

## CLARIFICATIONS NUMBER ONE



### REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATIONS FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR INTRA-ACP GCCA+ PROGRAMME IN THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY REGION

Reference Number: SADC/3/5/2/120

DATE: 15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021

NO	QUESTION	RESPONSE
1	In the TORs on under location it says 2 countries, pg 10; please clarify which you mean.	It means the Actions/Projects cannot take place in one country only, but it has to take place in a minimum of two SADC Member States.
2	Do you allow upscaling of these SADC Projects grants calls, or if need to be done on another donor projects?	Please refer to section 2.1 of the guidelines; "To ensure equal treatment of applicants, the Contracting Authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of lead applicants, co-applicants, affiliated entity(ies), an action or specific activities Upscaling can be allowed for any existing relevant project that the organization is involved in and it doesn't have to be a SADC project.
3	Co-financing- is SADC open for co-financing in- kind rather than in cash.	<u>Contributions in kind</u> Contributions in kind mean the provision of goods or services to beneficiaries or affiliated entities free of charge by a third party. As contributions in kind do not involve any expenditure for beneficiaries or affiliated entities, they are not eligible costs.

		Contributions in kind may not be treated as co-financing
4	<p>I note at page 10 of the guidelines talks about eligibility of at least action to take place in 2 Member States, but my organization only operates (in terms of within SADC, and excluding South Africa, as required) in Zambia. Can you confirm that we would not be eligible therefore to submit a proposal?</p> <p>Location: Actions must take place in at least 2 Member States of SADC region, except South Africa...</p>	<p>Please refer to section 2.1 2.1. of the guidelines which talks about the ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA;</p> <p>“To ensure equal treatment of applicants, the Contracting Authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of lead applicants, co-applicants, affiliated entity(ies), an action or specific activities. “</p>
5	<p>On page 25 of the guidelines, footnote 4 says the following</p> <p>(A), but page 5 refers to the size of each pilot project/action being at least \$200,000</p> <p>(B), while there is also mention on page 5 that the minimum percentage of eligible costs permissible is 60%</p> <p>(C). I may be misunderstanding but it seems as if Point A may only make sense therefore if a project worth \$100,000 is being submitted, but that contradicts point B? Grateful if you could clarify please?</p> <p>A. The Contracting Authority may decide not to request supporting documents for applications for a grant not exceeding USD 60 000.</p> <p>B. Each pilot project/action will be between USD 200.000 and USD 500.000. This amount will depend on the nature and scale of the proposal.</p> <p>C. Any grant requested under this call for proposals must fall between the following minimum and maximum percentages of total eligible costs of the action: • Minimum percentage: 60 % of the total eligible costs of the action. • Maximum percentage: 80% of the total eligible costs of the action</p>	<p>Refer to section 1.3 (a) and (B) of the guidelines which talks about the allowable size of grants</p>

6	<p>There are multiple copies of the documents on your website  (<a href="https://www.sadc.int/opportunities/procurement/open-procurement-opportunities/intra-acp-gcca-programme/">https://www.sadc.int/opportunities/procurement/open-procurement-opportunities/intra-acp-gcca-programme/</a> ).</p> <p>Do I refer to the “GCCA Plus New Folder.zip”? I assume this is the case.</p>	Yes it is the GCCA+ New Zip Folder
7	Also I only heard about this opportunity this morning and would like to know if the information session on 16/12 was recorded; and if so, where to find a link to the video.	The Information session was not recorded but the questions which were asked in the session are included in this set of clarifications for the benefit of all applicants
8	<p>I would be grateful if you could clarify the eligibility of Practical Action in Zimbabwe to apply for this funding opportunity. From the eligibility criteria I am not fully clear so I wanted to check with you.</p> <p>There are two parts to my query: one about the interpretation of “established” and the other about which multi annual framework this opportunity is a part of.</p> <p>Practical Action is established in the UK which has now left the EU. In Zimbabwe Practical Action is a branch office of the UK organisation. Would this be sufficient to count as “established” in a SADC country? Practical Action has been working in Zimbabwe for very many years with a highly skilled and experienced team of Zimbabweans</p>	Refer to section 2.1.1 Eligibility of applicants (i.e. lead applicant and co-applicant(s)). To ensure equal treatment of applicants, the Contracting Authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of lead applicants, co-applicants, affiliated entity(ies), an action or specific activities.
9	The other part of my query is to do with which EU multi annual framework this call comes under. If it is part of the multiannual framework that ended on 31st December 2020, my understanding is that Practical Action would still be eligible as the UK was still a member of the EU for that framework. Would that be your understanding too?	Please refer to section 2.1 of the Guidelines for Applicants for all Eligibility Criteria. To ensure equal treatment of applicants, the Contracting Authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of lead applicants, co-applicants, affiliated entity(ies), an action or specific activities.

	If it is part of the multiannual framework that started on 1st January 2021 then it is less likely Practical Action would be eligible.	
10	Are there specific areas of interest that SADC is looking at in terms of investment grants?	Yes, the thematic areas/sectors are listed in section 2.1.4 of the guidelines
11	What are the requirements to be met in order to qualify for the grant?	Eligibility criteria is listed in section 2.1 of the Guidelines for Applicants
12	Does the project have a requirement on a target number of beneficiaries for a project?	Applicants will specify the the target beneficiaries in their proposal
13	Are the funding levels of \$200k - \$500k per action across multiple Member States or per Member State? Are we able to submit one pilot that spans across three member States for a value more than \$500k?	The levels are per action/project, irrespective of the number of countries benefiting, two being the minimum. Refer to last paragraph of section 2.1.4 of the guidelines
14	It is clear in this call for proposals that this will be a pilot but is there any indication from SADC or EU that there will be follow up on funding for longer term programmes to scale up the pilots if they are successful?	Please note that such information is not available at this stage.
15	What will the reporting requirements be for SADC? Will this be in line with traditional EU reporting requirements?	Beneficiaries will report to the contracting authority i.e. SADC Secretariat,.
16	Do I understand correctly that projects in South Africa are excluded from this facility?	The beneficiary can be from South Africa but the benefit cannot be for South Africa as per Article 4 (1) of the said Protocol 3 excludes South Africa as a beneficiary from EU Development Finance. However, natural and legal persons from South Africa are allowed to participate in awards of contracts financed from the financial resources under the Cotonou Agreement and that participation does not benefit from the preferences accorded to natural and legal persons from ACP States.
17	In your location section of the guidelines document, it says: "Actions must take place in at least 2 Member States of SADC region". As conducting a pilot in two different	Please refer to Section 2.1 of the guidelines:  "To ensure equal treatment of applicants, the Contracting Authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of lead

	countries is much more expensive, could we be allowed to run the pilots in two regions of Mozambique?	applicants, co-applicants, affiliated entity(ies), an action or specific activities.”
18	How is the 60, 80, 100% coverage decided, how and when will we know the percentage covered?	This will depends on the design and proposal for the project/action by the applicant, following which the Contracting Authority will make its decisions during the evaluation.

Please note that the deadline for submission of applications is Friday 29 January 2021 as indicated in the Specific Grant Notice and the Guidelines for Grants Applicants.

End of Clarifications

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