

URRI Expression of Interest

Answers to the questions raised before the information meeting held on 08/11/2023

Note: Questions are listed in wording received, but made anonymous when necessary.

No	Question	Answer
Eligibility		
1	We are current recipients of Danida funds in Uganda through the Danida Market Development Partnership, however we are not the lead Partner but are listed under Other Partners, are you able to clarify if that makes us eligible to apply to URRI?	The eligibility requirements for EoI are stated in Section 1.1.4 Expression of interest eligibility criteria, in the Guidelines for Application. At the time of submitting EoI it is only potential lead organisations that can apply. Lead organisations must meet the eligibility criteria either alone or through partners as listed in section 1.1.4 (clarifications to eligibility criteria are provided in Addendum 1). It is a requirement for lead organisations to have consortium lead experience (criteria F) – this experience does <i>not</i> have to be through Danida funding. Organisations not fulfilling the eligibility criteria for lead organisations can still be part of a consortium.
2	Does being a sub-recipient (associate implementing partner) of DANIDA funds count?	Being a sub-grantee of Danida funding does fulfil the requirement to be a current recipient of Danida funds. Please refer to the Eligibility criteria in section 1.1.4 in the Guidelines for Application for the remaining eligibility criteria and section "1.2.1 Consortium requirements" for details.
3	If we have not yet worked with Danida, can we apply?	If you are not current recipient of Danida funds you will not fulfil the requirements to be a lead organisation as expressed in criteria B of the eligibility criteria in section 1.1.4. You can potentially apply as part of a consortium. Please also refer to the section "1.2.1 Consortium requirements" in the "Guidelines for Application".
4	In the EoI guidance it says that: " <i>A lead organisation must be a current recipient of Danida funds, including through funding windows such as, but not limited to, the Strategic Partnership Agreement, Danida Green Business Partnership and Danida Market Development Partnership.</i> " Part A of the format indicates that the Lead organisation must be registered in Uganda. We as a Danish organisation, have a current ongoing Strategic	Not currently spending SPA funds in Uganda does not per se make you ineligible as a lead organisation, as long as you fulfil the criteria detailed in section "1.1.4 Expression of interest eligibility criteria" (please also see clarifications to eligibility criteria which are provided in Addendum 1, including clarification that criteria A "can be met by the lead organisation alone or by a lead organisation's direct affiliate"). Criteria B in itself does not have geographical restriction.

No	Question	Answer
	Partnership Agreement with Danida, however we are not currently programming with Danida funds in Uganda through the country office there. Does not currently spending SPA funding in Uganda disqualify us as a lead organisation, or can we apply filling in hybrid information (DK org and Uganda CO) in part A of the EoI?	
5	Do potential lead applicants have to be current recipients of DANIDA funds in Uganda/East Africa, or are lead applicants eligible if they receive DANIDA funds in another location?	Criteria B in itself does not have geographical restriction. Lead applicants are eligible if they receive Danida funds in another country or region as long as they fulfil all eligibility criteria as detailed in section 1.1.4 in the guidelines for applicants (please also see clarifications to eligibility criteria which are provided in Addendum 1).
6	The lead applicant must fulfil the eligibility criteria A, B, C, E and F. <u>Question:</u> If a criterion is only partly met, will it lead to a lower score or a rejection?	The minimum eligibility listed in the "Eligibility" column in the eligibility criteria table must be met for the EOI to be considered. In addition, some of the criteria will be scored according to the extent to which they exceed the minimum threshold i.e. the greater the fulfilment of a criteria, the higher the score.
7	We are 3 sisters/branches of the same confederation where each brings competencies and experience to the table in terms of presence, global turnover and Danida experience. <u>Question:</u> Would we be eligible as one lead entity even though only one of the sisters would be a contract holder?	There must be one lead applicant to enter the contract with Danida and the lead applicant must fulfil certain minimum criteria (eligibility criteria B, C and F) in its own legal capacity. Clarifications to eligibility criteria are provided in Addendum 1.
8	Please elaborate on why the criteria for global turnover has been set so high as a limited number of organizations will meet the criteria. This seems to be in contradiction with an otherwise clear commitment by the Danish Embassy in Uganda on localization and local leadership.	<p>The Danish Embassy is committed to localisation and requires that consortia include minimum 1 Ugandan national implementing organisation. Additionally, it is a criterion for the consortia to include capacity building for local partners and local governments.</p> <p>The EoI criteria apply for the lead organisation only. Please also see clarifications to eligibility criteria which are provided in Addendum 1.</p>

No	Question	Answer
9	<p>The lead applicant must have had an average annual turnover of EUR 60 million in the last three years (Criterion E). Seeing that Criteria B and C emphasize current and close engagement with Danida, we assume that the embassy is interested in receiving applications from well-placed Danida strategic partners and CISU grantees. However, Criterion E if interpreted strictly, would mean that very few of them are actually eligible to apply. It will effectively rule out CISU's core target group of smaller organizations and leave only the very largest among the strategic partners eligible as lead applicants. We would therefore like to ask if there is any room for maneuver regarding criterion E, either in the amount or in the way that it is interpreted that could open up for a broader field of relevant applicants?</p>	<p>The eligibility listed in section 1.1.4 applies including clarifications provided in Addendum 1. Smaller organizations can become consortium partner with an organization that fulfill the criteria as lead.</p>
10	<p>Is there a minimum and maximum budget size per applicants and is there any requirement for match funding from the applicants?</p>	<p>The budget for URRI is listed in the Guidelines for Application section 1.2.3 Budget restrictions. The budget is divided across the four geographical lots and minimum budgets are given per outcome.</p> <p>There are no requirements for match funding from applicants. However, if a consortium includes commercial partners, these are expected to fund their own participation in the project, cf section 1.2.1.</p>
11	<p>Would an organisation that is not currently receiving funding from DANIDA be a lead applicant if it co-applies with a firm that is a current recipient of DANIDA funds?</p>	<p>There can be only one lead applicant and the lead applicant must meet the eligibility criteria as specified in Guidelines for Application section 1.1.4 including being a current recipient of Danida funds. (Clarifications to eligibility criteria are provided in Addendum 1).</p>
12	<p>Can organizations that have not received funding from DANIDA be eligible and why, given that they are implementing interventions in the Lamwo?</p>	<p>Organisations that are not current recipients of funding from Danida cannot apply as lead organisation, cf. eligibility criteria B, but may be able to apply as part of a consortium.</p>
13	<p>About the consortia experience, does this apply to only the lead partner's experience in Uganda or even the organisation's global experience?</p>	<p>The criteria on lead consortia experience (criterion F) is not restricted to experience in Uganda, but must be experience from a developing country.</p>

No	Question	Answer
14	<p>Could you please clarify which organization's capacity will be assessed for the Capacity Assessment Background?</p> <p>Is it the capacity of the Denmark-based NGO or that of the locally registered NGO in Uganda?</p>	<p>Please refer to section 1.1.4 in the Guidelines for Application (clarifications to eligibility criteria are provided in Addendum 1). Criteria B, C and F must be met by the lead organisation alone. Criterion C relates to the capacity assessment and hence the applying lead organisation will be assessed for the capacity assessment. Please note that there is no requirement that the consortium includes a 'Denmark-based NGO'.</p>
15	<p>Regarding the minimum of EUR 60 million global turnover requirement, is this amount expected to be a cumulative total over the past three years, or is it required annually for each of the three years?</p> <p>Additionally, does the 'global turnover' specifically pertain to the Denmark-based NGO?</p>	<p>It is the average global turnover per year in the past three years.</p> <p>The criterion pertains to the applying lead organisation. Please see the revised section 1.1.4 (clarifications to eligibility criteria are provided in Addendum 1) which states that criterion E can be met by the lead organisation alone or by a lead organisation's direct affiliate (or a combination of both). Please note that there is no requirement that the consortium includes a 'Denmark-based NGO'.</p>
16	<p>For the Consortium lead experience criterion, is it permissible for the lead to be either a Denmark-based NGO or an NGO registered locally in Uganda? Could this be explicitly clarified?</p>	<p>There can be only one lead organisation and the criterion applies to the applying lead organisation. Clarifications to eligibility criteria are provided in Addendum 1. Please note that there is no requirement that the consortium includes a 'Denmark-based NGO'.</p>
17	<p>In the context of the relevant experience in Uganda, does the requirement pertain to a Denmark-based NGO or a local NGO operating within Uganda</p>	<p>Please refer to section 1.1.4 in the Guidelines for Application (clarifications to eligibility criteria are provided in Addendum 1). It is specified that Criteria G (relevant experience in Uganda) can be met by the lead organisation alone or by a lead organisation's direct affiliate or by a lead organisation's national implementing partner (or a combination of all)." Please note that there is no requirement that the consortium includes a 'Denmark-based NGO'.</p>
Consortia and partners		
18	<p>Is possible for an organization to apply independently or must be in a consortium?</p>	<p>At the Expression of Interest phase only potential lead organisations can apply. However, as described in section 1.2.1 in the Guidelines for Application, the lead organisation must have formed a consortium at the concept note stage which must live up to the listed minimum requirements.</p>
19	<p>Do we need to register a company in Uganda or can we use our company in Denmark or Tanzania?</p>	<p>Please refer to eligibility criteria A in section 1.1.4 in the Guidelines for Application (clarifications to eligibility criteria are provided in Addendum 1).</p>
20	<p>Do we need to work with a local partner or NGO, or can we run the project on our own?</p>	<p>Please refer to section 1.2.1 Consortium requirements in the Guidelines for Application. It is a requirement to have a Ugandan national implementing partner in a consortium.</p>

No	Question	Answer
21	What is maximum number of partners allowed in a consortium?	The maximum number of partners in a consortium is 8. Please refer to section 1.2.1 Consortium requirements in the Guidelines for Application.
22	What is a preferred number for a consortium and its funding ceiling?	<p>There is no preferred number of partners for a consortium. The maximum number of partners in a consortium is 8. Please refer to section 1.2.1 Consortium requirements in the Guidelines for Application.</p> <p>The budget restrictions are listed in section 1.2.3 in the Guidelines for Application.</p>
23	Is it possible to partner with XXXXX center/Development partners from Europe/US for this call?	It is up to the lead applicant and the consortium partners to agree on the composition of the consortium. Please note that the composition of the consortium should be in line with the requirements stipulated in section 1.2.1 in the Guidelines for Application.
24	<p>Can we partner with local businesses?</p> <p>Can for-profit private organisation or company be included in the consortium as either an Associate implementing organisation or a Knowledge organisation?</p>	<p>Please refer to section 1.2.1 Consortium requirements in the Guidelines for Application for which organisations can be part of the consortium and how. It is specified:</p> <p>“Alternatively, a consortium can include a private sector organisation by procuring these to address more specific constraints relating to the project. In the latter case the services would be procured through a competitive process after award of the grant.</p> <p>Consortia are encouraged to establish partnerships with farmers’ cooperatives and commercial companies (e.g. off-takers, input & service providers, agro-dealers, financial institutions etc.). Commercial entities, however, cannot be direct recipient of project funds but they can participate in training and capacity building activities.”</p>
25	Is it mandatory requirement for the consortium to include a national NGO as part of its composition?	Yes, it is mandatory to include a national NGO as part of the consortium. Please refer to section 1.2.1 Consortium requirements in the Guidelines for Application.
Focus of the projects and activities		
26	Where is the main focus on the type of projects you will support/fund?	Please refer to the Background Information document, particularly sections 2.3, 2.5, and 2.6, for the purpose, objectives, priority issues, intervention sectors and outcomes of URRI.
27	What the intervention areas – main activities to be implemented?	Please refer to the Background Information document, particularly sections 2.3, 2.5, and 2.6, for the purpose, objectives, priority issues, intervention sectors and outcomes of URRI.

No	Question	Answer
28	Under this particular call, does DANIDA fund Market Development Systems approaches, or this is only funded under the DANIDA market development partnerships call?	Please refer to the Background Information document, particularly sections 2.3, 2.5, and 2.6, for the purpose, objectives, priority issues, intervention sectors and outcomes of URRI. It is up to the consortium to outline in the concept note the approaches foreseen to be applied.
Geography		
29	For each geographic area, there is a budget allocated. <u>Question:</u> If a consortium wishes to work in only one or two geographical areas, will criteria E then be reduced in proportion to the budget for the selected geographical areas?	The criteria will not be reduced in proportion to the budget for the selected geographical areas. Geographical areas are selected and applied for at the concept note stage and <i>not</i> during the expression of interest. See the revised section 1.1.4 clarifies the interpretation of Criteria E.
30	Can a consortium focus on one Refugee Settlement Camp?	Consortia must implement in all the districts listed in the geographical lot that it applies for – additionally, some activities must be implemented in all parishes where relevant.
31	Whether the applicants can implement in some of the four geographies or if they will implement in all of them?	It is up to applicants to decide which geographies they apply for – it is allowed to apply for any number of the four geographic lots.
32	Are the proposed four geographies districts or regions in Uganda and whether the applicants have a choice of implementation in some of the four geographies or must implement in all of them?	Please refer to section 1.2.2 in the Guidelines for Application for the geographical areas, and the districts included in each of them. It is up to applicants to decide which geographies they apply for – it is allowed to apply for any number of the four geographic lots.
33	Can further information be given on the geographical locations/focus areas for this call?	Please refer to section 1.2.2 in the Guidelines for Application for the geographical areas, and the districts included in each of them.
34	What are the 4 geographical lots highlighted?	Please refer to section 1.2.2 in the Guidelines for Application for the geographical areas, and the districts included in each of them.
35	We are also a bit in doubt on how the geographic distribution between consortia is envisaged. As we understand it, it is not a requirement that each consortium covers the entire geographic range but are you aiming to ensure that the final selection of consortia do so between them. If so, can you share how that will be ensured and whether a geographical shift for a consortium between the different application stages could be envisaged in order to ensure full geographic coverage?	Please refer to section 1.2.2 in the Guidelines for Application for the geographical areas, and the districts included in each of them. Applicants apply for the specific geographical lot(s) they are interested in and are allowed to apply for any number of them. At the concept note stage applicants will be asked to submit an annex focused on geography which will be scored alongside the concept note. Depending on the quality of the concept notes the highest scoring applicants within each

No	Question	Answer
		geographical lot will be invited to prepare a full proposal. In that way it will be ensured that all geographies are covered.
36	Will all the lots go to the same consortium, or could it be divided between different consortia?	<p>All lots will not necessarily go to the same consortia. URRRI will be implemented by up to 4 consortia.</p> <p>At the concept note stage applicants will be asked to submit an annex focused on geography which will be scored alongside the concept note. Depending on the quality of the concept notes the highest scoring applicants within each geographical lot will be invited to prepare a full proposal. In that way it will be ensured that all geographies are covered.</p>
37	Which regions are this grant targeted for?	Please refer to section 1.2.2 in the Guidelines for Application for the geographical areas, and the districts included in each of them.
38	Where will the program be implemented (districts and/or refugee settlements)?	<p>Please refer to section 1.2.2 in the Guidelines for Application for the geographical areas, and the districts included in each of them.</p> <p>In the districts that are officially refugee hosting it is expected that the projects will implement in both refugee settlements and host community areas. The project will also implement in one refugee affected district that is not having a refugee settlement</p>
Time period		
39	Will the projects run for DANIDA's program period In Uganda (2023-28)?	The project is expected to start implementation in 2024, running until the end of 2028.
40	How long is this initiative going to be implemented?	The project is expected to start implementation in 2024, running until the end of 2028.
Guidelines on green		
41	Given the importance of Danida's five green markers for URRRI, would it be possible to receive further information or guidelines for how to assess the share of 'green'?	Further guidelines on assessment of the share of 'green', will be provided to the applicants that advance to the concept note stage.
Budget and funding		
42	Is this a grant or commercial contract?	This is a grant.
43	What is the budget distribution between refugee and host community?	There is no set budget distribution between refugee and host community, but a target of 35 percent refugees and 65 per cent host population to be included as

No	Question	Answer
		target group. Please refer to section 2.4 in the Background Information document.
44	What is the budget limit for this call?	The budget is specified in section 1.2.3 in the Guidelines for Application document. The budget is split between the 4 geographical areas, and minimum budgets are given per outcome.
45	Is counter part funding allowed?	Yes, counterpart funding is allowed, but proposals should still live up to budget related requirements specified in Guidelines for Applications. Note that commercial partners, which are part of the consortium, cannot be direct recipient of funds.
46	What kind of capacity support will be given to partners - motorcycles, vehicles, laptops?	The individual consortium will prepare a proposal for capacity support including budget. The proposed budget for capacity support will be assessed as part of the overall budget with focus on cost-efficiency, relevance and building long term capacity.