

Answers to questions that were received before 25 October 2018.

THRESHOLD CRITERIA CONCERNING THE APPLICANT

Q: Is an organisation eligible for funding if, at the time of the application, it is not yet certain whether the organisation is due to receive core funding from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs?

A: Organisations that do not know whether or not they will receive core funding by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the time of submitting the concept note, may apply. If, however, they are invited to submit a full proposal for the second round, it is still relevant whether or not the applicant organisation was or will be awarded core funding because, as criterion D.12 states, activities must not relate to “activities of organisations already receiving core funding from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs budget during the period to which the tender for which an application is submitted relates.” Furthermore, from article 4, paragraph 3, of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Grant Decree it follows that core funding and an activities grant may not be combined. So, if a core grant was or will be awarded for overlapping time ranges, the application for Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant will be rejected.

Q: Is it correct that an applicant organisation is not eligible for funding if it already receives core funding from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs? If the applicant organisation receives core funding from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is it possible for the applicant to subcontract to the bid of a co-applicant organisation?

A: Organisations receiving core-funding by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs are not eligible as an applicant, lead party or co-applicant.

Q: The applicant organisation AX in country X is part of an organisation AY that is implementing a project in country Y since 2012. The applicant organisation AX is implementing projects in country X only since 2017. Is the experience of the overall organisation AY (of which AX forms a part) sufficient in order to be eligible for a grant under the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework?

A: Whether or not the experience of the overall organisation may be included in order to fulfil criteria D.4 depends on the legal relation between organisation AX and AY. If AX and AY are the same legal entity, then the experience of organisation AY may be included in order to fulfil criterion D.4. Evidence that the applicant fulfils criterion D.4 must be provided in the track record form. Please be aware of the fact that, due to a lack of clarity concerning the track record, an amending act which will slightly change the criteria T.1-T.4 will be published in the Government Gazette. This act will streamline the criteria T.1-T.4 with Annex 1. Based on the amending act yet to be published, the applicant must prove that he/she has the relevant experience in the target country.

Q: Criterion D.4 states that, “in case of applications focusing on improving prospects for refugees and host communities, the applicant/consortium must have had at least two years’ experience of implementing activities in the target country on the theme or sub-theme for which the grant is being requested, in the period 2013-2018. On these activities a total budget of at least €2 million was spent.” In the case of a consortium, must each consortium partner show a track record of at least €2 million spent on activities in the target country on the theme or sub-theme for which the grant is being requested? Or may this requirement be met by the consortium as a whole?

A: The requirement under criterion D.4 may be met by a consortium as a whole.

Q: Criterion D.4 states that, “in case of applications focusing on improving prospects for refugees and host communities, the applicant/consortium must have had at least two years’ experience of implementing activities in the target country on the theme or sub-theme for which the grant is being requested, in the period 2013-2018.

On these activities a total budget of at least €2 million was spent.” In case a multi-country proposal is submitted, does the track record have to be provided per country?

A: Due to a lack of clarity concerning the track record, an amending act which will slightly change the criteria T.1-T.4 will be published in the Government Gazette. This act will streamline the criteria T.1-T.4 with Annex 1. Based on the amending act yet to be published, the answer to this question is as follows: The track record must provide evidence that the applicant/consortium fulfils the criteria under paragraph 5.4. As stated under these criteria, the applicant must prove that he/she has the relevant experience in the target country. Therefore, the track record has to be provided per country.

COLLABORATION

Q: What kind of legal or contractual agreement between organisations participating in a consortium is required?

A: The partnership agreement must cover all components that are set out under criterion D.3. No particular type of agreement is necessary. It is sufficient (and necessary) that the agreement is signed by all consortium partners.

WHAT

Q: Does the term ‘host community’ include vulnerable returnees?

A: The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs uses the definition of returnee by UNHCR as “a person who was of concern to UNHCR when outside his/her country of origin and who remains so, for a limited period (usually two years), after returning to the country of origin. The term also applies to internally displaced persons who return to their previous place of residence.” Within the span of 2 years after the return of refugees or IDP’s to their home or place of residence, a returnee may be included under the denomination of IDP or refugee. Then a returnee must be considered as part of the (vulnerable) host community.

Q: Are returnees considered as a target group in Iraq?

A: The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs uses the definition of returnee by UNHCR as “a person who was of concern to UNHCR when outside his/her country of origin and who remains so, for a limited period (usually two years), after returning to the country of origin. The term also applies to internally displaced persons who return to their previous place of residence.” Within the span of 2 years after the return of refugees or IDP’s to their home or place of residence, a returnee may be included under the denomination of IDP or refugee. After two years a returnee must be considered as part of the vulnerable host community. As stated under criterion D.7.c, activities in Iraq should be directed at IDP’s and/or refugees. Therefore, up until 2 years after their return, returnees may be considered as IDP’s/refugees and therefore are a part of the target groups in Iraq.

Q: Are host communities considered as a target group in Iraq?

A: As states under criterion D.7.c, activities in Iraq should be directed at IDP’s and/or refugees.

Q: Does the theme I.c as specified under D.7.b in the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework directly refer to outcome 1.1.a as specified in the result framework for Improving Prospects of Refugees and Vulnerable Host Communities (annex i)? And do activities that focus on improved legal position for IDP’s in Iraq match outcome 1.1.a of the results framework?

A: Thematic requirement I (as specified under D.7.b) relates to the outcomes and outputs in the pillar “Legal Position and Protection.” It is, however, not the case that specific sub-themes directly relate to specific outcomes (e.g. 1.1.a or 1.1.b). Thematic requirements are broader themes that should be addressed by proposed activities. Proposed activities produce certain outputs which again help to achieve certain outcomes. Depending on the specific activity that is focussed on thematic requirement I, the activity can contribute to achieving outcome 1.1a and/or 1.1.b.

Q: Are applications for cost-share on existing and ongoing activities eligible for a grant under the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework?

A: As stated under paragraph 4.14 in the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework, applications concerning activities that have already been started at the time that the grant application is submitted will be rejected.

Q: What is meant by the term 'urgent' under article 9 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Grants Decree?

A: This question refers to the stipulation in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Grant Decree that gives the minister the power to make an exception to the rule that no grant will be awarded if the application is submitted after the activities have started, for specific activities of an urgent nature to be identified in a ministerial order. However, as there is no such ministerial order as mentioned in this article, this is not relevant.

Q: Is setting up a psychiatry/psychology unit at a governmental hospital for inpatient and outpatient services in line with sub-theme I.c (as specified under D.7.b) and thereby eligible under the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework?

A: Yes. Please make sure that this activity is planned for a country for which I.c is listed a thematic requirement.

Q: Are experts deployments activities also eligible for a grant under the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework?

A: The Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework does not exclude specific activities. All activities must be in line with the thematic requirements as specified under D.7.b.

Q: May projects that shall be implemented in two countries focus on two different sub-themes that are highlighted as thematic requirement for each of the country? In the case of a project to be implemented in Lebanon and Jordan, may the project focus on sub-themes II.a and II.b (as specified under D.7.b in the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework)?

A: Yes, this is possible as long as the activities the project consists of, are in line with the thematic requirements per country as listed under D.7.c. Proposals may concern more than one country and more than one sub-theme as long as there is coherence and as long as the connection made between different countries and multiple topics is relevant.

Q: Our organisation wants to apply for a grant for an education project targeting refugee children as well as children from vulnerable host communities. As part of that project we want to increase the capacity of the school building by building additional classrooms. Are the construction costs also eligible for funding?

A: Yes. As long as the costs are necessary in order to implement the activities for which a subsidy is requested, construction costs may be included in the budget. An organisation, however, has to indicate what it will do with the additional infrastructure upon completion of the activities.

Q: Under criterion D.7.c, thematic requirement II reads as follows: "Education and integrated provision of other services for refugees and host communities." Could you please specify what you include under the term "other services"?

A: The term 'other services' refers to different kind of services that can benefit refugees and host communities, and meet the needs of refugees and host communities. You can think of basic services and infrastructure such as waste management, water facilities or sanitation.

Q: Under criterion D.7.b, thematic requirement III reads as follows: "Promotion of economic development and work opportunities that demonstrably benefits refugee". It includes "Provision of high-quality vocational training or professional education to bridge the gap between supply and demand on the labour market." Is this limited to vocational trainings/professional education, or are shorter courses also accepted as fulfilling the thematic III as set out under D.7.b?

A: Also shorter courses can be understood as fulfilling thematic requirement III and therefore are eligible for funding under the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework.

Q: Are proposals for activities in Egypt focussing on economic empowerment eligible for funding?

A: Proposals for activities in Egypt must focus on thematic requirements I.a and/or I.b and/or I.c. If activities focussing on economic empowerment are in line with either of these thematic requirements, they are eligible for funding.

Q: Are projects providing service information related to economy, employment opportunities, education and local political developments for IDPs in Iraq through for example a radio station, website, TV or local print- and online media eligible for funding under the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework? Can such projects be considered as an 'extension and improvement of education and other local services' as outlined under D.7.b, sub-theme II.a?

A: In order for education campaigns to fulfil sub-theme II.a, they must explicitly focus on sharing knowledge. The Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework does not indicate what kind of knowledge should be shared, or how the information should be shared.

Q: Are informal educational programs set up by an NGO that is specialized in working with people with special needs (think for example of home supported education programs, or specialized classes for children with disabilities) eligible under the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework? And can such programs be considered as falling under sub-thematic requirement II.a as specified under D.7.b?

A: Yes, such projects are eligible under the Migration and Development (2019-2022) Grant Policy Framework and may be considered as falling under sub-thematic requirement II.a as specifies under D.7.b.

Q: Is a program providing services for people with special needs (think of physiotherapy sessions, the distribution of prostheses, facilitation of access to the job market) eligible under the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework? And can such programs be considered as falling under sub-thematic requirement II.a as specified under D.7.b?

A: Projects providing services for people with special needs are eligible for funding under the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework, in case they are part of the target group as specified in the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework, and in case the proposal related to one of the (sub-)themes as specified under criterion D.7. Sub-theme II.a specifically refers to educational programs and/or services that can benefit refugees and host communities, and meet the needs of refugees and host communities. You can think of basic services and infrastructure such as waste management, water facilities or sanitation.