

Questions and Answers from the information sessions

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0. How to use this document:

We suggest you look at the table of contents, pick the subject for which you have a question and read through all the questions and answers on that specific subject. You can also use word search (ie. academia cross border, multi country...). Make sure you also read the tip-sheet that also covers some of the key questions.

If you do not find the answer, you can write to livesindignity@unops.org before 9 January 2022.

Please note that we will respond to new questions but will not have time to respond individually to questions that have already been answered in this document or the tip sheet.

1. Presentation of the information session:

1.1 Q: will the presentation of the information session be shared?

A: the recording of both information sessions (English, Spanish) are not available. You can however access the PowerPoint presentations and all of the questions and answers are below. The for the presentations, see:

- Document 1.7 English version
- Document 2.7 Spanish version

2. Beneficiaries/targeted population:

2.1 Q: Can the project be implemented in a community where there are no refugees or IDPs?

A: As per the CFP (targeted displacement affected person,): "LiD supports displacement affected persons, including refugees, IDPs, host/resident communities, returnees, stateless, persons at risk of displacement, local and national authorities, taking into account the most vulnerable groups of each displacement situation". It includes persons currently affected by displacement or at risk of being displaced. If the community you intend to target can be considered as part of the above, then the project will be eligible. Please provide sufficient justification to convince the evaluation committee.

2.2 Q: Are returnees eligible beneficiaries?

A: see answer 2.1

2.3 Q: Do the beneficiaries have to be affected by the displacement crisis on which the lot is based? For example, for Lot 3, Venezuela crisis, should the beneficiaries only be affected by the Venezuela crisis?

A: No; LiD does not segregate people based on the origin of their displacement. As long as the project is taking place in one of the countries listed in the CFP, all displacement affected populations are eligible.

3. Budget:

3.1 Q: Is there a template for the budget?

A: The table in the Concept Note (CN) template is the only requirement for the budget at the CN stage. A full detailed budget in excel will be required at the second stage (full proposal) for shortlisted projects.

Example of budget for the Concept Note:

#	Category	Partner 1 - local authority	Partner 2 - INGO	Total USD
1	Personnel	200,000	350,000	550,000
2	Travel	40,000	40,000	80,000
3	Third Party Agreements	200,000	350,000	550,000
4	Equipment	150,000	100,000	250,000
5	Operating costs	300,000	300,000	600,000
6	Indirect cost (0, 4 or 7%) - (#1+#2+#3+#4+#5) x 0, 4 or 7%	0	79,800	79,800
7	Total Project Cost (#1+#2+#3+#4+#5+#6)	890,000	1,219,800	2,109,800
8	Co-funding (15% of total project cost) #7x15%	0	182,970	182,970
9	Amount requested to UNOPS (#8-7)	890,000	1,036,830	1,926,830

3.2: Q: Are there any guidelines on the eligible and non eligible costs for the budget?

A: Yes; eligible and non eligible costs can be found in the Grant Support Agreement template, document "1.3 CFP Annex B", p.21-22

3.3: Q: Can the total budget be over 2.3 million USD when it includes the 15% co-funding?

A: Yes; the 2.3 million limit is on the total amount that can be requested from UNOPS. Budgets may go above this amount but must be covered by the co-funding component.

3.4 Q: Can budgets include indirect costs?

A: Yes, indirect costs can be included for most applicants, depending on the status of the partner, as follow:

- International Organisations, International NGOs, International Foundations and International Academia: a maximum of 7% indirect costs may be included
- National NGOs, CSOs, National Foundations and National Academia, Private Sector (national and international): a maximum of 4% indirect costs may be included
- Authorities: national and local: 0% indirect costs

3.5 Q: What is the percentage of authorised admin fees?

A: refer to the question above on indirect cost.

3.6 Q: Are there any rules related to how the budget needs to be allocated between partners? Do they need to be 50%-50% or can it be 80-20%?

A: There are no specific rules, however we expect that both contracting partners contribute **significantly** to the project with the **same level of responsibility**. In regards to the partnership requirement, there is no lead entity. The allocation of the budget per partner may differ depending on the activities implemented by each partner. Keep in mind that we are looking for joint projects with equal partnership, therefore if the distribution is overly skewed and not justified, it is unlikely to be evaluated well in terms of the partnership element. As with all, please provide a justification.

3.7 Q: Will UNOPS transfer the budget to one partner or to each partner individually?

A: UNOPS will transfer the budget to each contracting partner individually, in accordance with the individual grant support agreements signed separately with each partner.

3.8 Q: Will each partner have to do its own financial report?

A: Yes, because the budget is linked to the agreement signed between UNOPS and each partner individually. Each partner will submit its own quarterly/annual financial report. Narrative reports will be joint.. Please see the Grant Support Agreement attached in the CfP for the reporting and partnership statement templates.

3.9: Q: Are there limitations of budget per budget line? For example max 20% of budget for personnel?

A: No, there are no such limitations mainly because the projects can be very varied with different budgets. LiD will however be vigilant with the repartition of the budget in line with the proposed projects.

4. Budget/Co-funding:

4.1 Q: Can co-funding be in-kind or come from another project?

A: Yes, both are accepted so long as it is authorized by your donor.

4.2 Q: Is co-funding of 15% mandatory for all partners?

A: No, as per the CFP (p.3 eligibility criteria), co-funding is only mandatory for UN, IGOs, INGOs, national authorities, international and local academia, international and local foundations and international and local private sector actors. Local authorities and local non-state actors (e.g. CSO) are exempt from this requirement. Concretely this means that:

- If the partnership is made of one international NGO and one local NGO, the 15% co-funding is only required on the international NGOs part of the budget
- If both partners are local authorities or local/national non-state actors: co-funding is not required

- If there is only one local partner and it is a national authority: co-funding is mandatory on the entire budget
- If the local partner is a local private sector entity: co-funding is mandatory on the entire budget
- If there is one local partner and it is a local authority or a local/national non-state actor (CSO/NGO): co-funding is only mandatory for the proportion of the budget that will be granted to the other partner (international partner, national authority, foundation....)

4.3 Q: Are there limitations regarding the origin of the funds (other EU funds or others?)

A: No, there are no limitations other than the funds must not come from an illegal source and you should review any limitations that may be set by your other donor.

4.4: Q: Can the local partner not required to provide co-funding contribute to the co-funding of the partner that needs to have 15% co-funding?

A: No, the co-funding cannot be shared among the partners.

4.5: Q: If the project has two international partners, can one partner cover the 15% co-funding of both partners?

A: No, the co-funding cannot be shared among the partners.

5. Contractual modalities:

5.1 Q: Will the partners sign the agreement with the EU or UNOPS?

A: The partners will sign the agreement directly with UNOPS, as the LiD Grant Facility Manager. The agreement follows the UNOPS rules and regulations.

5.2 Q: You mentioned that funding is coming from the EU, can you speak about the contracting conditions? Will EU funding conditions apply?

A: The grant agreements will be signed directly with UNOPS, following UNOPS rules and regulations. The UNOPS template agreements for the LiD Grant Facility take into account the EU requirements, particularly in regards to non allowable cost.

6. Geographic scope of projects/lots:

6.1 Q: Does the LiD Grant Facility have a preferred area of project implementation in the countries listed?

A: No, the only geographic limitation is the countries listed in the CFP. Applicants may choose the exact locations for proposed interventions based on their assessment of the challenges and needs. Please provide a sound justification in your concept note.

6.2 Q: Can an organization, based in both Sudan and Uganda, submit two proposals?

A: No. Organizations/entities may only apply once per lot and Sudan and Uganda fall under the same lot (Sudan). The organization can however submit one proposal covering both countries, if a regional project is relevant. See also 6.5 and 6.6 below for more details.

6.3 Q: Are multi-country applications by one organization possible for one lot?

A: Yes. One application can cover several countries of the same lot; please see 6.4 for more details.

6.4 Q: Are regional projects authorised?

A: Yes, as per the CFP : “Where relevant, proposals for projects to be implemented in neighboring countries to address a refugee or returnees situation are encouraged. These could include, among others, area-based approaches close to borders and cross-border movements, supporting regional platforms etc.” It is important to understand that the evaluation committee will be looking for coherence in the project proposal. A project proposal covering two countries with separate proposed interventions, will not meet the expectations for a regional project. The Evaluation Committee will consider that such a proposal is a way of circumventing the restriction of only 1 project proposal per lot. The applicants should demonstrate the added value of a multi country project for the beneficiaries.

6.5 Q: Is there a strong preference for multi-country projects; tackling different phases of the displacements?

A: The LiD Grant Facility is interested in multi-country projects, where relevant and 2 additional points will be awarded for multi-country project in the assessment of the concept notes.

6.6 Q: Can an entity apply under the same lot, once as partner and once as non-contracting partner (sub-partner)?

A: Technically yes; the only limitation is that an entity/organisation shall only apply once per lot as a contracting partner. However, if your organization submits a similar project once as partner and once as sub-partner or member of a consortium, it is unlikely to be evaluated well. It should also be acknowledged that the funds under the call are limited and the LiD Grant Facility is looking for diversity of projects and actors.

6.7 Q: Is it possible that a sub-partner (non-contracting partner) is involved in several projects?

A: Yes. We are aware that in some countries local implementing partners are few and a lot of organizations rely on the same entities to conduct projects. Please see question 8.8 as well.

7. Humanitarian, Development, Peace Nexus:

7.1: Q: Are temporary responses to problems identified eligible under LiD fund?

A: The LiD Grant Facility is funded by DG INTPA and not by DG ECHO. Therefore the core response of the projects have to be development oriented. Humanitarian types of response remain eligible if they constitute part of the project and if they can have a positive impact on development oriented approaches.

8. Myanmar:

8.1: Q: What is the difference between the current CFP lot 1 Myanmar crisis and the Call for proposal specific to Myanmar published on UNGM?

A: Under the current CFP lot 1, the countries of implementation are Bangladesh, Malaysia and Thailand with the possibility to have cross border projects that include Myanmar. Applicants are encouraged to work with local and national authorities, except for cross border projects implementation in Myanmar, as per EU/UN policies.

Under the Myanmar specific CFP, applicants can have cross border projects with Bangladesh and Thailand. As per UN/EU policies, applicants are asked to not involve the de facto authorities in their partnership or project implementation.

8.2: Q: What do you mean by no work with de facto authorities?

A: Please see the Q&A document specific to the [Myanmar CFP](#)

8.3: Q: With Two CFP covering the Myanmar crisis, does that mean you allocated 4.6 million USD to each CFP?

A: No, the 4.6 million USD will be shared among both calls with an estimated 2 to 3 projects selected.

8.4: Q: Can an entity apply to Myanmar CFP and Global CFP lot 1?

A: Technically yes but both Myanmar CFP and Lot 1 will be evaluated together and UNOPS LiD will very likely ask the entity to select one project to be assessed by the evaluation committee.

9. Partnership:

9.1 Q: Who can be partners?

A: As per the CFP (p.2 Who can apply): UN, International Organisations, Non governmental organisations (international, national), Civil Society Organisations (including but not limited to, Refugee- / IDP- / other affected population- led organizations), National Authorities, Local authorities (including but not limited to regions, states, cities, villages), Academia and research institutes (national and international), Foundations, Private Sector

9.2 Q: How many partners should be in the partnership? Can there be more than two partners?

A: There must be a minimum of two contracting partners and at least one MUST be a national/local entity. You may have more than two partners but we advise that you do not over complicate the partnership

9.3 Q: What do you mean by “same level of responsibility”?

A: Very often with international funding, local entities have a status of sub grantee or member of a consortium but not as lead. Through the LiD projects, there is an effort to reinforce the role of the local/national partners by ensuring that they have a direct relationship with the LiD Facility Manager of equal relevance to their partners. Expectations in terms of ‘same level of responsibility’ include similar/equally significant roles in the full project cycle, in the

responsibilities for results, which should be reflected in the budget distribution. It is acknowledged that budget requirements per entity may be different; therefore please justify in your concept note submission.

9.4 Q: If the project is implemented across several countries, is it necessary to have one local partner in each country?

A: The eligibility criteria is that the partnership must be made of minimum two contracting partners, with a least of being a national/local entity. This rule applies regardless of the number of countries of implementation. Therefore, if you have a multi-country project, you can have a partnership with one local/national entity per country (maybe it would make sense) but you will not be ineligible if you have only one.

9.5 Q: Is it possible to have sub-partners?

A: Yes, sub-partners are allowed.

9.6 Q: Is it possible to have a consortium?

A: Yes, you can organise your project the way you want as long as there are at least two contracting partners, of which at least one is a national/local entity.

9.7 Q: Can an international organization partner with a local organization?

A: Yes, at least one partner MUST be a national/local entity. We also encourage that authorities, local private sector and academia are included in the partnership.

9.8 Q: How will partnerships legally function?

A: There will be 2 levels of agreements:

- Level 1: An overarching Partnership Agreement will be signed between both (or more) contracting partners and UNOPS. The template is available as Annex C of the CFP. This partnership agreement will have an annex: the joint application partner form (appendix 1 of the project proposal) detailing how the two partners will work together.
- Level 2: UNOPS will sign an individual Grant Support Agreement with each contracting partner. Each partner will receive their respective budget. The template agreement for NGOs and local authority is Annex B of the CFP (For UN and government entities, ask for the template at livesindignity@unops.org)

9.9 Q: How shall the implementation of the project be managed by the partners?

A: The partners need to provide information on the management of the partnership in the appendix 1 of their concept note. UNOPS LiD does not impose anything specific, however the Evaluation Committee will consider the proposed partnership arrangement, including the roles and responsibilities and the complementarity of capacities. It will need to be convinced of the viability of the partnership.

9.10 Q: If the INGO that applies for the CfP is part of a confederation with several legal entities, and one applies as a Lead Applicant along with a Country Office of the same INGO as the intended local actor, is this sufficient to meet the partnership requirement?

A: Maybe, it depends on the legal status of the entities. If the local branch is an independent entity, with its own management, strategy and budget, and is independent from the international secretariat, this would be allowed. Otherwise, country offices of INGOs falling under the same management, strategy and/or budgets, will not be considered to meet the partnership eligibility requirement. Please also note that there are no lead entities in the partnership arrangement. See also 9.9 and 9.11 for more details.

9.11 Q: Would a partnership of two national red cross entities (from two neighbouring countries) be accepted?

A: If each entity has its own independent legal status, yes. See also 8.11 and 9.12 for more details.

9.12 Q: What is the difference between a country office and a local branch?

A: UNOPS LiD makes the following difference:

- A country office is a local representation of an international organization. It is not independent from the headquarters. The management of the country office is hired by the Headquarters and implements a global strategy and follows its rules and regulations. The budget of the country office is controlled/verified by the Headquarters.
- A local branch of an organization is a legally independent entity from the International Secretariat of the organization. It adheres to the same ideas but has an independent management, strategy and budget. The management of the local branch is not hired directly by the international secretariat.

9.13 Q: If a Country Office of an INGO applies with a local partner, will the fund be channeled through the International Office of the INGO or through the Country Office of the INGO?

A: It depends on the legal status of your country office, it varies from organization to the other.

9.14 Q: is a regional organization considered as international or local partner?

A: We may have some flexibility in this regard and may consider a regional entity as a local partner. Please contact livesindignity@unops.org to verify.

9.15/ Q: Can the local partner lead the partnership?

A: UNOPS LiD is not looking for leads in the partnership. UNOPS LiD wants to interact with all contracting partners equally. One partner can however have some coordination role if necessary, especially when there are more than 2 partners. But it is key to the LiD Strategy that all contracting partners are involved throughout all aspects of the project and each has a strong role in the ownership of results.

9.16: Q: How is the partnership of INGOs with small local partners considered, those who might not be ready to be direct partners with UNOPS, and their capacity building would be part of the program? Will this be seen as imbalance between INGO and local partners, if funding for these partners have to go through the INGO?

A: small local partners can be sub grantees if they really don't have the capacity to be a partner.

But the obligation to have one local partner remains. If you consider this is not possible for your project, then LiD Funds may not be the most appropriate funding opportunity for your intervention.

9.17: Q: Can a private entity without registration with NGO Affairs Authority be partners?

A: Yes, the private sector is eligible and we do not ask for registration with a specific authority. They must however be legally registered and authorized to operate within the country.

9.18: Q: Can the partnership be made of local entities only?

A: Yes, Absolutely.

9.19: Q: Are Financial Service Providers covered under the Private Sector?

A: yes if they are registered as such with the authorities.

9.20: Q: Are local academic institutions exempt from the 15% co-funding?

A: Only if they are registered as NGO. If they have a different status, they shall provide the 15% co-funding.

9.21: Q: Would an unregistered community-based organization (such as Women's Group or Camp Management Committees) be eligible as a partner?

A: partners need to have a legal status, be registered as such and have a bank account in the name of the entity to receive funds.

10: Project Duration:

10.1: Q: What is the project duration and starting date?

A: Projects must be a minimum two years and a maximum 2.5 years in duration. The expected start date is June 2022.

11. Registration/authorisation to work

11.1: Q: What do you mean by Registration and authorisation to work in the country of implementation?

A: Registration: UNOPS LiD can only disburse funds to a legally registered entity (with a bank account in the name of the entity). Disbursement to individuals is not possible.

Authorisation to work in the country of implementation: When the project requires the presence of personnel in the country of implementation, UNOPS will only provide grant funds to an entity that is authorized to work in the country of implementation. This usually comes in the form of registration in the country but may also include exchange of letters or other recognized authorization documentation in the country of implementation.

11.2 Q: Is it essential for partners to be registered in the country of intervention?

A: Yes. UNOPS cannot provide grants/funds to an organization without being certain that they

are allowed to work in the country of intervention. There could be two exceptions:

- The registration is pending (but already started) or being renewed
- One of the partners only intervenes remotely and does not require presence in the country of intervention.

In both cases, provide a clear explanation and available supporting documentation with your submission.

11.3: Q: If one of the partners only provides remote support, is it required to have authorization to work in the country of implementation?

A: No, only entities that have a physical presence in the country are required such authorization.

11.4 Q: If the project is implemented in several countries, is it necessary to have registration in each country?

A: It is necessary to have a registration in each country where your entity will work. If you are partnering for a multi-country project but your entity will only work in one of those countries, you will be expected to provide the registration documents for the country where you will be working.

11.5 Q: Do the local entities (such as CSO) have to have registration documents as well?

A: In principle yes. Contracting partners to the project should have some level of legal recognition as it will receive funds. UNOPS will not be able to fund entities without being certain that they are authorized to work in the country. In case there are relevant partners who are justifiably not able to register in the country, it is recommended to include them as sub-grantees.

11.6 Q: Do international Academia need authorisation to work in the country of implementation?

A: no if they do not establish an office and personnel in the country of implementation. But if they send researchers to the country of implementation, they need to tell us what type of visa would be obtained. Their local partner will require to be registered though.

12. Selection Process:

12.1 Q: Can one organization be successful with applications to two different lots in two different partnerships?

A: It is technically possible, as the lots will be evaluated independently from each other and organizations are eligible to submit one application per lot. However, UNOPS LiD is looking for a diversity of projects and implementers. It is therefore unlikely that one entity will be selected for two grants.

12.2 Q: Will UNOPS be evaluating the projects?

A: Yes. UNOPS is responsible for the evaluation of the concept notes.

13. Themes:

13.1 Q: Is nutrition part of theme 1 Economic livelihood and development?

A: Nutrition can fall under several themes

13.2 Q: Do projects have to cover two thematic areas minimum?

A: Yes. Submissions should also address the interlinkages of the thematic activities as well.

12.3 Q: Is the list under Integrated service (WASH, Education, energy and health) exhaustive?

A: Yes.

13.4 Q: If our project plans to have activities as WASH and Education, is it considered to be two themes?

A: No, both fall under the theme integrated services. As such, you will need to cover a second theme as well.

13.5 Q: I assume that for integrated service delivery it would be sufficient to cover one of the services, e.g. only health or only education, not all those that are listed?

A: Yes, you only need to cover one of those services.

13.6: Q: In reference to the “climate-induced human mobility”, the guidelines also refer to long-term adaptation to slow-onset disasters. However, I have a sense from the “possible examples” and the LiD Strategy that there is a preference for projects related to rapid-onset disasters?

A: No, LiD has no preferences.

13.7: Q: Our mandate is on communication, misinformation, and improving access to actionable information, so it’s cross-cutting, working with local actors, including local media, CSOs and others - as always, it’s not necessarily easy to peg into one of the outlined categories - do you still see this as a valuable contribution to these lots?

A: The projects must have minimum 2 outcomes that are among those listed in the LiD Theory of change and correspond to the themes of LiD Strategy. If your project does not fall under two of those themes then unfortunately the LiD funding will not be able to consider your project.

14. Venezuela:

14.1: Q: Is it possible to make a partnership with an entity based in Venezuela?

A: No, unfortunately, Venezuela is not among the eligible countries.

15. Vetting of beneficiaries:

15.1: Q: Are projects requested to ensure that beneficiaries have not been involved in acts of terrorism?

A: This element is project and country specific. We recommend you highlight this element in your concept note and suggest your approach. If your project is shortlisted we will discuss this element more in depth.