

Responses to consolidated clarification questions as at 15th September 2025

Important notes to all applicants

Note: This is the second issue for clarification questions. Clarification questions can be submitted to kenya@ukpact.co.uk. The deadline for submitting clarification questions is 22 September 2025 at 17:00 EAT (15:00 GMT+1). Consolidated responses will be updated on a weekly basis on the 8, 15 and 22 September 2025 on the [Kenya-UK PACT Call for Proposals Webpage](#).

- Kindly note that similar questions have been grouped together on the pages to follow. Some questions have been adapted or shortened. Please contact us on the email address above if you do not see your question(s) below.
- Please note that some categories and questions may fall across multiple pages.
- We understand that applicants are working with limited information and will need to make assumptions in their submissions. Kindly clarify your assumptions in your applications.

1. Eligibility Criteria

1 - Eligibility Criteria	
Questions	Responses
Can Kenyan institutions apply independently to the Kenya–UK PACT Nature-Based Solutions Call for Proposals, or is partnership with UK-based organisations required?	Yes, Kenyan institutions can apply independently to the Kenya–UK PACT Nature-Based Solutions Call for Proposals. While partnerships with UK-based organisations are welcome and may add value, they are not a requirement for eligibility . The programme encourages applications from organisations that are locally based and have relevant experience in commercial forestry, agroforestry, or other nature-based solutions aligned with Kenya’s climate priorities. All applicants must demonstrate strong technical capacity, alignment with the call’s objectives, and a commitment to inclusive approaches, including Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI).
Can proposals address both commercial forestry and agroforestry objectives, or must they focus on only one?	Each project area under the Kenya–UK PACT Nature-Based Solutions Call for Proposals has defined outputs and interventions. While Kenya–UK PACT encourages innovative approaches and welcomes proposals that expand on these interventions, each proposal must focus on only one project area —either commercial forestry or agroforestry. Applicants may submit proposals for more than one project area , but each submission will be evaluated independently . Proposals that attempt to combine multiple areas into a single application will not be considered under this call.
Is a partner affiliated with a government institution in Kenya, eligible to apply?	No, government-affiliated institutions are not eligible to receive funding under this call. Partners must be from non-governmental organisations, academic institutions, or private sector entities that meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the call for proposals.
Can global institutions participate in Kenya-UK PACT projects, either as lead implementers or partners?	Yes, institutions outside of Kenya are eligible to participate as collaborators in a proposal. However, applicants are strongly encouraged to include local partners to ensure contextual relevance and support localisation of delivery.

2. Application guidance: proposal, workplan, budget, theory of change, and risk register

2 - Application guidance: proposal, workplan, budget, theory of change, and risk register	
Questions	Responses
Are costs such as seeds and seedlings, labour for trenching, and bioengineering infrastructure construction eligible under this Call for Proposals?	No, these types of costs are not eligible under the Kenya–UK PACT Nature-Based Solutions Call for Proposals. Ineligible costs include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure development • Hardware purchases • Procurement of tangible assets (e.g., seeds, seedlings, tools, construction materials) Eligible costs may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultancy and/or staff time required to deliver project activities • Reasonable travel and subsistence expenses • Direct activity-related costs such as workshops, seminars, report production, translation, and similar outputs

2 - Application guidance: proposal, workplan, budget, theory of change, and risk register	
Questions	Responses
	While UK PACT funding cannot be used for tangible assets or infrastructure, applicants may use match funding to cover these types of expenses, provided there is clear differentiation in budgeting and reporting between UK PACT-funded activities and those supported by other sources.
Are education-focused activities on climate change eligible under the Kenya–UK PACT Nature-Based Solutions Call for Proposals?	<p>No, education-focused activities are not eligible under this specific Call for Proposals. The interventions for this call are clearly defined and limited to two project areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial Forestry • Agroforestry <p>While education and awareness are important components of climate action, this call is focused on practical, implementation-oriented projects that directly contribute to nature-based solutions through forestry and agroforestry interventions. Proposals must align with the defined outputs and activities within these areas to be considered for funding.</p>
Is funding under the Kenya–UK PACT Nature-Based Solutions Call for Proposals multi-annual, and how much can each project request?	<p>Funding under this Call for Proposals is designed for a 12-month implementation period, starting January 2026. However, the funding is distributed across two financial years, with annual ceilings as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to £150,000 for activities delivered between January 2026 and March 2026 (FY2025/26) • Up to £500,000 for activities delivered between April 2026 and December 2026 (FY2026/27) <p>Each project can request a total budget between £400,000 and £650,000, within these annual limits. In exceptional cases, higher budgets may be considered based on the strength of the proposal and demonstrated value for money.</p>
Is the current UK PACT Nature-based Solutions Call part of an annual cycle, or is it a one-off opportunity?	This is not an annual call, and there is no guarantee of project funding beyond the stated implementation period. While future opportunities may arise under the UK PACT programme, applicants are encouraged to treat this call as a standalone funding round and plan accordingly.
Can you clarify what UK PACT considers to be tangible assets?	<p>UK PACT generally aligns with standard financial and accounting definitions when it comes to tangible assets. These are typically defined as physical items of value that are owned by a project or organization and are used in operations over a period longer than one year.</p> <p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure development • Hardware purchases • Procurement of tangible assets (e.g., seeds, seedlings, tools, construction materials) <p>While UK PACT funding cannot be used for tangible assets or infrastructure, applicants may use match funding to cover these types of expenses, provided there is clear differentiation in budgeting and reporting between UK PACT-funded activities and those supported by other sources.</p>
Can you kindly clarify whether the awarded project, within the budget range of £400,000 to £650,000, is expected to cover all five counties referenced in the Terms of Reference? If not, are multiple awards anticipated to ensure coverage across the counties?	Yes, the awarded project is expected to cover all five counties referenced in the Terms of Reference within the stated budget range of £400,000 to £650,000. Multiple awards are not anticipated under this Call, and therefore, applicants are advised to submit a single proposal that addresses the full geographic scope.

2 - Application guidance: proposal, workplan, budget, theory of change, and risk register	
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	Each project can request a total budget between £400,000 and £650,000 , within these annual limits. In exceptional cases , higher budgets may be considered based on the strength of the proposal and demonstrated value for money.
Can you kindly clarify the intended geographic scope of the Call for Proposals? The Terms of Reference references five counties, but these are not explicitly named.	Please note that while the number of counties indicated in the expected outputs must be maintained, applicants have the discretion and liberty to determine which specific counties to target, based on strategic relevance and alignment with project objectives.

3. UK PACT Applicant Portal

3 – UK PACT Applicant Portal	
Questions	Responses
I am unable to access the application portal. What should I do?	Please refer to our guidelines on creating an account and submitting your application through the portal. These step-by-step instructions will help you navigate the setup and application process. myUKPACT Applicant Guide v1.pdf
Can you kindly clarify whether this Call for Proposals follows a two-stage process—comprising a pre-qualification phase followed by submission of a full proposal—or a one-stage process involving submission of a full proposal only?	This is a one-stage Call for Proposals. As such, there is no pre-qualification phase, and applicants are ONLY required to submit a full proposal using the provided application templates and on the application portal.

4. Consortia and consortium-building

General note: Applicants should evaluate whether Government entities being considered in their projects are Counterparts or Stakeholders. Section 8 of the [UK PACT Proposal Template](#) clarifies the difference between Counterparts and Stakeholders:

- **Counterparts:** refer to partner government organisations that are normally the primary recipients of TA outputs. Counterparts play a critical role in project implementation, often serving as local champions who bring essential context, insights, and connections. They work alongside the project teams to achieve shared goals, such as policy development, capacity building, skills enhanced, etc.

ensuring that projects are effectively adapted to local conditions and needs. Government counterparts should be named under Section 8.1.1. of the UK PACT Proposal Template as the “primary government counterpart”.

- **Stakeholders:** are individuals, groups, or organizations that have an interest in or are affected by the project. They can include those who are directly involved, those who can influence the outputs and outcomes, and those who are impacted by the results of the project. Effective stakeholder engagement involves identifying, prioritizing, and engaging with these groups to ensure that their views are considered in decision-making processes. Stakeholders should be listed named under Section 8.1.2. of the UK PACT Proposal Template.

4 - Consortia and consortium-building	
Questions	Responses
What type of organisations can apply?	<p>We invite applications from organisations with relevant experience in delivering technical assistance and capacity-building projects in nature-based solutions, including areas such as climate policy, governance, sustainable land use, and ecosystem restoration. This includes think tanks, consultancies, academic institutions, community organisations, NGOs, professional associations, and other similar entities with the expertise required to implement eligible projects.</p> <p>Government agencies, government departments, and state-owned enterprises are not eligible to receive UK PACT funding, either as lead applicants or consortium partners.</p> <p>In line with UK PACT’s commitment to localisation and inclusive delivery, additional consideration will be given to consortia that include local organisations, women-owned entities, youth-owned entities, and entities owned by persons with disabilities</p>
Is having a physical office in Kenya a requirement for proposal submission under Kenya-UK PACT?	<p>No, having a physical office in Kenya is not a requirement for proposal submission. However, consortiums are strongly encouraged to work with local partners to ensure contextual relevance and effective localisation of delivery.</p> <p>To reflect FCDO’s commitment to localisation, additional consideration will be given to consortia that include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local organisations, • Women-owned entities, and • Entities owned by people with disabilities.
Can institutions outside of Kenya, such as universities or research organisations, be included as partner in a proposal?	Yes, institutions outside of Kenya are eligible to participate as collaborators in a proposal. However, applicants are strongly encouraged to include local partners to ensure contextual relevance and support localisation of delivery
As a public university, are we eligible to apply for this funding window under the UK PACT programme?	Yes, public universities are eligible to apply for funding under the UK PACT programme, provided they meet the general eligibility criteria outlined in the UK PACT Applicant Handbook.
Can two or more Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) apply as a consortium, and is it permissible for the same organization to appear in multiple applications—once as a lead applicant and in other instances as a co-applicant in different consortia?	Yes. UK PACT encourages consortium applications, especially where collaboration enhances technical expertise, local knowledge, and delivery capacity. CBOs can form or join consortia as long as the consortium collectively meets the eligibility and capacity requirements.
Is it necessary to include a UK-based or UK-affiliated institution or researcher in the consortium for Kenya-UK PACT projects?	<p>While partnerships with UK-based organisations are welcome and may add value, they are not a requirement for eligibility.</p> <p>The programme encourages applications from organisations that are locally based and have relevant experience in commercial forestry, agroforestry, or other nature-based solutions aligned with Kenya’s climate priorities. All applicants must demonstrate</p>

4 - Consortia and consortium-building	
Questions	Responses
	strong technical capacity, alignment with the call's objectives, and a commitment to inclusive approaches, including Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI).

5. Timelines, communication and contacts

5 - Timelines, communication and contacts	
Questions	Responses
How long is the application open for, and is there a possibility of extension?	The application is currently open until 26th September . No extensions have been granted at this time.
Will there be other Calls for Proposals under Kenya–UK PACT in the coming months, and can you share the expected focus areas?	At this time, no additional Calls for Proposals are planned under the Kenya–UK PACT programme. Should this change, any future calls will be publicly announced and will focus on areas agreed in consultation with the Government of Kenya, through the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry (MECCF) , which serves as the programme's counterpart. We encourage interested organisations to stay informed via the UK PACT website and official communication channels for any updates or new opportunities.
Can UK PACT funding be used as part of a longer-term project (e.g., 5–10 years), or spread across multiple years?	UK PACT funding is designed for a 12-month implementation period , running from January 2026 to December 2026 . All UK PACT-funded activities must be implemented and reported within this timeframe , in line with the programme's funding and reporting requirements. However, UK PACT welcomes proposals that form part of a longer-term intervention , such as a 5–10 year strategy, provided that : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UK PACT-funded component is clearly defined and fits within the 12-month window. • Activities, outputs, and timelines are clearly differentiated from those supported by other funding sources. • There is clear attribution to each funder, with transparent budgeting and reporting. Match funding that supports the continuation or expansion of the project beyond the UK PACT period is considered a positive complementarity , especially where it enhances sustainability and long-term impact.

6. Questions specific to Thematic Area 1 “Strengthening commercial forestry on all land categories in Kenya”

8 - Thematic Area 1 “Commercial Forestry”	
Questions	Responses

7. Questions specific to Thematic Area 2 “Scaling up smallholder agroforestry production and nature-based enterprises”

9 - Thematic Area 2 “Agroforestry”	
Questions	Responses