

**Cities Alliance**  
Cities Without Slums

HOSTED BY:  **UNOPS**

## **Minutes of the Information Session**

### **Grant Support - Call for Proposals**

**Fostering secondary city cooperation along the Berbera Corridor to leverage migration dynamics for improved access to work and basic services  
(Dire Dawa – Jigjiga – Somaliland)**

**Reference: ETH/SDC/11934-022/003**

**Beneficiary countries: Ethiopia**

**Date: 18 January 2023 from 13:00 – 14:00 (Eastern African Time (EAT) UTC +3)**

**Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/97783075198?pwd=Z1VzVHlGN25kSTlucEdJeG5ZODJMdz09>**

Information about the session was shared on UNGM and the Cities Alliance website. Minutes are posted on the UNSG platform.

## Presentation of the Call for Proposal

Cities Alliance presented the Call for Proposal with specific focus on:

- Background and Objectives
- The continuation of Phase I, implemented from 2018-2022 in Jigjiga, Ethiopia
- Focus on gender and social inclusion
- Detailed presentation of the 3 Objectives and 9 Targets
- Funding envelop and requirement for co-financing
- Detailed presentation of the 9 Eligibility Criteria
- Detailed presentation of the Content of Submissions
  - Note that all required documents need to be received by the Cities Alliance in order to pass the application through the eligibility screening
  - Note that the Proposal Application Form and Financial Proposal Form need to be submitted separately (refer to CfP Instructions to Applicants.pdf)
- Reminder on deadline for clarification questions via UNGM and submission
- Presentation of the evaluation process with reference to technical and financial evaluation questions, gender sensitivity guidelines and value for money principles

## Questions and Answers

**Question 1:** Can the evaluation criteria 5: “Lead applicants must have proven experience in working on urban migration dynamics in secondary cities in Ethiopia” be extended to cities in Somaliland?

**Answer 1:** Not for this CfP. The lead applicant for this CfP has to demonstrate experience in working with secondary cities in Ethiopia as Objective 1 and Objective 2 focus on the delivery of job related and municipal services in Jigjiga and surroundings. The Cities Alliance encourages a partnership approach for this CfP (eligibility criteria 2). Interested applicants from Somaliland are encouraged to form partnerships with Ethiopian lead organizations.

**Question 2:** Is the evaluation criteria 4: “Lead applicants must be able to provide proof of registration in the project country for at least five years”, applicable for Somaliland?

**Answer 2:** Not for this CfP. As specified in the UNGM announcement, the beneficiary country is Ethiopia. Respectively, the Cities Alliance will sign the grant agreement with an organization registered in Ethiopia. This CfP is a continuation of a project which the Cities Alliance implemented in Jigjiga, Ethiopia, from 2018 to 2022. Objective 1 and 2 have both specific targets linked to Jigjiga and its surroundings. As noted for Answer 1, the Cities Alliance encourages a partnership approach for this CfP (eligibility criteria 2). Interested applicants from Somaliland are encouraged to form partnerships with Ethiopian lead organizations.

**Question 3:** Can you please elaborate on the co-financing requirement. For many applicants it is a challenge to achieve 50% co-financing of the total project cost.

**Answer 3:** Cities Alliance fully acknowledges that the co-financing requirement is challenging. Unfortunately, the co-financing share is non-negotiable. Applicants can consult eligibility criteria 7 which specifies that co-financing can be in-kind and/or cash. Examples of substantive in-kind co-financing are contributions by local

and regional governments in the form of land, buildings and facilities in order to achieve the project's objectives.

**Question 4:** Will the Cities Alliance select one project or is it possible to split the grant over several, smaller projects?

**Answer 4:** This CfP is part of a larger global programme of the Cities Alliance for which different grants will be awarded in the Horn of Africa, North Africa and Latin America. Cities Alliance is seeking to sign one agreement for the underlying call. As noted under the eligibility criteria 2, the Cities Alliance encourages a partnership approach for this CfP. Examples of partnerships range from local/regional and central governments, NGOs, Universities and Think Thanks, private sector, INGOs and multilateral organizations. If partners choose a consortium approach, the proposal needs to elaborate clearly on the roles, responsibilities and budget allocations.

**Question 5:** What are the requirements to document co-financing at the proposal stage?

**Question 5:** As noted under eligibility criteria 7, a verifiable commitment on co-financing needs to be added to the proposal (e.g. letter from co-financiers). Important for applicants is to value in-kind contributions according to current market prices, e.g. if public land, buildings or facilities are being provided to achieve the project's objectives.