UKPACT PARTNERING FOR ACCELERATED CLIMATE TRANSITIONS

AmazonRegionalFundGreenFinance(GF)Call for Proposals Q&ACall

June 2025

Contents

1.	Introduction	3
2.	Post-event communication	3
3.	Scope and focus of the CfP	4
4.	Application process & requirements	7
5.	Eligibility	9
6.	Finance requirements	11
7.	Other	12
Ann	ex 1: Summary of value chain study	13

1. Introduction

This document compiles questions and answers from the Amazon Regional Fund-UK PACT Call for Proposals (CfP) on Green Finance (June 2025). They are divided into six categories:

- Post-event communication
- Scope and focus of the CfP
- Application process
- Eligibility criteria
- Finance requirements
- Other

2. Post-event communication

Q1. Can you share this presentation and relevant application templates with us?

A. The presentation and recording from the Marketing Engagement Event, as well as all relevant application documents, can be found on our <u>website</u>.

Q2. Can an offline version of the EOI form be shared with applicants?

A. Applicants can review the complete EOI form (<u>available here</u>) by using "draft" answers and skip ahead in the form without submitting.

Q3. Are any projects that have been accepted by UK PACT available on the web?

A. Information on projects that have been and are currently being implemented by UK PACT are available on our <u>website</u>.

Q4. Will applicants receive feedback on full proposals that are rejected by UK PACT?

A. UK PACT will only provide detailed feedback on selected proposals, notifying applicants of necessary modifications or adjustments. If a proposal is rejected, UK PACT will officially communicate the decision to applicants but will not provide detailed feedback.

3. Scope and focus of the CfP

Q5. For the Peru interventions, what are the 3 value chains that should be prioritized? Can additional value chains be included in the proposal?

A. It is strongly recommended to focus on the following value chains: Aguaje, Camu Camu, and/or Castaña. However, those proposals that include any of the products listed below will be carefully evaluated, especially if anchor companies or markets have already been previously identified.

Other valuable forest products identified: Achiote (Bixa orellana), Cocona, Copaiba (Copaifera paupera), Copoazú, other palm fruits (i.e. Ungurahui -Oenocarpus batana or Azai -Euterpe oleracea), Huito (Genipa americana), Murumuru or huicungo (Astrocaryum murumuru), Orchids, Palmito, Palo rosa (Aniba rosaedora), Sacha Inchi (Plukenetia volubilis), Dragon blood (Croton lechleri), Seeds, fibers, dyes, leaves of wild flora, Shiringa (Hevea guianensis) y uña de gato (Uncaria tomentosa).

Q6. Can applicants access the studies conducted by the British embassy and the MINAM on the 21 preidentified value chains?

A. A summary of the study conducted by the British Embassy and the MINAM has been included as an annex to this Q&A document)

Q7. For the Peru interventions, can energy be the focus of a proposal?

A. No. Proposals for Peru should focus on the aforementioned value chains. Proposals should not focus on in areas outside bio business and sustainable value chains.

Q8. What are the geographical restrictions for the proposals? Are proposals restricted to the Amazon region exclusively? Can proposals for Peru focus on the Dry tropical forest of north Peru and proposals for Bolivia focus on the Altiplano?

A. Proposals for Peru should focus on the Amazon region exclusively. Proposals for Boliva have more flexibility in terms of its geographical restrictions. The Bolivia intervention seeks to support the development of sustainable finance in Bolivia by generating the enabling conditions for increasing capital flows towards a successful transition to a low carbon economy in line with the country's NDC. Hence, the work will be focus on working with stakeholders and beneficiaries that are key to reduce GHG emissions in key economic sectors.

Q9. Can proposals only consider counterparts included in the suggested counterpart list, or is it possible to suggest other counterparts? Can suggested counterparts be included as consortium members?

A. Applicants are expected to incorporate the suggested counterparts in their proposals, but it is possible to propose counterparts that have not previously been included in the suggested counterpart list, assuming these are adequately aligned with the project's goals. This being said, suggested counterparts should not be included as consortium partners, since most are government entities and hence are not eligible for UK PACT funding.

Q10. What are the expected results of the projects for the first fiscal year, considering that projects would start on October/November 2025 and the fiscal year closes in march 2026?

A. The projects that present a clear implementation plan, offer concrete deliverables, and demonstrate measurable progress toward intended outcomes—particularly within the current fiscal year (April 2025–March 2026)—will be prioritised to ensure timely delivery and alignment with programme and funding cycles. It is expected to receive from applicants a non-exhaustive list of anticipated outcomes for each intervention is included in the proposal ToR, available <u>here</u>. Full proposals should include a detailed workplan (template available <u>here</u>) that breaks down expected activities and outcomes to be achieved throughout the project's proposed lifetime. Applicants will choose how to construct this workplan and what outcomes are achievable during FY 25/26, given their technical expertise and proposal design.

Q11. For the Bolivia interventions, can the proposal focus on sustainable agriculture, adaptation, or mitigation?

A. The Bolivia intervention seeks to support the development of sustainable finance in Bolivia by generating the enabling conditions for increasing capital flows towards a successful transition to a low carbon economy in line with the country's NDC. As outlined in the ToR, this should focus primarily on financing for mitigation of GHGs in high emission sectors.

Q12. Regarding the Bolivia interventions, is it expected that financing innovations will be generated with this financing?

A. The Bolivia intervention seeks to support the development of sustainable finance in Bolivia by generating the enabling conditions for increasing capital flows towards a successful transition to a low carbon economy in line with the country's NDC. Proposals can envision the emergence of financing innovations as an eventual outcome of the proposed interventions.

Q13. Do proposals need to address all intervention areas or can they focus on a single intervention area?

A. Applicants can only apply once per intervention area. Applicants may apply for both areas of intervention but all proposals will be reviewed separately. Within intervention areas, at the project selection phase, proposals will be assessed on how well the programme of activities and proposed outputs achieve the main objectives.

Q14. Do proposals need to target both Bolivia and Peru? Can proposals have multi-country approaches?

A. No. Proposals should target single countries and clearly align with the areas of intervention described in the <u>Terms of Reference</u>.

Q15. Regarding the expected outcome of "10–20 bioeconomy businesses with potential to scale", Is this target expected to be delivered by each individual project applicant, or is this an aggregate result to be achieved collectively across all selected projects under the Peruvian intervention area?

A. The successful applicant would initially be expected to identify 10-20 potential bio businesses and articulate an assessment process to select a shortlist of businesses most suitable for further technical assistance. This outcome should be viewed together with the outcome "At least 3 bioeconomy businesses (mainly anchor companies) have strengthened their business plan and scale up to other regions or products and receive technical assistance to advance the last mile to commercialisation"

Q16. One of the expected results mentions involving 10-20 companies for scaling; However, another expected result of strengthening 3 bioeconomy anchor companies is mentioned. We would like to be clear about what the real expected result is, finally; Likewise, is there a difference in the category of the 10 to 20 companies with the 3 anchor companies?

A. See answer above. Proposals can initially pre-identify 10-20 companies, but in the end it is expected that projects will not work with more than 3 companies.

Q17. Regarding the escalation approach, what type of escalation are you referring to? Or what criteria should be taken into account to determine escalation? Are connections with financing options part of this process?

A. The scale up approach entails expanding extraction capacity or areas, implementing technologies that allow sustainable production, incorporating more efficient and sustainable processes, and that in the end this allows for a greater social and environmental impact, involving local communities and indigenous peoples, creating jobs and economic opportunities, while conserving forest areas.

Q18. In relation to the companies identified for scaling, what are the expected results of this identification?

A. The successful applicant would be expected to identify 10-20 potential bio businesses suitable for further technical assistance outlined in the ToR. We would expect the successful applicant to propose their criteria for suitability.

Q19. Regarding anchor companies, is there a marketing goal or indicator that needs to be achieved?

A. In terms of marketing, it is expected that identified companies have market reach, brand recognition and medium or long-term expectations to export.

Q20. Is it necessary for the bio businesses that will be part of the proposal to have specific characteristics in financial and commercial terms? If so, could you tell us what these criteria are?

A. At the project proposal stage, and in more detail during inception phase for the successful applicant, we would expect applicants to propose the criteria they would consider. Some factors that can be considered include having a proven business model, financial strength, good credit score, capacity to cover part of the scaling costs in the midterm, constant cash flow, having a distribution network, regulatory compliance (knowledge and adherence to local and international market regulations and/or certifications), ability to diversify and adapt products, digital presence and/or strategies to attract consumers, among others. Keep in mind that the criteria proposed by the applicant is expected for anchor companies, we also expect these ones to be able to work with smaller bio businesses, cooperatives and/or IPLC.

4. Application process & requirements

Q21. Are the proposal templates necessary for the EOI submission?

A. No. At the EOI submission stage, applicants only need to fill out the <u>EOI submission form</u> and send the relevant supporting documentation for past projects over email to <u>amazonfund@ukpact.co.uk</u>

Q22. Does the reference project need to be finalized upon submission of the references? If still ongoing, can activity reports related to the selected intervention area be used as evidence?

A. Referenced projects should have a budget above GBP 300.000 in total and a minimum of one year of implementation (from start to closure). Applicants must submit at least one document that provides evidence of delivery, impact and completion of the reference project: final report, output/report publication, other. Projects can still be ongoing upon submission of the references, but the documentation provided must demonstrate evidence of delivery and impact.

Q23. For stage 1 of the application process, is the demonstrable experience requirement applicable to all consortium members, or only the consortium lead?

A. Demonstrable experience requirements apply to the consortium as a whole, meaning that the required experience per intervention area can come from any member of the consortium, not just the lead.

Q24. How many proposals will be selected in total?

A. UK PACT expects to select 1 or 2 proposals per intervention.

Q25. Can an organization submit proposals to the Clean Energy CfP and the Green Finance CfP?

A. Yes, organizations can participate in both CfP processes.

Q26. Can past project references be related to projects executed in countries other than Bolivia / Peru?

A. There is no geographical requirement for past project references. Reference projects need to have a total budget greater than GBP 300,000, and a minimum duration of one year of implementation (from inception to closure). References from similar projects executed in the last five years in any of the areas of intervention for which the applicant applies will be considered valid.

Q27. Can past project references be related to projects executed in regions other than the Amazon?

A. Reference projects do not have to be executed in the Amazon. The requirement is for reference projects to have a total budget greater than GBP 300,000, and a minimum duration of one year of implementation (from inception to closure), in any of the areas of intervention for which the applicant applies.

Q28. Regarding the GBP 300,000 requirement for past projects, can this requirement be met by a combination of the budgets of past projects, or is it only valid for single projects with budgets over GBP 300,000?

A. Referenced projects should have a budget above GBP 300,000 in total and a minimum of one year of implementation (from start to closure). The requirement applies to individual projects, not a cumulative total from multiple smaller projects.

Q29. Regarding the GBP 300,000 requirement for past projects, can projects that included capital costs in their budgets be used to comply with this requirement?

A. Yes. The restriction on capital expenditure applies to projects financed through this Call for Proposals, not past references. Proposal budgets must not include capital expenditure or tangible assets.

Q30. Can organizations submit more than one proposal for the same intervention area?

A. No, organizations cannot submit more than one proposal for the same intervention area. Applicants can apply to one or more intervention areas but cannot apply more than once to the same intervention area.

Q31. Can an organization submit one proposal as the consortium lead applicant and another as a partner within a consortium, both within the same country?

A. No, since there is only one intervention area in each target country and applicants can only apply once to each intervention area.

Q32. Which consortium member needs to submit the EOI? Is it the consortium lead? Can any member submit? Do all members need to submit individually?

A. EOIs may be submitted by any consortium member; however, it must be clearly stated which consortium members will be involved in the intervention.

Q33. What is the submission process for past project references?

A. EOIs are submitted through a web form available on our <u>website</u>. The form includes a section with questions related to the applicant's past project references. Additionally, supporting evidence including final reports, output/report publications, among others must be submitted by email to <u>amazonfund@ukpact.co.uk</u>. The deadline for EOI submissions, including all necessary supporting documentation, is 3 July, 2025.

Q34. Can you clarify what is expected during the full proposal stage?

A. Applicants selected following this first stage will then be invited to submit a full proposal with corresponding annexes. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to submit their full proposal on 16 July, 2025. A detailed description of required documentation is included in the <u>applicant handbook</u>. The submission deadline for full proposals is 30 July 2025 at 16:00 UTC.

Q35. Is the submission of a single reference project required or is it possible to include several?

A. The EOI submission form only allow for the inclusion of a single reference project. Applicants must provide one clear reference of having successfully delivered a similar project over the last 5 years.

Q36. Is there a minimum number of entities to form a consortium? If yes, can reference projects from partners also be submitted?

A. There is no minimum number of entities required to form a consortium, but at least one local partner is mandatory. Reference projects from consortium partners are acceptable, provided they demonstrate the consortium's collective capacity to deliver the proposed intervention.

5. Eligibility

Q37. What type of organization is eligible to submit an EOI/proposal?

A. Profit and non-profit organisations can apply. If applying as a consortium, the consortium lead can either be a non-profit or a for-profit organisation. While for-profit organisations are eligible, profit is not an eligible cost. Government agencies and state-owned enterprises are not eligible. Detailed information on the eligibility criteria for interested organizations is included in the proposal's Terms of Reference, available here.

Q38. Can UN agencies, multilateral banks and other international organizations participate in this CfP?

A. Yes. Profit and non-profit organisations can apply. If applying as a consortium, the consortium lead can either be a non-profit or a for-profit organisation. While all non-governmental organisations/firms are eligible, profit is not an eligible cost.

Q39. Do eligible organizations have to be registered in the target countries?

A. No. Applicants do not have to be based in the target countries; however, all consortia need to include at least one local partner. A local partner is defined as an organization that operates in the target countries under a National Registry of Legal Entities. It can be a local organization, a civil society group, a community / indigenous association, among others. The local partner does not have to be the consortium leader.

Q40. Can organizations based outside Peru / Bolivia participate as consortium members in an application?

A. Yes, applicants can be based outside the targeted countries, but all consortia must include at least one local partner. Detailed information on the eligibility criteria for interested organizations is included in the proposal's Terms of Reference, available <u>here</u>.

Q41. Can government agencies apply to this CfP?

A. No. Government agencies and state-owned enterprises are not eligible organizations. These organisations can be included as counterparts. Detailed information on the eligibility criteria for interested organizations is included in the proposal's Terms of Reference, available <u>here</u>.

Q42. Can indigenous communities apply to this CfP?

A. Yes. Applicants can be civil society organizations, including indigenous communities and organizations. Detailed information on the eligibility criteria for interested organizations is included in the proposal's Terms of Reference, available <u>here</u>.

Q43. Can applicants be current UK PACT partners in other activities?

A. Yes. Applicants can be actively partnering with UK PACT in other activities when submitting a proposal.

Q44. Is there a minimum business age (meaning the time passed since the creation of the organization) required for applicant organizations?

A. No, there is no explicit business age requirement for this CfP. However, the applicant is subject to the past project reference requirement and selected applicants will be required to complete an organisational due diligence prior to signing a grant agreement.

6. Finance requirements

Q45. Are overheads/indirect costs eligible? If so, what is the allowed percentage?

A. Shortlisted applicants are expected to calculate this in the Budget and Workplan template (phase 2 of this Call for Proposals). There is no defined limit for indirect costs/overheads. However, the proportion of overheads that can be funded by UK PACT must be calculated and distributed appropriately, considering only the costs deemed necessary to support your organisation's ongoing business or activities. All project activities should present the best value for money and the overhead rate to be applied to the Project's transactions should be consistent with the rate from the approved budget.

Q46. What is the total activity budget and how is it broken down?

A. The total activity budget is capped at GBP 1'000.000. This budget can be executed over the project's lifetime, which cannot exceed 18 months. Available funding is broken down per fiscal year (April to March), with a maximum amount of GBP 500,000 to be disbursed yearly. If a project starts in October 2025 and ends in April 2027 (for a total duration of 18 months), it will be eligible to receive up to GBP 500,000 each fiscal year through the project's lifetime up to the GBP 1'000.000 cap.

Q47. How are allocated project funds administered? Can grantees and counterparts receive and execute funding for activities?

A. The monitoring of project delivery is led by UK PACT staff in collaboration with the selected organisations. Our standard grant agreements are cost reimbursables, paid quarterly. On an exceptional basis, advance payments can be approved as a result of the due diligence process prior to grant signing. As part of the Grant Agreement, the grantee commits to have an independent entity prepare an annual financial assurance report, the cost of which is an eligible direct cost.

Q48. What are the allowable indirect costs?

A. Allowable costs, including indirect costs (or overhead) are presented in detail in the <u>Applicant Handbook</u> (section 3.7). Where proposed indirect costs are more than 15% of the proposed direct project costs, supporting justification will be required – normally from annual financial statements over the past three years. This review would take place during due diligence following successful selection but prior to grant signing. Budgets must not include capital expenditure or tangible assets, and profit cannot be included as an eligible cost. Applicants should ensure that any budgeted direct costs are reasonable and clearly linked to the project's activities and outcomes; and be aligned with value for money principles including economy, efficiency, effectiveness, and equity.

Q49. What costs are included in the £500,000 budget? Is travelling, accommodation, etc included or excluded?

A. Direct costs proposed in project budgets are expected to be clearly linked to activities and outputs, with appropriate allocation of time and resources, and costs that appear reasonable for the activities proposed, including sufficient allocation for project management, reporting and data collection. In this sense, reasonable operational costs such as travel, accommodation, per diems, and logistics can be allowable, provided they are clearly linked to project activities and outputs, represent good value for money, and are not capital expenditures (e.g., purchasing vehicles or technical equipment).

Q50. Can specialized equipment and technical assets be purchased using project funds?

A. No. Project funds cannot be used to purchase assets. Budgets must not include capital expenditure or tangible assets.

Q51. What are the specific financial requirements and documents requested during the full stage proposal?

A. Financial requirements are presented in detail in the Applicant Handbook.

Q52. If multiple proposals are selected under a single intervention area, is the budget for each individual intervention still capped at GBP 1'000.000 or is it split among the selected projects?

A. Each individual project selected under a single intervention area is eligible for up to £1,000,000 in funding over 18 months. The cap applies per project, not per intervention area.



Q53. What are UK PACT's policies on intellectual property for products developed under the grant agreement?

A. Intellectual property developed in all material produced by the Grantee or its Personnel will be the property of the Grantee. FCDO (Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office) retains the IP rights for communications-related outputs (e.g. photos, videos, audio). For other project outputs (e.g. reports, tools, methodologies), terms would be governed by the Grant A

greement.

Q54. What is the link to the EOI form?

The link to the EOI form can be found <u>here</u>.

Q55. Questions 12 to 21 of the EOI form refer to the past reference project or to the current proposed project?

This section refers to the past reference project.

Annex 1: Summary of value chain study

Click <u>here</u> to read the document in Spa	lick <u>r</u>	<u>here</u> t	to re	ead [.]	the	document	in	Spanish.
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