

Notes of the informal meeting with a number of stakeholders about the new Product Development Partnership framework (III) 2015-2020

This meeting was held on February 3, 2015 in The Hague at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Context: A new Product Development Partnership Fund

From 2010-2014 the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs funded 7 partnerships under a grant framework 'Product Development Partnership Fund'. In 2014 this fund was reviewed, which led to the decision to continue the support to product development and innovation for poverty related diseases. Currently, the Ministry is developing a new grant framework for the period 2015-2020.

In this context, a number of stakeholders were invited to an informal information session to exchange ideas on the new framework for Product Development Partnerships 2015-2020. These were existing Product Development Partnerships, that have or haven't been funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs through previous frameworks. In addition, other interested (Dutch) researchers and private sector parties were invited also through the task force healthcare. There was no pre-selection of invited parties, and an invitation to this meeting does not imply that other interested parties will be excluded from the new framework. A list of attending organizations can be found under the separate link.

Key questions

During this informal session the stakeholders were updated on the progress of the framework's content and ideas were exchanged. The presentation with information can be found on this website. The main recommendations that followed from the meeting are summed here. These, together with the input from an online consultation, the review of the previous PDP Fund and our past experience will be considered during the development of the new PDP framework.

Key questions during the meeting were:

1. Is the planning feasible?
2. What are the main barriers for product development in your area of work that should be addressed by the new PDP fund?
3. What would you like to see as the outcome and impact of PDP funding in 2020? What can we realistically expect?
4. How can the Dutch PDP funding add the most value to your work?
5. What should be the main objective of the Dutch PDP funding?

Issues raised and recommendations made

Process and practicalities:

- Stakeholders informed that the initial planning is feasible (publication in spring 2015, 6-8 weeks to deliver a full proposal after publication).

- The participants recommended aligning the publication of the PDP Fund III with the other calls of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, such as the upcoming SRHR call (soon to be published on the [Share-Net website](#)) so that organizations will not be overburdened.
- Stakeholders asked whether it would be permitted to submit more than one proposal. From the outset, organizations may not lead more than one partnership. More information will be given upon publication.
- It was suggested the Ministry allow for joint submission of proposals (e.g. two PDP's proposing one program). This will be taken into consideration.
- Stakeholders asked to receive samples or executive summaries of the subsidy framework before the date of publication. All available information will be published on [government.nl](#) and this site will be regularly updated. However, no summaries of the proposal will be released before the date of publication.

Content:

- Proposals should be targeted towards Product Development and intend to facilitate the accessibility and practical usage of these products in developing countries.
- The fund is geared towards partnerships that exist regardless of this call for proposals. Therefore there will be a co-funding requirement included in the new call (as was the case in the previous PDP-Fund). The partnerships' governance, IPR and ability to bring the product further in the development pipeline have to be credible.
- Proposals will have to be in line with the Dutch policies for foreign trade and development cooperation. The publication will be clear about the definition of product-development partnerships and their products, about the assessment criteria and about the focus areas of the fund in terms of:
 - o Health and diseases,
 - o The product development process
 - o Geographical focus
 - o Soft and hard organizational requirements
 - o Capacity building

Eligibility and administration

- It was also asked whether for-profit organizations are eligible as lead parties in the partnerships. For-profit organizations are not allowed to act as a lead party.
- It will not be required to include a Dutch partner in the partnership.
- Several organizations asked the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to include the possibility for funding operational costs and allow for reasonable overhead costs. We will be clear about the definition and threshold of overhead upon publication.
- It was asked whether the Dutch income norms apply for Dutch headquartered PDPs. More information on this matter will follow.