

SDC call for proposals: Questions and answers (questions sent by Tuesday 24.04.2018, 12.00)

Call	Question	Answer
General <sup>1</sup>	<p>In the call documents (attached), point 2.1. there is the following statement “Applicants, which already receive a programme contribution from the SDC, through the Institutional Partnership Division, will not be eligible for proposing a project. The conditions of the federal department of foreign affairs regarding contributions are applicable.”</p> <p>Our Organisation has signed several contributions for projects with the Swiss Development Cooperation, however we don't have a global framework agreement signed through the Institutional Partnership Division of the SDC. Is our organisation eligible to applying to the calls for proposals mentioned above?</p>	<p>Yes, the organisation is eligible for applying to the calls, as project contributions are not included in this restriction.</p>
General	<p>Can an international organization serve as a lead applicant for the proposed project?</p>	<p>Yes, an international organization can serve as lead applicant.</p>
General	<p>Can CGIAR centers serve as lead applicant? Can CGIAR centers participate as consortium member?</p>	<p>Yes Yes</p>
General	<p>Are the calls also open for international (i.e. non-Swiss) NGOs and consortia?</p>	<p>Yes, the calls are open for international (i.e. non-Swiss) NGOs and consortia.</p>
General	<p>How many is the minimum and maximum recommended number of member in a consortium?</p>	<p>There is no recommended minimum or maximum of partners in a consortium.</p>
General	<p>Should the consortium legally be established?</p>	<p>A signed letter of agreement from all consortium partners is requested.</p>
General	<p>SDC's contribution will cover a maximum of 50% - 80% of the total cost of the project. Is there any guidance on how the other % could be covered?</p>	<p>There is no special requirement. The co-financing could be cover by matching funds, by projects, by private sector contributions, by other donors and by own budget.</p>
General	<p>Does the co-funding up to 20-50% of the budget need to be identified and specified in the proposal?</p>	<p>Yes, the presented budget shall include the full cost of the project and show all cost and all sources of finance.</p>

<sup>1</sup> General = Question raised for both calls

General	Are there guidelines available for budgeting, e.g. how to calculate salary costs, activity costs, max % of overhead costs allowed etc.? If so, where can I find these?	No there is no guideline for the calculation of budget items and costs. It is up to the applicant to present a coherent and realistic budget to deliver the anticipated results.  Overhead costs are allowed if it is the general policy of the applicant. The items covered by the overhead costs should be listed.
General	Is there a guideline on charging indirect cost?	No, there is no guideline for budget items and costs. It is up to the applicant to present a coherent and realistic budget to deliver the anticipated results.
SWM <sup>2</sup>	Is there an Indirect Cost Recovery allowed for applicant organisations? If yes, at what percentage?	Yes, indirect cost recovery is allowed if it is the general policy of the applicant. The items covered by the indirect cost recovery costs should be listed.
SWM	For co-funding, is in-kind contribution accepted?	In principle yes. However, in-kind contributions have to be well documented and realistically valued.
General	Is there a limit of applications that the same organisation can send for each call?	No, there is no limitation.
SMW	Can any one agency make multiple submissions to this call?	Yes
General	Is Nepal as country eligible to apply for these calls?	Yes, for the Food System Call for Proposals. The focus for the SWM call for proposals is on Africa.
SWM	Is any country in Africa possible or do you prefer one of your focal countries?	The focus of the SWM call for proposals is on Africa. The proposals can address all African countries. There is no obligation to focus on SDCs' priority countries.
SWM	I see the focus is on Africa. Does this mean that one can focus on a small community or two or a section of a river basin or does one have to do the work country-wide?	To achieve the objective of the call the project proposals should contribute to the listed outcomes (chapter 1.1) and address the strategic linkages (chapter 1.2). The outcomes and linkages also refer to the different levels the proposal can address.  The proposal has to demonstrate that it is relevant at local level and have a clear link to policy frameworks or standard setting activities at various levels, including at global level. Multi-country proposals are preferred.
SMW	Will the evaluation committee prefer a regional/ multi-country proposal over a single country proposal for this call?	Multi-country proposals or even regional proposals are preferred. Single country proposals might face the difficulty to have a clear link to policy frameworks or standard setting activities at global level.

<sup>2</sup> SWM = Question raised in relation for the Sustainable Water Management for Food Security and Nutrition in Agriculture and Food Systems call

SWM	Since the Swiss Government is funding the work, is it compulsory to have a Swiss partner as part of the consortium or can have partners from other European countries?	No, there is no need to have a Swiss partner as part of the consortium.
SWM	Is it compulsory to include climate change specialists in the work, since climate change is mentioned in the call?	It is not compulsory to include climate change specialists in the work. The consortium partners should complement each other, ensure coherence and competence in all related fields and demonstrate the capacity to develop and implement projects of similar volume and complexity.