

# **INFORMATION NOTE FOR THEMATIC NGO CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

## ***Enhancing adaptation to climate change by supporting climate resilient income opportunities and access to sustainable “green jobs”***

**GRØNNE INVESTERINGER, JOBS OG LIGE MULIGHEDER (GJL) /SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENTS, JOBS & EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

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### **1. BACKGROUND**

The impacts of climate change disproportionately affect the poor and already highly vulnerable countries and communities around the world. Risks of crop failure and the destruction of infrastructure and productive assets in agriculture, industry, and tourism threaten the income base and livelihood for such communities.

Communities' vulnerability to the impacts of climate change due to the significant economic dependence on natural resources sectors such as agriculture, livestock, wildlife and tourism increasingly lead to conflicts between different resource users and result in negative impacts on vulnerable ecosystems. Growth in the economy and the population will, continue to increase demand for land and natural resources and can further increase the vulnerability to climate change. Working with communities to enhance their potential, productivity and their contribution to local livelihoods while securing a sustainable natural resource base for resilience and productivity, has shown to produce important results in terms of promoting productivity, improving socio-economic conditions and reducing poverty.

Adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change is urgent and indispensable to safeguard development gains and to address the needs of the poor and the vulnerable. Climate change adaptation (CCA) is defined as 'anticipating the adverse effects of climate change and taking appropriate action to prevent or minimise the damage these effects can cause, or taking advantage of opportunities that may arise'.<sup>1</sup> Climate change affects different sectors of the economy, as a response to which adaptation-related economic activities might arise. Economic activities related to adaptation include green jobs, financial, physical, technical and capacity building activities and that cover nearly all sectors of the economy. Green jobs are definable as decent work that significantly reduce the negative environmental impacts of economic activity, ultimately leading to sustainable enterprises and economies. In practice these jobs: (i) reduce consumption of energy and raw materials; (ii) limit GHG emissions; (iii) minimize waste and pollution; (iv) protect and restore ecosystems; and (v) enable enterprises and communities to adapt to climate change.<sup>2</sup>

First-generation adaptation projects in Africa have been small-scale and largely focused on investing and diversifying assets through agricultural technologies and practices with a mixed level of support for adaptive decision-making. These projects were important for demonstrating effects and raising the profile of the adaptation agenda, but lacked sustainability generally because of low human capacity, weak

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<sup>1</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/adaptation>

<sup>2</sup> International Labour Office Geneva – Sustainable Development, decent work and green jobs, 2013

affordability and limited public-sector support. Projects were also too short to see through the capacity development needed to make a difference to communities' decision-making processes. A more integrated approach to markets, institutional development and adaptive capacity development is needed.

The impact of climate change on vulnerable communities, enterprises and workers is highly location-specific and varies over time. In the short run, impacts are mostly caused by more erratic weather patterns and extreme weather such as heat waves, storms, floods and droughts. Extreme weather also affects exposed sectors, most importantly agriculture, but also tourism as well as drought-prone regions. The restoration and protection of the natural resource base not only reduces climate risks but also can improve agricultural productivity and income. Vulnerable communities are more exposed to climate change because of where they live and how they earn a living. They are also more vulnerable because they have the least adaptive capacity. Adaptation to climate change will therefore be essential to protect enterprises, workplaces and communities from negative impacts.

This call for proposals aims to finance projects that enhance resilience and climate change adaptation as well as protect the livelihoods of vulnerable communities and is part of the ministry's efforts to take the lead in combatting climate change and increase financing towards climate change mitigation and adaptation activities. Addressing climate change aligns directly with the vision of Denmark's development policy to help countries achieve the simultaneous eradication of poverty and a significant reduction of inequalities and exclusion<sup>3</sup>.

## **2. PURPOSE, OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITY ISSUES**

The **purpose** of this Call for Proposals (CfP) is to engage relevant civil society partners in solving the problem of climate change vulnerability and build resilient communities that are better able to cope with an uncertain future of the consequences of droughts, economic shocks and political change through an integrated approach.

Implementation of the projects funded under this call will translate to (i) improved community resilience and sustainable utilisation of natural resources for better business and improved livelihoods and (ii) increased sustainable growth and green jobs<sup>4</sup> from investment and trade especially for women and youth.

The **developmental objective** of this call is to reduce the impacts of climate change and poverty of the most vulnerable communities.

The **specific objective** of this call is to promote innovative climate change adaptation activities that strengthen community level resilience and promote sustainable employment opportunities –green jobs - for the most vulnerable (women and youth).

Project proposals received in response to this CfP will be evaluated based on their relevance in relation ensuring that they target a number (NOT necessarily all) of the following **priority issues/criteria**:

- Address the key challenges that undermine the resilience of marginalized and most vulnerable communities through **innovative** climate adaptation and resilience building projects.
- Raise community awareness about climate-change for better preparation and reinforce effective and efficient participatory management of natural resources.

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<sup>3</sup> The World 2030, Denmark's strategy for development and cooperation in humanitarian action

<sup>4</sup> UNEP, ILO, IOE, ITUC: *Green jobs: Towards decent work in a sustainable, low-carbon world* (Nairobi, UNEP, 2008) broadly defines green jobs as any decent job that contributes to preserving or restoring the quality of the environment.

- Respond to national and / or local policies and strategies related to planning and adaptation, risk management and reduction.
- Strengthen community level education and skills developments in order to contribute to human capacity development (specifically focused on women and youth) so that people and communities achieve economic resilience and empowerment through green jobs, entrepreneurship and enterprise development.
- Identify, pilot and operate sustainable businesses that diversify livelihoods by creating new green jobs, increase incomes and generate commercial revenue for communities.
- Demonstrate that projects have the potential for replicability and scale-up.
- Ensure that projects are implemented in partnership with a local organization in order to promote ownership and local leadership and include elements of capacity development for local stakeholders and that they are implemented through a rights-based and gender sensitive approach.
- The proposal must include clear and measurable rights based and gender sensitive approaches to activity implementation.
- The proposal must include a clear and realistic results framework (including clear and attainable output and outcome targets, indicators and means of verification)

Design of the projects will follow a process of; 1) defining the climate-change driven problem 2) identify the cause 3) identify the types of response 4) identify the barriers 5) formulate expected results<sup>5</sup>

**Location:** Proposed projects must be located in Africa, priority will be given to projects in countries described as Danish priority countries in “Denmark in the World 2030 – Denmark’s strategy for development and humanitarian action” in categories 1) *Poor, fragile countries and regions characterised by fragility* and 2) *Poor, stable countries*. Proposed projects may only be located in **one** country unless there is well-documented justification for a cross-border approach in a neighboring country or community.

### 3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The eligibility of the application/Lead Applicant will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

- 1) Proposals must be submitted by a single Lead Applicant or by the Lead Applicant representing a consortium. In order to be eligible for a grant, the Lead Applicant must be a non-governmental organisation. For-profit entities can be part of the consortium, but cannot be the Lead Applicant.
- 2) The Lead Applicant is a **recipient of development funds from Danida**, including through pools such as CISU, at the time of application. This is to ensure that the applicant is continuously monitored in accordance with the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ financial monitoring obligation.
- 3) The Lead Applicant has undergone a formal **capacity assessment** (review or financial monitoring visit) within the **last five years** to demonstrate its capacity to manage financial contributions from Danida.
- 4) The Lead Applicant is **partnering with a local organization** for the implementation of the proposed activities. A Local Partner Assessment is a mandatory annex to the proposal.

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<sup>5</sup> UNDP toolkit – Designing Climate Change Adaptation Initiatives

- 5) The Lead Applicant has **conducted communication and information activities in Denmark** within the **last five years**. This is to support Danida's efforts to strengthen Danish public commitment to development assistance.

#### **4. EVALUATION CRITERIA**

The evaluation of the proposal will be based on the following criteria:

##### **1) Relevance and Coherence**

- How well is the proposal aligned with the purpose, objectives and priority issues described in the CfP?
- How convincing is the additionally of the proposal?
- How relevant is the proposal to the needs of the recipient country as reflected in local strategies, plans and policies?
- How well is the proposal harmonized with other relevant development initiatives and investments in order to reap synergy benefits and avoid duplication?
- How does the proposal align with the overall priorities and strategic planning of the lead applicant?

##### **2) Project Design**

- How clear is the Theory of Change (ToC)/intervention logic behind the proposal? The ToC will be assessed on it being simple and logic and on how well its causalities and assumptions are aligned with the results path as laid out in the Results Framework.
- How clear and logic is the Results Framework - i.e. the results hierarchy and its interconnections (from baseline over outputs through outcomes to impact)? The Results Framework will be assessed on it being simple, yet comprehensive with few and simple but SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound) indicators.
- How clear are the innovative aspects and elements (ToC, partnerships etc.) of the proposal?
- Does the proposal design reflect a robust analysis of the problems involved and the capacities of the relevant stakeholders?
- Does the proposal sufficiently integrate issues like environmental considerations, climate change, gender equality, human rights, youth etc.?
- How well does the proposal present and analyse risk and risk mitigation?
- How clear is the budget (output based) of the proposal and how efficient is the proposal in achieving its objectives and targets?
- How sustainable is the proposal in terms of continuation of intervention benefits?
- How well is the exit strategy of proposal activities described?

##### **3) Local Partnerships**

- How well is the choice of local partner(s) aligned with the purpose, objectives and priorities (theme/sector/area) described in the CfP?
- What is the quality of the local partnership(s) based on the local partner assessment(s)?
- How clear is the added-value of the local partnership to the proposal?
- Are there clear roles and division of labour in terms of involvement of the local partner?
- How innovative are the local partnership(s)?

#### **4) Capacity (Operational and Financial)**

- How strong is the lead applicant's capacity in relation to compliance with the Aid Management Guidelines (AMG) of Danida/Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs?
- How obvious is the comparative advantage of the lead applicant in relation to the project and geographical area, including previous experience with the proposed type of activities as well as documented relevant experience, capacity and expertise?

#### **5) Information Activities/Engagement of Danish Actors**

- How well does the proposal demonstrate innovative ways of engaging relevant parts of Danish civil society and private sector?
- How convincing is the description of planned information and outreach activities in Denmark?

### **5. DURATION, GRANT SIZE AND NUMBER OF PROPOSALS TO BE SELECTED**

The planned duration of the proposal must not be less than 24 months and must not exceed 48 months.

The overall indicative amount made available under this CfP is DKK 20 million. The minimum grant amount to be requested under this CfP is DKK 5 million. The maximum grant amount to be requested is DKK 10 million.

A maximum of four proposals will be selected.

### **6. APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS**

The CfP application and selection process entails only one-step in which the full proposal is submitted right away.

In accordance with the format presented in Annex 2, the Lead Applicant is invited to submit an elaborated proposal in the form of a fully-fledged and final project document, including the following annexes:

- 1) An output based Budget.
- 2) A Results Framework, detailing outputs, outcomes and impact and their corresponding targets (yearly and end-of-project), indicators and means of verification (maximum three outcomes with maximum three outputs each). The results Framework should be simple, yet comprehensive with few and simple but SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound) indicators.
- 3) A Risk Management Matrix.
- 4) A Partner Description.
- 5) Documentation clearly confirming that the Lead Applicant has undergone a formal Danida partner capacity assessment within the last five years and thus live up to the Danida Aid Management Guidelines.

- 6) Documentation demonstrating selected relevant examples of communication and information activities undertaken by the Lead Applicant within the last five years.

**Applications are solely selected on basis of the project document and annexes.** It is of utmost importance that the documents contain all the relevant information needed for the selection process.

The deadline for the submission of the proposal is **2 November 2020 at 12.00 noon Danish Time.**

The proposal should be addressed to Cfp Secretariat at **gjlstud@um.dk**

Lead Applicants can only send **one** application under this Cfp.

Questions in relation to the specific Cfp from potential applicants may be submitted in writing only to the Cfp Secretariat no later than **14 October 2020 at 16.00** Danish Time. For the sake of transparency, all answers to questions received in writing from potential applicants will be published on the Cfp MFA website by **16 October 2020**. No individual replies will be given to questions received from potential applicants.

A Danida Assessment Team will be established to assess the proposals received.

Firstly, the Assessment Team will ascertain whether the application is within the Eligibility Criteria listed above in Section 3. If the application/Lead Applicant is unable to meet the necessary criteria, the proposal will be considered ineligible and the application will be disqualified.

Secondly, the Assessment Team will assess the proposal based on the Evaluation Criteria listed in Section 4. The proposal will receive an overall score out of a possible total of 25 points. The score of three is considered acceptable. Accordingly, a total score of less than 15 points (i.e. the average score of three points under each criteria) is considered unacceptable and the proposal will be disqualified.

In the final selection of proposals, the Assessment Team will include consideration of the thematic and geographic diversity and complementarity of all applications in order to end up with a balanced portfolio of proposals to be approved.

Danida/the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs will make the final selection and approval of applications based on the assessment of the Assessment Team. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs reserves the right to reject a project if it assessed as ineligible and therefore cannot be approved.

The indicative timetable for when the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will inform the Lead Applicant if the application has been approved or not is 15 November 2020. Lead Applicants with approved applications will also be informed about the level of funding.

All instructions regarding the project proposal and annexes **must** be adhered to. **Otherwise the applications will not be accepted for review and assessment and will hence be regarded as rejected on technical grounds.**

## **7. ADMINISTRATION AND DIALOGUE WITH MFA**

The CfP and the subsequent project/grant will be managed by GJL. The grant will be administered according to guidelines for single projects: [Guidelines for Single Grant Projects](#).

The successful Lead Applicants will engage in annual consultations with GJL on project progress, learnings, results, synergies etc. The annual consultations may vary in format. They may involve the Lead Applicant (and consortium) only or they may be held jointly with other successful Lead Applicants (and consortia) under this CfP. GJL will share information about scope and format each year.