

Answers to questions that were received before 17 October 2018.

THRESHOLD CRITERIA CONCERNING THE APPLICANT

Q: Threshold criterion D.4 states the following "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." Taking the example of Kenya, does this mean that an organization or consortium must have collectively implemented activities related to the sub-themes specified for Kenya (i.e. III c/d) and that those specific activities cost at least 2 million euros between 2013-2018?

A: Yes, this is correct.

Q: Under criterion D.2 it is stated that an applicant applying for funding for activities in Iraq does not need to have any physical presence in Iraq in order to be eligible for funding. Why is it not necessary for an applicant organisation to have physical presence in Iraq? Will an organisation with physical presence in Iraq be higher valued than one without an office and staff in the country?

A: It is stated under D.2 that the criterion for the applicant to have an office and employees (local and/or international) in the country where the activities will be carried out is not applicable to applications focussing on activities in Iraq. The reason for this is to make the grant accessible for organisations not yet active in Iraq. If an application for activities in Iraq is selected for submitting a full proposal in phase 2, it should be made clear in the full proposal how the applicant is planning to work effectively in Iraq (including possible necessary registration to be allowed to carry out activities in Iraq). In order to work effectively, an applicant could possibly decide to open an office during the implementation phase of the project.

Q: Our organisation is planning to form a consortium in order to hand in an application for a Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant. One of our co-applicants is currently in the process of being registered but is not yet fully registered. Is that partner still allowed to function as a co-applicant?

A: No. In order to be eligible as (co-)applicant criterion D.1 must be fulfilled which states that both lead party and co-applicants must possess legal personality.

Q: Should a track record be provided for each planned activity? If not, what is the definition of the term "activity" in the track record form?

A: The term 'activities' refers to the concrete actions that shall be implemented in the course of the proposed project. The track record must therefore provide evidence that an organization has the experience of implementing all activities for which it applies for funding.

Q: May the track record include only activities in the target country or may activities in countries other than the target country be included?

A: Due to 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 of 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, activities implemented in countries different from the target country may not be included.

Q: Must the track record only include projects that have been/are implemented within the focus country/countries or is it allowed to include projects that provide evidence of experience with regard to the thematic focus, but are/were implemented in a different country/different countries?

A: Due to 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: Only activities on the (sub-)theme in the country/countries for which a grant is being requested, may be included in the track record.

Q: Why did the Ministry of Foreign Affairs decide to ask applicants for a minimum of €2 million spent in the past 2 years on one theme only? This excludes several actors in Iraq from the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework, especially concerning the theme of livelihoods which is a relatively new theme in Iraq given the local context. Is it possible to include the track record of local organizations in order to meet the criteria specified under paragraph 5.4, or may only applicants'/consortium members' track records be included?

A: Only the track record of applicants and consortium members may be included in order to prove that the applicant, or, in the case of a consortium, the lead party and the co-applicants together, has/have sufficient relevant experience in the target country with the (sub-)themes for which a grant is being requested. If local organisations are part of the consortium, their track record may be included. If the cooperation with local organisations concerns a partnership and not a consortium as specified under criterion D.3, their track may not be included.

Q: Must an organization have a track record of €2 million on the theme or sub-theme for which the grant is being requested?

A: 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." This implies that applicants must have a track record of €2 million spent *on activities concerning the theme or sub-theme for which the grant is being requested*.

Q: How is the term "sectors" defined in the track record form?

A: the term 'sectors' refers to for example the sector of education, work opportunities or water supply.

COLLABORATION

Q: Our organization is planning to work with a partner organisation in country X that is already receiving a grant from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs related to one of the eligible themes/sub-themes described in the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework. Is our organisation eligible for a grant under the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework in case we work with that same partner in country X on the same theme/sub-theme but in a different geographical location of country X?

A: Yes. As stated under D.12, activities will not be eligible for funding twice nor will they be eligible if they have already been started before the application has been submitted. New activities, however, can be similar to or a follow-up to activities that have been funded or started in earlier projects, but they have to be genuinely new activities in order to be eligible for funding through the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework. Therefore, as long as the application concerns new activities it does not matter that the partner-organisation has received funding from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign affairs for activities in the same country on the same theme/sub-theme.

Q: Is it possible to change the make-up of the consortium after submission of the concept note but before submission of the full proposal?

A: No. The make-up of the consortium contributes to the fact whether the consortium fulfils all the threshold criteria. Passing the threshold criteria is necessary in order to being invited to hand in a full proposal. As a

change in the make-up of the consortium might affect the consortiums ability to fulfil all the threshold criteria, it is not possible to change the make-up of the consortium after having handed in the concept note.

Q: Will a proposal receive a higher score if a national organisation participates in a consortium?

A: All the threshold criteria specified under paragraph 5.1. must be met. Concerning the threshold criteria it is not possible to receive a higher or lower score. It is only assessed whether these criteria are met or not. The criteria do not consider the type of consortium partners.

HOW

Q: Is it possible to extend the submission date for full proposals with two weeks in view of the Christmas and New Years' holidays?

A: Unfortunately it is not possible to extend the deadline for submitting the full proposal.

Q: Is it necessary to submit a full proposal or is a concept note enough?

A: As set out under paragraph 3.3 the selection process has two stages. In first stage, the application form and the threshold check have to be handed in together with the necessary annexes as specified at the end of the application form. The concept note is part of these annexes (Annex 2). Applicants selected in stage 1 will be invited to submit a full proposal during stage 2. For the relevant deadlines for handing in the application form, threshold check, track record, concept note and other relevant annexes, please see paragraph 3.3., stage 1, in the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework. For the relevant deadlines for handing in the full proposal, please see paragraph 3.3., stage 2, in the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework.

Q: In case an application concerns activities focusing on thematic criterion III under D.7.b (i.e. promotion of economic development and work opportunities that demonstrably benefits refugees), is it necessary for an applicant organization to conduct a market assessment on the promotion of economic development and work opportunities that demonstrably benefit refugees? If so, could the Ministry of Foreign Affairs share such an assessment with the applicant?

A: No market assessment is needed. Annex i sets out how certain outcome areas (such as the promotion of economic development and work opportunities) should be specified on a medium-term outcome level and an output level.

Q: Do we have to submit a result framework at this stage?

A: As specified in the concept note under heading 2.3.1 the applicant must describe:

- The proposed outcomes level, including performance indicators;
- The related outputs to be achieved by the activity and how they will be measured.

Besides, the applicant must indicate how the proposed outcomes and outputs connect to the indicators from the Result Framework on Migration and Development of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands (Annex of maximum one page to the concept note).

WHAT

Q: Threshold criterion D.7.c states that an application focussing on improving prospects of refugees and vulnerable host communities in Kenya must focus on subthemes IIIc and/or III d and must furthermore focus on online freelance activities. What are online freelance activities? Must all activities proposed in our concept note relate to online freelance, or can it just be a portion of a larger approach that goes beyond online freelance?

A: Online freelance activities are activities carried out by a freelancer (i.e. a self-employed person or group of persons) in the online domain. Examples of such activities are the provision of digital services such as

transcription, translation, or computer services. The activities proposed in the concept note must relate or be complementary to online freelance activities.

Q: What are the thematic requirements for Iraq?

A: As specified under D.7.b and D.7.c, the thematic requirements for activities focussing on improving prospects for refugees and vulnerable host communities in Iraq are:

- Ib: Preventing and combating sexual and other violence, abuse, exploitation, ‘survival sex’, child labour and child marriage, with a special focus on vulnerable groups such as children, women and people with disabilities.
- Ic: Improving protection, reception and care for vulnerable groups and victims of violence and exploitation through: the provision of psychosocial support; the provision of special reception and other facilities for vulnerable groups (such as victims of serious abuse, people with disabilities and unaccompanied minor refugees); and enhanced safety (for instance through community policing).
- IIa: Extension and improvement of education and other local services (for example education) and basic infrastructure (for example water mains).
- IIIa: Support for development of promising economic sectors, thus increasing the possibility for income generating activities to emerge, which improves the self-reliance of refugees and of vulnerable host communities.
- IIIc: Provision of high-quality vocational training or professional education to bridge the gap between supply and demand on the labour market. Vocational training and (professional) education programmes should demonstrably respond to opportunities in local, regional or international markets that are also accessible for refugees.

Besides focussing on the above specified sub-themes, all activities in Iraq should be directed at refugees and/or IDP’s.

Q: May activities in Iraq focus on promoting social cohesion?

A: Applications concerning activities focussing on improving prospects for refugees and vulnerable host communities in Iraq should fulfil the thematic requirements as set out under criterion D.7. Promoting social cohesion is not listed as a specific thematic requirement for Iraq, but could be included in the activities mentioned under D.7.

Q: Returnees are an important target group in the case of Iraq. Are they, as target group, included under the denominator ‘IDPs’ ?

A: The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs uses the definition of an IDP by UNHCR as “persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border.” A returnee is defined 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 IDP’s to their home or place of residence in Iraq, a returnee may be included under the denomination of IDP.

Q: Are returnees, for example in Iraq, considered as vulnerable host communities when mixed with IDPs or are they still considered to be IDPs?

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 IDP’s to their home

or place of residence in Iraq, a returnee may be included under the denomination of IDP. Then a returnee must be considered as part of the vulnerable host community.

Q: Are IDPs considered as part of the target group 'refugees' and can they, as such, benefit from the project activities?

A: The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs uses the definition of IDP by UNHCR as "persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border." With regard to the term 'refugee' UNHCR follows the definition given in the 1951 refugee convention according to which a refugee is any person who "...owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his [or her] nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail him [or her]self of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his [or her] former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it." Therefore, IDPs may not be considered as a part of the target group 'refugees.'

Q: Must a proposal exclusively focus on the sub-themes specified per country under D.7.c (in the case of Uganda only on the sub-themes I b/c, IIa), or can it include other themes (such as for example theme III)?

A: The focus of a proposal must be exclusively directed onto the sub-themes specified per country under D.7.c.

Q: Regarding the sub-themes for Uganda of I b/c and IIa (specified under D.7.c), to which outcomes and indicators in the results framework (as specified in Annex i) are they linked?

A: The subthemes I b/c and IIa are linked to outcomes 1.1b, 1.2a, 1.2b, and 1.2c; to the indicators 1.1 and 1.2 on the medium-term outcome level; and to 1.1.1a and 1.2.2 on the output level.

Q: One of the sub-themes specified for Uganda is sub-theme IIa. Indicator 1.2.b (see Annex i) is referring to an increase of quality in education and vocational training. Must applications focusing on improving prospects for refugees and vulnerable host communities in Uganda include both the quality of education and of vocational training?

A: Applicants do not have to focus on both the quality of education and on vocational training. The applicant may choose to focus on either of the two.

Q: Does the ministry consider combatting sexual violence as a priority for Uganda?

A: Yes. As stated under criterion D.7.c, activities focussing on improving prospects for refugees and host vulnerable communities in Uganda must focus on thematic requirement Ib and/or Ic and/or IIa. Ib, as specified under criterion D.7.b, addresses preventing and combating sexual and other violence. In addition to focussing on thematic requirement Ib and/or Ic and/or IIa, activities in Uganda must concern the promotion of protection, input and social cohesion, in close collaboration with local authorities and with attention to psychosocial support and/or the building of the capacity of local authorities (see criterion D.7.c).

Q: Under D.7.c it is stated that activities focussing on improving prospects for refugees and host vulnerable communities in Uganda must concern the building of capacity of local authorities. This formulation seems to correspond to thematic requirement IIb instead of IIa. Should the thematic requirements for Uganda indeed include sub-theme IIa or should it in fact include IIb?

A: As stated under D.7.c, activities focussing on improving prospects for refugees and host vulnerable communities in Uganda must focus on thematic requirement Ib and/or Ic and/or IIa.

Q: If applicants are interested in submitting proposals for multiple countries within the same region, do you advise submitting one regional or separate country proposals?

A: Applications must align with the threshold criterion D.6 (country requirement) and D.7 (thematic requirements) as set out under paragraph 5.2. In the case of the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework proposals may concern more than one country. As set out under paragraph 4.1, applicants also may apply for a subsidy for more than one set of activities. In that case, each application must be submitted separately. As long as the applications are in line with the criteria as set out in the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework, no preference is given to either applications concerning regions or applications concerning separate countries.

Q: Article 4.12 states that “applications concerning activities that have already been started at the time that the grant application is submitted will be rejected.” Does this article refer to projects or activities? Does this mean that, if the application concerns activities that started after the submission of the application, those applications will not be automatically rejected?

A: Article 4.12 refers to activities (i.e. to the concrete actions that shall be implemented in the course of the proposed project). As stated under paragraph 2.3 of the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework, activities must be carried out between 1 January 2019 and 30 June 2023 and have a duration of 24 to 48 months. Activities must start no later than 1 January 2020. An activity may, however, start *after* the application has been submitted and *before* the application is fully approved. Starting an activity before the full approval of the application is at the applicants own risk.

Q: Are activities that have been started and completed before the time of grant application eligible for funding?

A: No.

Q: Under criterion D.12 it is stated that applications must not relate to activities which already receive grant funding or a contribution directly from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs budget. What is meant by the term ‘relate to’?

A: Applications should not include activities that already receive grant funding or a contribution directly from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs budget. A follow-up or extension of already existing activities in new areas are considered to be new activities. Only activities that have already received funding are per se not eligible for funding.

Q: Under criterion D.12 it is stated that applications must not relate to activities which already receive grant funding or a contribution from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs budget. May the application be linked to activities funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (namely via by the ARC fund) when these activities are not included in the budget of the application for the Migrant and Development 2019-2022 Grant policy Framework?

A: Activities for which already a grant is received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs budget may not be part of the application and the accompanying budget. As stated under criterion D.12, applications must not relate to activities which already receive grant funding or a contribution directly from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs budget.

Q: Is it possible to apply for funding for activities that are complementary to activities already implemented in current projects if these activities are new activities and if the timeframe of these new activities goes beyond the activities implemented in the current project?

A: Yes. Activities will not be eligible for funding twice nor will they be eligible if they have already been started before the application has been submitted. New activities, however, can be similar to or a follow-up to activities that have been funded or started in earlier projects, but they have to be genuinely new activities in order to be eligible for funding through the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework.

Q: In case another fund (like the ARC fund) becomes available, is it possible for an organization to apply for new funding for different activities while receiving a subsidy from the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant? In other words: Are the two funding streams mutually exclusive?

A: It is never possible to receive a grant for the same activities twice. Whether or not an application for a possible new (ARC) fund grant will be eligible will depend on the criteria of such a new (ARC) fund. For funding under the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework, activities that have already received funding from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs are per se not eligible for funding from the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant.

Q: If an organization decides to focus on pillar 3 (i.e. economic development and decent work) of the result framework of 'improving prospects for refugees and vulnerable host communities,' can the organization relate its activities to outcomes in the first pillar e.g. 1.1.a and related indicator 1.1.2.a?

A: The outcome areas are specified at the medium-term outcome level and on an output level. The specifications per outcome can only be read per pillar (i.e. vertically). That is: the outcome 'Economic development and decent work' is specified at the medium-term outcome level 1.3 (i.e. number and percentage of programme beneficiaries (m/f, r/hc) who started a business/self-employment activity and sustained it six months after they started), which is further specified at an output level as 1.3.2 (number of direct jobs supported) and 1.3.3 (number of people assisted to develop economic income generating activities).

Q: May an applicant submit a proposal addressing more than one theme?

A: The proposal must have a clear focus on either migration management or improving prospects for refugees and vulnerable host communities. The proposals focusing on improving prospects for refugees and vulnerable host communities must focus on at least one of the themes or sub-themes specified under D.7.b. They may focus on more than one. The proposals focusing on migration management must focus on at least one of the themes or sub-themes specified under D.7.d. They may focus on more than one. In other words, while proposals must focus on either migration management, or improving prospects for refugees and vulnerable host communities, they may focus one more than one of the theme's specified under D.7.b (in the case of applications focussing on improving prospects for refugees and vulnerable host communities) or under D.7.d (in the case of applications focussing on migration management.)

FINANCING

Q: Does the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs award eventual cost sharing (for example requesting a subsidy from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of 90% of the total project costs and contributing 10% of the overall costs ourselves) with a higher score to such a proposal?

A: Applicants are allowed to contribute part of the budget themselves. Also it is allowed that other donors provide for part of the budget. Eventual cost sharing is, however, not awarded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Q: As stated under paragraph 2.2, the minister will aim for an even distribution of resources among target countries and among the (sub)themes and countries. These considerations, in combination with a rating of the applications based on a quality-assessment, will serve as a basis for selecting a number of applications among which the available resources will be distributed. Can we conclude from this that €20 million available for improving prospects for refugees and vulnerable host communities will be distributed evenly over the (sub)themes and countries resulting in a small amount for Iraq overall? Which amount will be roughly available in total for Iraq?

A: As set out under paragraph 2.2, first, for all applications it is checked whether they fulfil the threshold criteria. Of those applications that fulfil the threshold criteria, the quality of the concept notes are evaluated. The quality of the applications is leading when deciding which applications to select. However, the minister takes into account an even distribution of resources among target countries and (sub-)themes. The

distribution of resources among target countries and (sub-)themes, therefore, depends on the number of incoming applications, the number of applications passing the threshold check and the quality of the concept note. Therefore, at this moment it is not possible to give an indication of the budget available for Iraq.

Q: In previous proposals and contracts with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, our organisation has applied a full cost price model. Criterion D.11 states that no more than 8% of the budget must consist of overhead costs. Is it possible to apply the full price cost model under the Migration and Development 2019-2022 Grant Policy Framework?

A: Criterion D.11 will be removed from the threshold criteria in a decision to that effect to be published in the Government Gazette. A budget should, however, be part of the application (specified per outcome and year and including the indirect costs in terms of the percentage of the overall budget). For details concerning overhead costs, please see annex ii.

Q: Must all the indirect costs be subsumed under the overhead costs or can we cover indirect costs separately in the budget?

A: Indirect costs are overhead costs. Note that criterion D.11 (concerning the overhead costs) will be removed from the threshold criteria in a decision to that effect to be published in the Government Gazette. Despite the fact that overheads do not form a threshold criterion anymore, they must be included in the budget that is handed in with the concept note. (As stated under 2.3.1 of Annex 2 the budget must be specified per outcome and year, and include the indirect costs in terms of the percentage of the overall budget).

Q: Must the overhead costs be specified in the budget as well, or may 8% overhead be included without any further specification (i.e. leaving it open what they are charged for)?

A: Criterion D.11 will be removed from the threshold criteria in a decision to that effect to be published in the Government Gazette. A budget should, however, be part of the application (specified per outcome and year and including the indirect costs in terms of the percentage of the overall budget).

Q: Is there a budget template that we should use and if so, where can we find it?

A: No, there is not an obliged budget template. As stated in the form for the concept note (Annex 2), paragraph 2.3.1. the budget has to be specified per outcome and year. Besides, the total of the overhead costs must be given as percentage of the total budget (see Annex ii for further information on which costs count as overhead costs).

Q: Would purchase of equipment or infrastructural works be eligible costs?

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