

Q&A's Policy Framework Fund Combatting Sexual Exploitation of Children

Regarding changed deadline for submission

Q: Does the deadline for questions change with the new submission deadline?

A: Yes, the amendment in the Government Gazette of 2 September 2022 includes an amended deadline for submission of questions. Questions can be send to DSO-GA@minbuza.nl until 25 November 2022.

Q: The announcement of the amended deadline for submission includes an amended starting date for activities under the policy framework. Does this mean the end date will also change, or must funds still be spent no later than 31 December 2025?

A: The amendment in the Government Gazette of 2 September 2022 includes an amended end date for activities under the policy framework, namely 28 February 2026.

Regarding paragraph 2 about the lead party:

Q: If the lead party is a local entity of an INGO, is this considered as a CSO from a low-, lower-middle, or upper-middle income country or as a Dutch CSO?

A: This depends on whether the local entity is a legal entity itself or is part of a legal entity. Regarding the question what defines the country where a CSO is established, this is defined by the country where the legal entity has its registered office.

Q: If the lead party is a local CSO, this organization will, by definition, only have presence in just one of three+ countries for implementation. Given that the lead party is responsible for the implementation of all activities for which the grant is awarded, could you confirm whether this is seen as a risk for the coordination of the alliance?

A: It is up to the alliance to assess whether a CSO is capable of taking up the role of lead party, and if they the capacity to mitigate any potential accompanying risks.

Regarding sub-contractor parties

Q: In the case that an organization is ineligible to be a consortium member, is participation still possible as a sub-contractor?

A: The policy framework does not contain requirements for (potential) sub-contractor organizations. It is up to the consortium to decide which organizations they might want to sub-contract once they receive the grant, following their own policies.

Regarding scope of sexual exploitation:

Q: Does child marriage fall under your definition of sexual exploitation (in cases where the “transaction” part is argued to be protection, food, cost of living, dowry, bride price)?

A: A child marriage can be a channel to or a form of sexual exploitation of children. However, this is not per definition the case. This policy framework is specifically meant to contribute to the fight against or prevention of sexual exploitation of children, in accordance with the Motion Ceder¹ and amendment Ceder/Kuik² which asks organizations to combat sexual exploitation of children in prostitution. Organizations that decide to include (a component that regards) child marriage in their application must explain their motives for doing so and explain how they think it fits within the fight against or prevention of sexual exploitation of children.

Q: Does prevention of sexual exploitation in humanitarian response settings fall under this Policy Framework?

A: Yes.

¹ 35 925-XVII nr. 41

² 35 925-XVII nr. 14

Q: Does prevention of sexual exploitation by local or international staff as part of humanitarian response and as part of peacekeeping missions fall under this policy framework?

A: Prevention of sexual exploitation by local or international staff as part of humanitarian response and/or peacekeeping is part of the wider scope of combatting or preventing sexual exploitation. If organizations decide to include this in their application, they must explain their motive to focus on this specific subsection of the issue, also taking into consideration that applications must be in accordance with the Motion Ceder³ and amendment Ceder/Kuik⁴ which asks organizations to combat sexual exploitation of children in prostitution.

Q: Does abduction of girls as sex slaves in armed forces and armed groups fall under your definition of sexual exploitation?

A: The abduction of girls as sex slaves in armed forces and armed groups can be a channel or form of sexual exploitation of children. It is up to the alliance to explain their motive for focusing on this specific topic, also taking into consideration that applications must be in accordance with the Motion Ceder⁵ and amendment Ceder/Kuik⁶ which asks organizations to combat sexual exploitation of children in prostitution.

Regarding focus regions and countries:

Q: How many points can maximum be obtained by working in priority countries/regions?

A: A maximum of 200 points can be obtained for working in the focus countries for development cooperation listed in the BHOS policy note.

Q: The Policy Framework refers to focus regions. Can you confirm that points will be obtained for the focus regions only when we work in the yellow and orange coloured countries in those regions (countries with broad OS relationship and countries with OS relation for specific purpose)?

A: Yes, additional points can only be obtained for working in the focus countries for development cooperation listed in the BHOS policy note. The Policy Framework Fund Combatting Sexual Exploitation of Children will be amended via a publication in the Government Gazette to clarify this point.

Q: Can you confirm that you count Uganda and South Sudan as part of the Horn of Africa?

A: Yes, in this policy note, Uganda and South Sudan are considered part of the Horn of Africa.

Q: Can you confirm that points for focus regions will be obtained similarly for yellow coloured (broad OS relationship) and the orange coloured countries (specific purposes) in the focus regions?

A: Yes, there is no difference in working in yellow coloured countries or orange coloured countries when it comes to the additional points that can be obtained for working in focus countries for development cooperation listed in the BHOS policy note.

Q: Can one obtain extra points when the proposal works in Mozambique, which is a priority country, although it is not part of any of the focus regions?

A: Thank you for bringing this to our attention. The additional points can be obtained for implementation in all focus countries for development cooperation listed in the BHOS policy note. This also includes Afghanistan, Mozambique and Bangladesh. The Policy Framework Fund Combatting Sexual Exploitation of Children has been amended via a publication in the Government Gazette to clarify this point, see [Staatscourant 2022, 25456 | Overheid.nl > Officiële bekendmakingen \(officielebekendmakingen.nl\)](#) (page in Dutch).

³ 35 925-XVII nr. 41

⁴ 35 925-XVII nr. 14

⁵ 35 925-XVII nr. 41

⁶ 35 925-XVII nr. 14

Q: Can you indicate whether or not there is a preference for a regional approach?

A: It is up to the alliance to determine and explain how it believes it can achieve the most impact in combating and preventing sexual exploitation of children. There is no preference for the deployment of a regional approach.

Regarding threshold D1.b:

Q: Which types of legal entity meet the criteria to be an INGO consortium partner? Does a partnership hosted by a UN institution, but with an independent governance structure, meet these requirements?

A: Within the scope of the policy framework Fund Combatting Sexual Exploitation of Children, only civil society organisations (ngo's) can qualify. International ngo's (INGO's) can only participate in an application as consortium partner not being the lead party. An ngo/civil society organization is defined as: a non-profit organization, neither established by a government body nor linked to a government body either de facto or under its constitution, which is a legal person under civil law and serves a public interest. An international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) within the framework of the aforementioned policy rule is an ngo established in a high-income country other than the Netherlands.

Regarding threshold criterium D3:

Q: Can you confirm that all countries in Annex 4 are eligible for this fund and that the focus is therefore broader than the 14 countries for development cooperation as mentioned in the BHOS policy note?

A: Threshold criterion D3 concerns the experience of the alliance in working on SRHR and combatting and preventing sexual exploitation of children in low-, lower-middle, and upper-middle-income countries, not the countries where activities should be implemented in order to be eligible for a grant. In demonstrating fulfilment of Threshold D3, evidenced experience in all countries listed in Annex 4 may be used.

Regarding threshold criterium D4:

Q: If an organization works on SRHR from a broader child protection agenda, and this can be demonstrated through specific examples, however the statutes and annual plans only mention child protection, is this sufficient to fulfill Threshold D4?

A: It is not possible to determine ahead of time whether or not this is sufficient to fulfill Threshold D4, as this depends on the evidence in the annual account for 2021 and explanation of the lead party. It is wise to use the space provided in the application form to explain the relevance of your evidence.

Regarding the Track Record:

Q: Can Dutch organizations that are part of an international confederation use relevant results achieved in the target country(ies) by their international confederation as track record?

A: No, the Track Record can only include results obtained by the organizations (the legal entities) that are part of the alliance.