

Questions: Call for proposals': Strengthening livelihoods and self-reliance to prevent and address displacement in Somalia

Question no.	Question	Answer
1	Is it acceptable to the Ministry for a consortium partner supplying technical expertise to be represented on more than one bid submitted by different consortia for the same window?	No. A consortium lead may apply for both windows, and may apply with different member organisations on the different windows, given the consortium submits a concept note and full proposal for each window. Participating organisations can only participate in one consortium under this CfP. – see page 6 in the information note.
2	If yes, and if more than one of those bids was to be shortlisted for a full proposal would you be content to receive more than bid at the second stage of applications in which the same technical partner was included?	N/A see Q1 Answer is “no”
3	Regarding the subject matter, is it permissible for a local/regional NGO to apply separately with two different lead consortiums?	See Q1 No. A consortium lead may apply for both windows, and may apply with different member organisations on the different windows, given the consortium submits a concept note and full proposal for each window. Participating organisations can only participate in one consortium under this CfP.
4	I would like to know if it's possible to only implement the project in one region- either Somalia or Somaliland? Is it a must criterion for the project to have activities both in Somalia and Somaliland?	The consortium as a whole is required to implement projects across Somalia, incl. Somaliland. Consortium members can implement in different parts of Somalia including Somaliland, as long as the consortium as a whole covers Somalia, including Somaliland.
5	For an international NGO registered in Denmark with local partners in Somalia and Somaliland: Will the international NGO or its local partners be eligible as a consortium lead?	See eligibility criteria 2 in annex 1. The Consortium lead must be registered as an INGO in Somalia.

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		<p>For organisations part of an alliance, federation or other type of affiliation, the local branch of that federation is eligible as a Consortium lead if it is registered and fulfils eligibility criteria as outlined in Annex 1.</p> <p>How the branches of the organisation/federation organises its inputs and support to the consortium lead, is up to the applicant, but the roles of the branches should be clearly described.</p> <p>Please note that if the Consortium Lead is registered as an INGO in Somalia, the Consortium Lead cannot at the same time have the role as local NGO in the consortium.</p>
6	<p>Staffing in Somalia/Somaliland, including in proposed intervention areas.</p> <p>In the case of staff presence in Somalia/Somaliland, does the staffing criterion apply to the local partner staff, or only to the consortium lead?</p>	<p>Yes, staff at the local branch level will count as programme staff.</p> <p>How the branches of the organisation/federation organises its inputs and support to the consortium lead, is up to the applicant.</p> <p>The Consortium Lead is eligible provided they have a minimum 10 full time staff and that they are registered as an international NGO in Somalia</p> <p>See Eligibility criteria 3.</p>
7	<p>Annual global turnover in past three years</p> <p>Minimum 20 million USD</p> <p>See application form part B: Eligibility Criteria</p>	<p>If the Consortium Lead is a part of an international federation, the annual turnover of the federation can be used.</p> <p>However, note that the information note says that a consortium must consist of an INGO and a nationally</p>

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	Regarding the requirement for annual global turnover in past three years to be a minimum of 20 million USD, would a federation's turnover satisfy the eligibility criteria?	registered. So, if registered as an INGO – it cannot be a local at the same time.
8	<p>As the information note for the call in question does not include a reference to the Core Humanitarian Standards/CHS, we conclude, that it is not a requirement for the lead applicant to be verified/certified against the CHS.</p> <p>The specific reason for asking the question, is an on-going dialogue with the MFA about fulfilling requirements for being CHS verified/certified. We hope that this unresolved matter will not interfere with requirements for the present call.</p>	CHS verification and/or certification is not a requirement for funding under this call.
9	<p>The CfP states, “Applying consortium leads are welcome to forward separate proposals for both windows, i.e. the same consortium can apply for both windows, given the consortium submits a concept note and full proposal for each window. Participating organisations can only participate in one consortium under this CfP.”</p> <p>Please clarify whether a participating organization can participate in 2 different consortia for the 2 different windows i.e. be with one consortium for window 1 and another consortium for window 2?</p>	<p>See Q1</p> <p>A consortium lead may apply for both windows, and may apply with different member organisations on the different windows, given the consortium submits a concept note and full proposal for each window. Participating organisations can only participate in one consortium under this CfP.</p>
10	<p>Please clarify whether the CfP is using the term, “Participating Organizations” interchangeably with “Consortium Members”?</p> <p>If so, are consortium members restricted to applying in only one consortium under one window?</p>	<p>See Q1</p> <p>The same consortium can apply for two windows. Yes, “participating organisations” and “consortium members” are used interchangeably.</p>

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		A Consortium member can participate as member of one consortium applying in both windows.
11	Please clarify the funding modality for the CfP. Will it be a grant or a joint venture?	<p>The funding modality is a grant.</p> <p>If the project extends beyond this grant, it should be clearly indicated in the budget.</p> <p>If other donors provide funding to the project - > <i>Indicate if the project is supported by other donors, and how/for which activities., see page 30</i></p>
12	Please clarify whether a support or HQ office can be the signatory to the grant/contract even though the implementing Consortium is led by an entity registered in Somalia?	<p>The HQ Office of the applicant can be signatory if the eligibility criteria of Somali registration and local staff are fulfilled (criteria 1,2 and 3).</p> <p>If the HQ Office is signatory to the grant, the proposal must clearly state the division of responsibilities and adhere to the criteria of consortium lead being registered in Somalia (see eligibility criteria 2).</p> <p>This will be under the assumption that responsibility for implementation and management of the project takes place in Somalia.</p>
13	Please clarify whether direct registration in Somalia is mandatory for the lead applicant at the HQ or support office level, or can the registration of a National Office fulfil this requirement?	<p>A National Office of an organisation can fulfil this requirement if all eligibility criteria are met, and it is clearly stated how the National Office will function as implementer.</p> <p>This includes that the National Office is registered in Somalia.</p>
14	The CfP mentions that co-applicants should have an "active presence" in Somalia/Somaliland. Does this	Yes, operational presence and activities on the ground is sufficient to meet the requirement for Consortium Members.

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	<p>requirement necessitate having HQ or support office staff and direct registration in Somalia, or would operational presence through a National Office be considered sufficient to meet this criterion?</p>	<p>For the Lead applicant see criteria in Annex 1.</p>
15	<p>Please clarify whether an organization can still be eligible as a co-applicant if it primarily contributes specialized technical expertise and resources, while the national office fulfils the local presence requirements?</p>	<p>If the Consortium Lead is a part of an international federation, alliance or other type of affiliation, it will be up to the Consortium Lead to define roles and responsibilities between HQ, National Office or other offices involved as long as the criteria of local presence is meet.</p>
16	<p>The CfP states, “The approach of this CfP will not comprise of cash transfer assistance and should not be included in the proposals. Cash transfers can be considered as an add-on, should additional humanitarian funding at a later stage be made available to the RDE Somalia under this CfP.”</p> <p>There are several evidence-based interventions that contribute to longer term resilience such as cash for work, crisis modifiers and loan funds that all require some level of cash transfers to support target participants. Could you please clarify whether these types of cash-related interventions can be included in the approach?</p>	<p>Cash transfer interventions are not considered as a part of the proposal.</p> <p>However, microfinance, loan funds including microloans can be included.</p> <p>Cash transfer and crisis modifiers can only be considered and activated should additional emergency or humanitarian funds be allocated to the project or available due to changes in the conditions that the project is operating in.</p>
17	<p>Annex 1: It is not entirely clear from the concept note if annex 1 is to be enclosed as part of the final submission alongside the concept note. On the one hand, Annex 1 on ‘Eligibility criteria’ entails a yes/no column indicating that it has to be filled in. However, on the other hand, the information note (section 6., 7.1 and page 11) states</p>	<p>The applicant is welcome to include annex 1, but it is not a requirement. Should an applicant submit without annex 1, the RDE will assess the application based on the presented documentation in the EoI.</p>

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	that “Annex 3 provides the form used to present eligibility“.	
18	<p>Consortium lead experience: In annex 1 (Eligibility criteria) it is stated that the consortium lead should have managed “at least 2 contracts of 2,5 million USD and above each as lead in Somalia“.</p> <p>Does this mean that we can only include consortium lead experience from Somalia or also other countries? Or might the part of the sentence stating “in Somalia” be an error, since this eligibility criteria assesses consortium lead experience and not country presence (which is assessed in the following criteria). According to the concept note format page 16, the consortium lead is requested to “document experience as consortium lead implementing projects in a developing country within the last five years”</p>	<p>Eligibility Criteria 5 should read: “... at least 2 contracts of 2,5 million USD and above each as lead” and refers therefore to experience as Consortium Lead in any country where the organisation is working.</p>
19	<p>Commitment of consortium members documented: In annex 1 (eligibility criteria), it is stated that the commitment of consortium members must be documented through an “Authorised signatures from all consortium members”. In what format should this be documented? At the final page of the concept note, we will be providing signatures “for each consortium member“. Will this suffice as documentation or do we need to enclose a specific dedicated document documenting commitment of consortium members, such as a pre-teaming agreement?</p>	<p>The Consortium Lead has responsibility for ensuring that consortium members are committed and contributing to the implementation of the project. The RDE will hold the Consortium Lead accountable for the performance of the entire consortium.</p> <p>If the Consortium Lead has agreements and documentation in place, this could be enclosed to demonstrate commitment of consortium members.</p> <p>When developing the full proposal, we recommend applicants to present documentation for establishment of the consortium. This could take form as a signed agreement between participating members or other relevant documentation outlining the nature of the consortium.</p>

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		The documentation will form part of the assessment of the full proposal under criteria 3.5 and 7.1.
20	Experiences with sub-granting: The concept note requests that lead applicants enclose “Sub-granting guidelines or other relevant documentation”. What kind of documents are expected here? Should we enclose a full sub-granting package including due diligence forms etc.	Yes, or a link to webpage where these can be found.
21	Annex 5 or 6: On page 6 « Climate adaptation and environment » it is stated: “While meeting the pre-defined objective and outcomes as outlined in the Information Note, please describe here how the project will address the impact of climate change, promote sustainable management of the environment, and other requirements in relation to ‘green’ (see Annex 6)”. This is supposed to be annex 5, right?	Yes. That is correct, it is Annex 5.
22	<p>PART B: ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA – CONSORTIUM LEAD</p> <p>PART C: CONCEPT NOTE FORM</p> <p>These sections only require Somalia experience of consortium lead and members.</p> <p>Q: Can the MFA please confirm that the forms concern Somalia as well as Somaliland?</p> <p>Theses sections only require Somalia experience of consortium lead and members.</p>	Yes, these forms include Somaliland.

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	<p>Q: Can the MFA please confirm that the forms concern consortium lead and members from Somalia as well as Somaliland – i.e. that consortium members from both countries are eligible, regardless of the fact that only Somalia is mentioned in the headings of certain sections.</p>	
23	<p>PART B: ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA – CONSORTIUM LEAD Experience</p> <p>Can the MFA confirm that a consortium lead experience also includes different partners? i.e., a combination of (I)NGO's, private sector, and foundations?</p> <p>Or does the consortium necessarily have to consist solely of ngo's (local and ingo's)?</p>	<p>Yes, confirmed. Lead experience can include working with different types of partners and does not solely have to consist of NGOs.</p>
24	<p>Does seaweed farming adhere to the call specifics?</p>	<p>Yes - If the applicants can substantiate how this pertains to outcomes.</p>
25	<p>Could you provide more details on what qualifies as sufficient "value-added" when including additional consortium members? Specifically, what criteria will be used to evaluate whether a proposed consortium member significantly enhances the project?</p>	<p>The Consortium Lead would need to demonstrate in the application what the different consortium members bring to the project (that others don't already provide) See also annex 2: Concept Note assessment criteria and scoring method, particularly 3.1 and 3.2 for assessing value added.</p>
26	<p>How will the assessment of climate adaptation-related activities be conducted in practice? Is there flexibility in how applicants allocate the required percentage of the budget to climate adaptation, and what documentation is expected to justify this allocation?</p>	<p>There is no flexibility in the percentage - climate adaptation has to comprise 50% of budget for window 1. Please refer to how the budget is calculated and section 4 of the concept note where this is explained. Finally, this will only be relevant for the projects selected for full proposal.</p>

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27	While the call does not specify geographical limitations, could you clarify if there are preferred regions within Somalia or Somaliland that align more closely with the objectives of this Call for Proposals? Would prioritizing certain regions enhance the chances of selection?	There are no preferred regions for implementation, but the project has to include implementation in Somaliland. It will be up to the applicants to argue and justify the specific choice of locations based on effectiveness of the project. See also criteria 3.2 Geographic considerations and target groups, p. 5 in the Information Note.
28	The information note mentions the possibility of extending the project duration without a new call for proposals. What are the conditions under which such an extension would be granted, and what would the process look like?	Additional funding can be granted, subject to parliamentary approval in Denmark, if changes in context occurs. For further information on extension of projects, please see the Danish MFA Aid Management Guidelines Bilateral cooperation (um.dk) and page 6 of the Information Note.
29	What specific types of monitoring and reporting systems are recommended or preferred by RDE Somalia for this initiative? Is there a standardized framework that applicants should consider adopting?	Please consult the Danish MFA Aid Management Guidelines for recommendations on monitoring and reporting. Bilateral cooperation (um.dk)
30	How will RDE Somalia facilitate coordination between projects funded under this Call for Proposals and other ongoing Danish-funded initiatives in Somalia? Is there a platform or mechanism for ensuring synergy and avoiding duplication of efforts?	For each window, it will be up to the Consortium Lead to facilitate coordination. Between windows, RDE will facilitate coordination as the need arises. This will be developed after the selection process is over.
31	For consortia that have not undergone a capacity assessment by the Danish MFA, what are the specific areas that the assessment will focus on, and how should applicants prepare for this evaluation?	Please see the Danish MFA Aid Management Guidelines for further information on the financial management and capacity assessment of partners. https://amg.um.dk/-/media/country-sites/amg-en/bilateral-cooperation/general-guidelines-for-financial-management/annex-1a-guide-to-financial-management-capacity-assessment.ashx

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32	Are there specific criteria or requirements for the national (Somali) NGO member in terms of past project experience or financial capacity? How can consortia ensure they meet these criteria?	See page 23 in the Information Note. It will be up to the Consortium Lead to outline requirements for consortium members for assessing capacity of Consortium Members to be included in the consortium. It will be the responsibility of the Consortium Lead to ensure project performance.
33	What are the expectations for financial management and reporting within the consortium? Are there specific financial reporting formats or standards that need to be followed?	The Consortium lead's own guidelines on sub-granting and reporting should be used. The Consortium lead should define the financial reporting formats to be used and this should be stipulated in the sub-granting guidelines. This will be assessed in the full proposal phase of this CfP, see also criteria 3.5 and 7 for full proposal, annex 4a.
34	Are there recommended or required formats for partnership agreements between consortium members? What should these agreements include to ensure clarity and prevent conflicts?	There are no required formats, it is the responsibility of the Consortium Lead to have these in place and present to RDE as part of the proposal.
35	Could you provide more guidance on what is considered an effective risk mitigation strategy, particularly in the context of the dynamic and often unstable environment in Somalia?	Please see Danish MFA Aid management Guidelines for furthers guidance on risk management. Fragility Risk and Resilience Analysis Tool (um.dk)
36	The call emphasizes a community-driven development approach. Could you elaborate on the expectations for community involvement at different stages of the project? How will the degree of community engagement be assessed during the proposal evaluation?	It is the responsibility of the consortium lead to ensure engagement with government and other authorities to ensure community coherence, local ownership and involvement. See section 4 in the information note. This will be assessed in the full proposal, to be assessed as part of the criteria in section 3 in annex 4.

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37	What criteria will be used to evaluate the sustainability and scale-up potential of proposed projects? Are there specific outcomes or impacts that RDE Somalia prioritizes when considering long-term sustainability?	The project will be assessed in its full length based on the criteria listed in 2.4 and the applicants' explanation in the Concept Note. See also criteria 2.4 in annex 4 for the full proposal.
38	For Window 2, 25% of the budget is to be dedicated to climate resilience (Rio marker) - is it 25% of the full budget or of the Somalia activity budget only?	It is 25% of the full budget that needs to be dedicated to climate resilience.
39	Will Danida allow part of the funds beings used for infrastructure elements, such as Latrines, watersystems or other WASH related infrastructure?	Yes, given the applicant can thoroughly explain how activities contribute to the expected outcomes of the project, in line with the objectives and expected outcomes outlined in the Information Note.
40	Will Danida allow part of the funding to be used for a small scale grants mechanism for youth entrepreneurs?	Yes, this would be allowed. This mechanism should also be explained in detail and how it is expected to contribute to the expected outcomes of the project.
41	The budget guidance mentions a 10% max on contingency, but what about (clearly defined) crisis modifiers and Anticipatory Action allocations based on pre-agreed triggers? This would allow communities to be well prepared for (predictable) shocks.	Crisis modifiers and Anticipatory Action will have to be included in the 10%.
42	Kindly clarify if the consortium lead must have experience and a presence in Somalia and Somaliland, or if they can have a presence in either location if all other eligibility criteria are met.	The Consortium Lead must have presence in Somalia, but it is not required that the Lead has presence in Somaliland, as long as the consortium as a whole are present across Somalia, including Somalia.

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43	How does RDE Somalia define the following terms: rural, peri-urban, and urban in the context of this CfP?	<p>Rural –where at least 50 % of the population live in an open area that has few homes or other buildings and low population density.</p> <p>Urban:- where more than 80 % of the population live in urban clusters;</p> <p>Peri-urban - where more than 50 % and up to 80 % of the population live in urban clusters; (EU).</p>
44	Can applications under Window 2 also include components of working with rural communities?	Yes, as long as the main focus of the project is on urban resilience and activities are contributing to overall objectives of the window.
45	In terms of budgeting, can HR costs that are 100% charged to the project be classified as direct activity costs?	This question pertains to a detailed budget which are only required for the full proposal phase. Applicants are welcome to seek further advise on this if invited to submit full proposal.
46	Kindly clarify the preferred exchange rate for DKK to EUR and DKK to USD.	This question pertains to submitting a budget in the full proposal phase. For the concept note phase, applicants are only required to provide an indicative budget, where an official exchange rate can be used to indicate approximate values. Applicants are welcome to seek further advise on this if invited to submit full proposal.
47	Under Section 4 (p. 6) of the CfP, Danida states: “Applying consortium leads are welcome to forward separate proposals for both windows, i.e. the same consortium can apply for both windows, given the consortium submits a concept note and full proposal for each window.” Some pre-established, multi-project consortia in Somalia have several Member/Partner agencies and may wish to apply with different Member	Yes, that will be accepted, provided the participating organisation is not part of another consortium.

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	organizations on the different windows (using the same consortium lead agency on both windows). Can Danida confirm that this will be accepted under the stated eligibility criteria?	
48	Under Annex 1, it states that the Consortium Lead is required to have the following contract management experience: “at least 2 contracts of 2,5 million USD and above each as lead in Somalia. See form B: Eligibility Criteria.” However, Form B states the same requirement for “a developing country” rather than Somalia specifically. Can Danida clarify which criterion will be applied?	See Q18 – Consortium Lead experience can be globally.
49	Under Section 3.1, Danida states “The approach of this CfP will not comprise of cash transfer assistance and should not be included in the proposals. Cash transfers can be considered as an add-on, should additional humanitarian funding at a later stage be made available to the RDE Somalia under this CfP.” Can Danida clarify whether this statement applies to all cash transfer modalities or only humanitarian Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance? For example, would Danida be opposed to group cash transfer modalities like survivor and community-led response (sclr) that are designed to support local/community groups in carrying out community-level resilience activities?	See Q16
50	Section 2.1. on Danish priorities (p.3) in the Information Note outlines that the proposed projects should contribute to climate change adaptation with 50% of total funding for window 1, and 25% for window 2	The wording in the annex 5 is not clear. For this CfP, 50 % of the budget should be tagged climate adaptation for window 1. This equals 40 million DKK in the

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	<p>allocated for adaptation. The section refers to annex 5 (p.31) for further explanation, where it is explained that the projects should score a minimum of 50% against the five green markers (environment, mitigation, adaptation, biodiversity, and desertification), and that there are no requirements for which specific green markers the outcomes should contribute to, nor the minimum score for the outcomes. This seems contradictory to the emphasis on adaptation provided in section 2.1. Grateful if you could clarify this.</p>	<p>budget has to be tagged 'climate adaptation' as per the guidance in annex 5.</p> <p>For window 2, 25% of the budget for the project should be tagged 'climate adaptation', equalling 12,5 million DKK.</p> <p>There are no minimum scores for the individual outcomes, as long as the total budget of the project adheres to the above requirements. The applicant can use the guidelines provided in the CfP, or use a different method for tagging green, as long as the method is clear to the RDE and the budget and project outcomes clearly demonstrate that the above requirements are met.</p>
51	<p>Does Danida have a preference between the geographic disaggregation of Consortium partners' scopes of work vs. technical disaggregation? I.e., consortium partners responsible for implementation of the full project in their respective areas of intervention vs. partners programming in the same locations with different technical responsibilities.</p>	<p>No preference, as long as criteria are fulfilled and the value added of each Consortium Member is clear.</p>
52	<p>Annex 6 states that the Project Objective is "Strengthened resilience of Somalis towards climate-related and man-made shocks, thereby preventing displacement in Somalia" - should this project objective be adopted word-for-word for both windows or does Danida expect applicants to adapt the project objective statement for each window? Alternatively, should applicants use the window-specific outcome statements</p>	<p>Yes, applicants can adapt project objective statements, as long as these are clearly referring to purpose, development objectives as well as priority issues as outlined in the Information Note.</p> <p>RDE will reserve the right to negotiate precise wording with successful applicants.</p>

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	<p>listed on page 4 (Section 3) as Project Objective statements for the proposed result frameworks? On page 4 these are listed as “outcomes”; however, it would be challenging to use each statement as a sole outcome with only outputs underneath as per the result framework guidance in Annex 6.</p>	
53	<p>In section 3.1 on priority issues, point three emphasizes addressing local challenges through locally driven solutions, in collaboration with Community Based Organizations (CBOs), local government structures, and other local organizations. Does the term "local organizations" here also include private sector entities such as skills training institutions, renewable energy supply companies, agribusinesses, and similar actors?</p>	<p>Yes, this can include private sector-collaboration, including purchase of services. However, private sector actors cannot be consortium members.</p>
54	<p>Is there minimum expected target population to benefit from the project under both windows?</p>	<p>No, however when assessing the full application, the RDE will assess the cost effectiveness of the full project proposal as part of the overall assessment.</p>
55	<p>The emphasis of dialogue with government needs a bit more clarity on what is expected by the donor, could Danida provide a clearer indication of how much involvement of government they want/expect in the project design? And more specifically, could Danida confirm whether the provision of financial resources by applicants to the government will be accepted and if so for which specific costs (i.e. personnel salary/stipends, meeting coordination costs, etc.)?</p>	<p>It is expected that applicants consult relevant stakeholders in the design phase, but there are no specific requirements from RDE.</p> <p>The RDE does not fund allowances, per diems and other remuneration of government officials in project activities.</p> <p>Consideration on costs for coordination with government is only expected to be included in the full budget proposal to be submitted in the full proposal phase. Invited applicants are welcome to seek further guidance on this during the full proposal phase.</p>

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56	<p>We have seen two versions of the CFP in circulation – one with a deadline of 6 September, and one with a deadline of 20 September. We are working under the assumption that the one with 6 September is an old draft, and are therefore giving precedent to the version available on the website, which stipulates 20 September 2024. However, we would appreciate confirmation that this is the case.</p>	<p>RDE faced some challenges uploading the information note to the central MFA website. However, the final version, which includes an updated timeline is on the website now.</p> <p>The deadlines are as follows: During the EoI/Concept Note phase, it will be possible to submit questions by email to mgorkt@um.dk. The deadline for submission of questions is 3 September 2024 at 14.00 EAT. Answers to questions will be published before COB 10 September 2024. The deadline for EoI and Concept Notes is 20 September 2024 at 14.00 EAT.</p>
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