

## **FAQ For Call For Concept Notes on Investing in The Rain-Fed Agriculture in Sudan**

Deadline: September 30, 2021

<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>
In what language should the concept note be written?	English.
Is there a template for the concept note and the budget?	No. You can submit the concept note and budget in whatever format is convenient for you.
Is there a limitation on page numbers for the concept note?	Yes, maximum 10 pages excluding annexes.
Do you accept annexes to the concept note, for example to provide further details such as an organizational chart, previous experience and/ or management plan?	Yes, you can add annexes.
Are UN agencies eligible to submit a concept note?	NO. The multi-lateral organizations are not eligible to apply. Please note the criteria for eligibility that are mentioned (Applicants must implement the project themselves NOT ONLY act as an intermediary channel to provide financing to other implementing parties).
Are INGOs eligible to submit a concept note? Are local organizations eligible to submit a concept note?	Yes. Please note the criteria for selection that are mentioned (on having sufficient expertise and experience in the area).
Organization – what kinds of legal status permitted and what are registration requirements?	The applicant or the lead applicant must be legally registered in its country of origin, preferably with or able to have an appropriate registration to work in Sudan. When assessing proposals, we will also look at the capacity of the organization to implement the program. Note that (lead) organizations with successful concept notes will need to pass an organizational and financial assessment.
Is it possible to submit a concept note with a consortium? Are you looking for international or local organizations to submit a concept note?	We have no preference. What matters to us is that the organization(s) can give us confidence that they have the required capacity to implement the proposed programme, and to do so in a conflict-sensitive manner.
Can an organization be part of more than one consortium?	Yes, organizations can be part of more than one consortium. Note however that organization can only be lead organization (or sole submitting organization) for one concept note
How do we capture the budget given that you haven't provided the template for the same, or are we supposed to only provide summary budget?	At this point, a summary budget is sufficient. It should however include an explanation of how you come to the different amounts.
What are the (financial) conditions of the call? Is it a tender procedure, or a grant subsidy?	This will be a grant contribution.

Is co-funding required?	Yes, if the applicant or the lead applicant is based outside of the EU. NO, if the applicant of the lead applicant is an – EU-based Organization.
Is sub-granting to third entities allowed?	NO.
What costs are eligible?	Only direct costs that are related to the implementation of the program are eligible, plus a compensation for indirect costs (see below).
Is there a cap on indirect costs recovery (or overheads) that an organization can claim?	The percentage for indirect costs must be based on a calculation of actual expenses made by the organization and proportionate distribution of these costs over the different donors of the organization. It is also important that these cost levels are reasonable.
Can we use our own rules or do you have rules that we need to follow?	You can use your own rules. At the stage of appraising full proposals, we will assess to what extent your rules align with our rules. Should there be differences between your rules and our rules that necessitate a discussion.
You have set aside 23 million EUR for this program, and you have said that you might invite two organizations, does this imply that the proposed program should be 11.5 million EUR per organization?	The available budget is 23 million Euros. Our preference is to award one contract for individual applicant or consortium. This depends on the concept notes (and in a later stage, proposals) received.
Timeframe and funding becoming available: What is the expected time frame for launching the program? It seems that there is a possibility that funding may not be available from the description of the call. Can you share any additional information on this?	We expect to launch the program early 2022. The caveat with regard to availability of funding is related to the COVID19 pandemic, political instability and conflict. and its impact on the budget of our ministry. As these drivers are unpredictable, there are some uncertainty around these issues.
Should the concept note include M&E framework, including results framework and log frame?	The concept note should include the objectives, intended outcomes and intended outputs. A full M&E framework is not required at this stage.
What rules apply with regard to disposal of remaining goods and equipment at the end of the program?	All items purchased using the grant must be assigned to a relevant purpose at the end of the grant period. In the final narrative report you should explain the purpose to which items have been put.
Does the Dutch government's Standards for Remuneration Act apply to this opportunity? If so, would this Act apply to program staff receiving salaries under the award, or to the entire staff of the applicant agency?	The Standards for Remuneration Act is applicable for nonprofit organizations applying for the call for concept notes. It deals with senior positions in the applying organizations, so not only the program staff.
Could you provide the Multiannual strategy for the Sudan, as well as coping and formulation mission documents?	No, they are not publicly available.