

UK PACT

Nigeria-UK PACT: Clean Energy Transition

Responses to MEE clarification questions | Updated on 19 February 2025

This document compiles clarification questions and answers received during the market engagement event held on 5th February 2025 in relation to the upcoming Clean Energy Transition sector call for proposals.

Technical questions relating to Thematic Areas

<p>Is this in any way related to DARES Project</p>	<p>The Clean Energy Transition Sector projects under UK PACT are not directly part of the DARES (Distributed Access through Renewable Energy Scale-up) project, which is funded by the World Bank and implemented by the Rural Electrification Agency (REA). However, DARES is the largest energy access program in Nigeria and given that REA is a key counterpart for these projects, we expect proposals to demonstrate relevant linkages with DARES where appropriate.</p> <p>While UK PACT funding is independent of DARES, proposals should consider how their interventions align with or complement DARES and other sector programmes to maximize impact, leverage existing investments, and ensure scalability. Applicants are expected to propose the most effective ways to establish these connections in alignment with the Terms of Reference. Details of this will be published on our website: www.ukpact.co.uk/country-programme/nigeria.</p>
<p>Waste to energy projects are they considerable in UK -Nigeria PACT?</p>	<p>Waste-to-energy projects could be considered under the UK-Nigeria PACT Clean Energy Transition portfolio, specifically within Project 4: Pilot Projects and Proof of Concept for Decentralised Renewable Energy (DRE) and Grid Integration Technologies. This includes biomass-to-energy technologies for electricity applications, which are a key focus of the project.</p> <p>While the emphasis is on electrification, we also welcome innovative approaches that address the wider waste-to-energy value chain, as long as they contribute to clean energy access and align with the project’s objectives. Proposals demonstrating innovative, scalable, and impactful solutions are particularly encouraged.</p>
<p>The Nigerian Government Energy Transition Plan envisages “promoting a fair, inclusive, and equitable energy transition in Africa that will include Gas as a “transitional fuel””. Will the PACT-UK programme suggest innovative Clean Cooking initiatives using LPG to displace cooking with firewood & charcoal, especially those that are certified for Carbon Credits like using metered IoT devices?</p>	<p>The UK international climate finance fossil fuel policy means that support for gas projects is not eligible for funding.</p>

<p>Is it assumed for the program to accept different projects for this call? Can the projects focus on a narrower scope within the themes (I. e. Localised energy, smart grids, and electric vehicles on RE ecosystem with local partners), but not covering RE on grid power for national distribution?</p>	<p>Yes, it is assumed that each Terms of Reference that will be published will be for individual projects. We recommend finding consortium partners to submit a full proposal. The core focus of project 4 objectives is not to generate electricity for national distribution.</p>
<p>How many lead applicants/proposals will receive the grant from Uk-Pact? Is there any specific number anticipated?</p> <p>Are you planning on supporting one proposal for each of the 5 areas or more than 1 possibly?</p>	<p>We are publishing 5 ToRs and expect to fund 5 projects.</p>
<p>Can a single proposal seek to meet more than one of the 5 projects?</p>	<p>A single implementing partner may submit proposals for more than one project. However, applicants should not submit more than one application for the same project.</p>
<p>Just to be clear, can a project solely focus on the GEDSI perspective. For instance, when looking at the thematic area on renewable energy skills, can the approach be from that perspective?</p>	<p>Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) is an important aspect of our programme and for each project it will be considered as a key technical scoring area. UK PACT endeavours to mainstream GEDSI throughout our programming. Projects must however meet the full scoring range of criteria and so cannot solely focus on GEDSI. Potential GEDSI focused organisations may wish to partner with others via a consortium.</p>
<p>Are for profit organizations eligible?</p>	<p>Yes, for profit organisation are eligible to receive funds as part of this call for proposals, however no profit can be made on the project itself.</p>
<p>Can projects more than 18 months be proposed? Will the funding increase in such projects?</p>	<p>No, not at this stage – the implementation period is currently fixed at that duration which is tied to the overall programme contract duration.</p>
<p>Would it be possible to ring fence communities and still utilise the infrastructure of the distribution company covering the community?</p>	<p>We welcome innovative models that explore ring-fencing communities while utilising electricity distribution company infrastructure. Embedded generation and interconnection models are already being utilised in the context of Nigeria’s clean energy transition, and proposals incorporating such approaches are encouraged where relevant. Applicants should ensure alignment with regulatory frameworks and demonstrate the feasibility and scalability of their proposed solutions.</p>

Eligibility criteria

Can a UK academic institution lead a proposal? Can a company registered in both UK and Nigeria lead a proposal?	A proposal can be led by both a UK academic organisation or a company registered in both Nigeria and/or the UK. Government departments or state-owned enterprises are not eligible for support and cannot lead proposals. Local partners are encouraged but not required as part of this call for proposals.
Can an international research organization in collaboration with local partners submit a project proposal	Yes, applications from consortia involving local partners are encouraged.
Can a Nigeria private company with partnership with Nigerian NGO's and Dutch NGO be eligible to submit proposal	Yes, such a consortium would be eligible to submit a proposal. Government departments or state-owned enterprises are not eligible for support and cannot lead proposals. Local partners are encouraged but not required as part of this call for proposals
Are government funded research organisations eligible to apply as lead or partner in a consortium.	Government-funded research organisations are eligible to apply as a lead or partner in a consortium provided they are not government owned.
Are there limits to number of organizations in the consortium.	There is no limit to number of organisations that can be included in a consortium.
Is a company that is not GEDSI driven disqualified to apply?	Companies that are not GEDSI driven are not disqualified from applying, however we would expect all applicants to address GEDSI as part of their proposal.
Can a state enterprise apply for the fund, or a government research organisation focused on energy from another country partner or lead a consortium	State-owned enterprises and government research organisations, whether from Nigeria or another country, are not eligible to apply as a lead or partner in a consortium. If you require further clarification on eligibility, please contact Nigeria@ukpact.co.uk.
Are research institutions and private organizations eligible to apply?	Yes, research institutions and private organisations are eligible to participate in proposals both as the lead applicant and as a member of a consortium. However, no profit can be made delivering the project.
What is the breakdown of the budget and the allowed use of proceeds? Is this a 100% grant or is there a cofunding requirement? Are the disbursement results based (post factum) or prefunded?	This grant is 100% funded with no co-funding requirement, the funding will primarily be provided in arrears based on eligible costs incurred by implementing partners during delivery, how in exceptional circumstances payments in advance can be approved.
Can projects more than 18 months be proposed? Will the	No, projects greater than 18 months in length will not be considered.

funding increase in such projects?	
Can a grassroots NGO apply or they'll have to partner with a "big" NGO?	Yes, we encourage applications from small NGOs with the necessary skills to meet the requirements set out in the terms of reference.

Project Management (budget, staffing etc.)

How is the technical assistance delivered for the successful proposals? Is it driven by UK PACT internal experts or are third parties engaged?	Technical assistance will be delivered by the third-party organisations selected as part of the call for proposals. Details of the challenges that this technical assistance will address will be covered during this event and included in the final terms of reference.
With the limit of 500k GBP per project per financial year, is it correct to assume an 18-month project can apply for 1 million GBP or would the cap be 750 GBP?	<p>Projects stretching over multiple financial years may exceed £500,000 in their total value, however, within the budget, no single financial year should exceed the amount of £500,000.</p> <p>Higher project budgets may be considered on an exceptional basis depending on proposed activities and value for money against expected outcomes.</p>
Can a single project go up to GBP1m and above depending on the scope? Can a private sector company provide the counter-part funding?	<p>Projects stretching over multiple financial years may exceed £500,000 in their total value, however, within the budget, no single financial year should exceed the amount of £500,000.</p> <p>Higher project budgets may be considered on an exceptional basis depending on proposed activities and value for money against expected outcomes.</p> <p>Co-funding or match funding is not a requirement for this call for proposals. Projects may operate with co-funding from other donors or other parties. Applicants must demonstrate how the funding from UK PACT is additional and necessary, and not duplicative. The funding portion received from UK PACT must be for distinct activities with distinct, measurable outputs and outcomes. Applicants must also be able to separately track and report on spending against UK PACT funding.</p> <p>Match funding sources should align with UK PACT's safeguarding principles and guidelines.</p>
If the currency of the call is in pounds but implementation is Naira, what are the measures for possible differentials when budgeting for the call?	Each applicant is responsible for defining the exchange currency value to calculate the project's budget. If awarded, projects will be expected to report quarterly the expenses for reimbursement using the exchange rate of the date of the expense from OANDA. Partners will be expected to manage currency fluctuations that may arise during the project's implementation.

Other questions

Can Mr Olowoniya share contact email for his ministry?	Please contact Nigeria@ukpact.co.uk if you have any questions related to this opportunity outside of this market engagement event.
There is a company registered in Nigeria that I partner with. The company have developed electricity generation device that has zero emission and can be modified based on the required energy. A single unit can generate 10 thousand megawatts of electricity. What support can be provided to make this available to Nigerian community and Africa at large?	The priority areas of interventions we are targeting for this call were elaborated during the market engagement webinar and will be outlined in the terms of reference. Details of this will be published on our website: www.ukpact.co.uk/country-programme/nigeria .
If an applicant does not win, would feedback detailing the reasons for rejection be provided?	UK PACT is not in a position to offer detailed feedback to unsuccessful projects. Awarded projects will receive feedback during the co-creation phase.
Timelines, communication, and contacts	
Will there be a recording to refer to?	These slides, ToR, and Q&A from today's sessions will be published on the Nigeria-UK PACT web page in the coming days. Visit: www.ukpact.co.uk/country-programme/nigeria
Are those project calls for proposals already open and available in the UK Pact official page?	This call for proposals will be launched during the week commencing the 17th of February, on our website: www.ukpact.co.uk/country-programme/nigeria
How should TA delivery partners engage with the project beneficiaries? Is a no-objection/support letter required for the application	<p>Applicants should not engage directly with project beneficiaries before their project is selected as part of the Call for Proposals. The British High Commission (BHC) in Abuja is leading government engagement for this initiative, and the Terms of Reference have been developed in close consultation with relevant government counterparts and signed off by them.</p> <p>Successful applicants will undergo a co-creation phase during inception, where implementing partners will collaborate with government counterparts to ensure alignment and incorporate their input into project delivery. Therefore, a no-objection/support letter is not required as part of the application process.</p>