helpful).
General	Is it possible to have a consortium established of two (or more) INGOs and one or more local organisations? Or is there a limitation of the number of international NGOs that can participate in the consortium?	It is acceptable to have a consortium with more than one partner, as long as application complies with the criteria from section 3 of the Information Note (e.g. the lead applicant is a recipient of humanitarian or development funds from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has successfully undergone a formal capacity assessment by the MFA within the last five years).
General	What are the requirements regarding text font and size for the proposal submission?	There is no requirement as such, however an easily readable text front and size should be applied.
General	The guidelines from SPA II and from the CfP S/A are not aligned on local partner core cost. Please clarify.  <i>CfP S/A Annex 1a, A.2 column 3 states "Unspecified admin fee or overhead lump sum not eligible". However, in the recent SPA II material, Annex 2E, A.2 column 3 it states "Potentially, unspecified administrative fee for the local implementing partners (shall be kept at a minimum, must be based on partner capacity assessment and justified, max. 7% of the direct cost of the local partner)".</i>	Annex 1a to the Call for Proposals has now been aligned with the SPA II with regard to local partners. The updated annex has been uploaded at the Call for Proposals website.

General	Are there any budget restrictions on activities in neighbouring countries?	There are no budget restrictions related to the specific country of implementation.
General	The call is for 12 to 36 months, however the contexts can change tremendously over 36 months. Will Danida not issue any similar call for these locations for the next 36 months? Will organisations be ineligible to apply for new CfP if they have an active grant under this lot?	<p>Calls for proposals from extraordinary humanitarian funds are issued based on developing needs and crises. No decision has been taken on potential additional calls.</p> <p>For this call, organisations who already hold Danish funding for Syria/Afghanistan (e.g. from previous extraordinary funds or from strategic partnerships) are eligible to apply.</p>
General	Will working with unregistered, loosely organised community groups as opposed to formal CSOs still count positively towards scores on local leadership/localisation?	Working with unregistered community groups is acceptable, however, a partnership with a formal, local organisation should also be in place.
General	Will it count positively towards the score presenting a well-planned, gradual approach to identifying and engaging with local partners in areas where no existing partnerships are in place?	Partnering with local organisations is an eligibility criteria. The evaluation criteria for partnerships are outlined in the Information Note (section 4). No further details are available at this point.
General	Supporting only (or disproportionately) Syrian refugees could pose challenges in terms of social cohesion, in already tense contexts. Is there a desired % split between Syrian and non-Syrian beneficiaries in this grant?	There is no required split between Syrian and non-Syrian beneficiaries. But partners are expected to find a split that is justifiable in the given context and taking the overall objective of the CfP into account
General	Shall we only have one indicator per output/outcome, or can we have 2-3? It's all singular in the template, but we would appreciate clarification on this.	There is no specific limitation on the number of indicators per output or outcome. However, please see section 6 of the Information Note. Outputs and outcomes (and their indicators) should, among other things, be specific, time-bound and measurable.

General	On page 4 of the solicitation, Eligibility Criteria #6 states “The Lead Applicant has conducted communication and information activities in Denmark within the last five years. This is to support efforts to strengthen Danish public commitment to development assistance.” Can the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark clarify what constitutes sufficient communication and information activities in Denmark?	Communication and information activities should have taken place on multiple accounts within the last five years. They should take place in or centered on Denmark, with a specific focus on the Danish audience (media, public etc). General communication and information that is intended for a wider, non-Danish audience (e.g. general/global press statements) is not sufficient.
Afghanistan	Given the rapidly shifting environment in Afghanistan, we would like to include an inception phase of approximately two months to ensure that all operational requirements are in place for sound implementation. Is that permissible?	Not clear what is requested here. An inception phase is often an integrated part of the project cycle. If you are uncertain whether activities can start immediately, it is possible to apply for a project with a delayed start date.
Afghanistan	The restrictions on our female workforce in Afghanistan pose serious challenges to the delivery of a principled humanitarian response. Would Danida be open to the inclusion of an advocacy component around girls and women’s rights in the proposal?	Yes, an advocacy component would be acceptable.
Afghanistan	Are there any restrictions on the inclusion of Hawala fees in the budget?	Hawala transfers can be accepted where the formal banking system is not functioning. The usual requirements for documentation, accounting and responsibility for risk management applies. It is important to regularly consider if the fees and risks are reasonable compared to the expected results.
Afghanistan	What are the plans for allocation of the remaining 83 million DKK, which are reserved for acute interventions in Afghanistan? Article UM: <a href="https://um.dk/da/nyheder-fra-udenrigsministeriet/newsdisplaypage/?newsID=A37AEA0C-B619-4791-8E3E-893C7E5375FF">https://um.dk/da/nyheder-fra-udenrigsministeriet/newsdisplaypage/?newsID=A37AEA0C-B619-4791-8E3E-893C7E5375FF</a>	The mentioned allocation falls outside of this call for proposals and the associated Q&A.
Syria	The focus in the CfP is on the Syria crisis, however since Lebanon is experiencing multiple crisis affecting both Syrian refugees and the Lebanese population, we wonder if there is any restriction on % of vulnerable Lebanese to be included as direct beneficiaries?	Host communities are also considered a beneficiary group, but partners are expected to find a split that is justifiable in the given context and taking the overall objective of the Call for Proposals into account

Syria	Are there any restrictions on whether to plan our intervention in North West or North East Syria?	Interventions can be implemented in North West Syria, North East Syria or both.
Syria	Some areas are government controlled, some are not. Are there any restriction on working in either or both?	Interventions can be implemented in government-controlled or other areas of Syria.
Syria	Please clarify the sentence "All projects must be implemented in Syria, Lebanon and/or Jordan". Does it mean Syria, Lebanon and possibly Jordan? Or does it mean Syria, Jordan and possibly Lebanon?	Interventions can be implemented in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon, or in only one or two of the countries.
Syria	Why is Turkey no longer included? Can we expect that Turkey will be included again in the future?	It has been decided not to include Turkey in this call.