

# **Terms of Reference: Project 1 - Eastern Cape Climate Change Response Strategy and Implementation Framework**

**Sector: Climate Policy and Governance**

**South Africa-UK PACT**

**Grant value:**

Project budget can be up to £500,000 per project per financial year (Apr – Mar).

**Project duration:**

No more than 12 months. All projects are expected to start in October 2025, and can end no later than November 2026. The projects must have a clear indication of the outputs to be achieved within the 12-month delivery timeframe.

**Deadline for submission of applications:**

8th August 2025, 17:00 SAST / 15:00 UTC

**Apply through Call for Proposals web page:**

<https://www.ukpact.co.uk/south-africa-cfp-climate-policy-governance-clean-energy-2025>

The UK and South Africa have committed to work together to accelerate action on climate change while creating green jobs. To support this partnership, the UK Government is looking to extend its UK Partnering for Accelerated Climate Transitions (UK PACT) programme in South Africa with technical assistance and capacity-building projects supporting the climate policy and governance and clean energy sectors.

This call for proposals aims to support activities which are strategically aligned to national priorities on climate change mitigation and key policy areas identified through consultations with government counterparts and key stakeholders.

## **What is South Africa-UK PACT?**

UK PACT (Partnering for Accelerated Climate Transitions) is a unique capacity-building programme. Jointly governed and funded by the UK Government's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) and the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) through the UK's International Climate Finance, it works in partnership with countries with high emissions reduction potential to support them to implement and increase their ambitions for tackling climate change.

UK PACT forms a key part of the UK's technical assistance offer under the Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP) in South Africa.

## **What is UK PACT already funding?**

Since 2020 the programme has funded numerous projects in South Africa, in sectors such as clean energy, green finance, climate policy and sustainable mobility. Previous and ongoing UK PACT projects in South Africa include:

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- Supporting sectoral modelling research for the evidence base South Africa used to inform its decision to submit an enhanced NDC.
- Supporting municipalities to procure the services of independent power producers.
- Assisting eThekweni municipality with designing a regional hydrogen economy strategy.
- Stimulating the growth of an embedded energy generation initiative in intermediary municipalities.

Further information on previous and ongoing projects can be found on the [South Africa-UK PACT web page](#).

## What are we looking to fund

As a demand-informed programme, the South Africa-UK PACT Country Fund aims to align its support with the Government of South Africa's existing plans and policies. Through consultation with the Government of South Africa and other stakeholders, UK PACT has identified key opportunities in climate policy and governance and clean energy. We are looking to award grant funding for projects aimed at providing technical assistance and capacity-building to support a just transition.

Unlike the 2023 and 2024 calls for proposals, this opportunity calls for proposals in response to 4 topics – 2 of these are specific project topics with **targeted** Terms of Reference, and 2 are broad thematic areas with **broad** Terms of Reference.

You are currently looking at the following opportunity identified for funding within this call for proposals:

Project title		Sector	Number of expected grant awards
Project 1:	Eastern Cape Climate Change Response Strategy and Implementation Framework, 2026-2036	Climate strategy and governance	1
<p>This opportunity is defined by <b>targeted Terms of Reference</b>. <b>Targeted Terms of Reference</b> refer to a distinct scope of work which has already been well defined by the government counterpart (in this case the AIDC-EC). These Terms of Reference outline specific activities and outputs which must be achieved. While we welcome innovation and additional suggestions from the market, applications should cover the stated interventions as a minimum to ensure eligibility of their proposals. Proposals with a high degree of alignment to the Terms of Reference are more likely to be selected. Only one grant award will be made for this project.</p>			
<p><b>Guidance on Government engagement during the Call for Proposals for targeted Terms of Reference:</b> The British High Commission Pretoria is leading government engagement for these targeted Terms of Reference. Targeted projects are the result of intensive consultation with the Government of South Africa. To avoid confusion with government counterparts, we therefore do not encourage applicants to have direct engagement with government on these projects during the bidding process or prior to receiving an award.</p>			

# Terms of Reference: Project 1 - Eastern Cape Climate Change Response Strategy and Implementation Framework, 2026-2036

Please note that these are **targeted Terms of Reference**. To be eligible for funding, proposals must respond fully to the terms of reference, delivering the specific activities and outputs at a minimum

**Government counterpart:** Automotive Industry Development Centre Eastern Cape (AIDC-EC) and the Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT)

Sector: Climate Policy and Governance

Project duration: No more than 12 months

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Applicants must take note of the following when considering responding to this call:

- These are **targeted terms of reference** with a distinct scope of work which has already been well defined by the government counterpart. The terms of reference outline specific activities and outputs which must be achieved. While we welcome innovation and additional suggestions from the market, applications should cover the stated interventions as a minimum to ensure eligibility of their proposals. Proposals with a high degree of alignment to the terms of reference are more likely to be selected. Only one grant award will be made per topic.
- The British High Commission in Pretoria is leading government engagement for these targeted terms of reference. *While AIDC-EC is the key counterpart, applicants should not request a Letter of Support from AIDC-EC and should not engage directly with AIDC-EC during the bidding process or prior to receiving an award.*

## Background

The Automotive Industry Development Centre Eastern Cape (AIDC-EC) is a provincial government entity based in the Eastern Cape. It was established to assist the automotive sector in the province to remain globally competitive. The AIDC-EC focuses on policy advocacy, supporting SMME's, skills development, supporting the provincial government in advancing the climate mitigation objectives for the province, as well as responding to the effects of climate change.

As the key counterpart for this project, the AIDC-EC is providing critical capacity on behalf of the Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT) and will report into DEDEAT to implement the Department's climate change objectives.

The Eastern Cape Province is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. The province has already experienced increased temperatures, drought, changes in rainfall patterns, and more frequent extreme weather events. These changes have a significant impact on the province's economy, environment, and people.

The Eastern Cape Climate Change Response Strategy (ECCCRS), developed in 2010, provided a framework for navigating these challenges, aiming to build a low-carbon and climate-resilient future for the province. The Eastern Cape Provincial Government has made significant strides in implementing the 2010 Strategy, focusing on mitigation measures to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, enhance resilience, and transition toward a low-carbon economy. Key achievements include:

### **Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency**

- **Solar PV and Wind Energy Projects:** The province has facilitated the development of renewable energy projects, including solar farms in the Karoo and wind farms along the coast, contributing to the national grid and reducing reliance on fossil fuels.
- **Energy Efficiency in Public Buildings:** Retrofitting government buildings with LED lighting, solar water heaters, and smart energy management systems has reduced electricity consumption by 15-20% in key facilities.
- **Support for SMMEs in Green Energy:** Training and funding programs have been implemented for small businesses in renewable energy installation and maintenance.

### **Sustainable Transport Initiatives**

- **Introduction of Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations:** The province has successfully installed 14 electric vehicle charging stations to facilitate the transition towards eMobility as well as encouraging EV adoption.
- **Public Transport Upgrades:** The province has supported the use of biogas and hybrid buses in municipal fleets to reduce emissions, aligning key strategic planning with the transportation department.

### **Waste Management and Circular Economy**

- **Landfill Gas-to-Energy Projects:** Methane capture initiatives at major landfills (e.g., Gately's Waste Site in East London) have converted waste into usable energy.
- **Plastic Waste Reduction:** Bans on single-use plastics in government operations and partnerships with recycling enterprises have diverted over 1,000 tons of waste annually.

### **Sustainable Agriculture and Land Use**

- **Climate-Smart Farming Practices:** Training programs for farmers in drought-resistant crops, rotational grazing, and soil carbon sequestration have improved resilience.
- **Alien Vegetation Clearing:** Invasive plant removal programs have restored natural water systems and reduced fire risks.

### **Awareness and Capacity Building**

- **Municipal Climate Change Training:** Over 500 officials across municipalities have been trained in climate mitigation planning.
- **School and Community Programs:** Educational campaigns on energy conservation, tree planting, and recycling have reached 10,000+ residents.

The Eastern Cape has demonstrated strong leadership in climate mitigation and seeks to expand these efforts. By investing in renewable energy, sustainable transport, and waste management, the province aims to further reduce emissions while creating jobs and improving resilience.

The province now requires an updated Eastern Cape Climate Change Response Strategy (ECCCRS), which will be utilised over the next 10 years as a crucial planning tool for the province to facilitate its response to climate change. The project has executive-level buy-in within the provincial government and at the AIDC-EC. It has also been identified as a strategic project to combat the effects of climate change in the province.

UK PACT and the AIDC-EC recognise that climate change in South Africa is not felt evenly, and its impacts intersect with other dimensions of social and economic exclusion and inequality, such as gender, race, class, and age. Climate action which ignores these inequitable impacts can exacerbate existing challenges. As part of an inclusive and just climate response, UK PACT projects prioritise a focus on Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI), necessitating engagement and empowerment of a diversity of stakeholders, duty bearers and rightsholders as key change agents, including women, young people, rural communities, workers, and people with disabilities.

<b>Key counterparts and stakeholders</b>	<p><b>Main counterpart:</b> The Automotive Industry Development Centre Eastern Cape (AIDC-EC) and the Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT)</p> <p><i>While AIDC-EC is the key counterpart, applicants should not request a Letter of Intent from AIDC-EC and should not engage directly with AIDC-EC during the bidding process or prior to receiving an award.</i></p> <p><b>Examples of other key stakeholders:</b> Relevant provincial departments, District, and local municipalities in the Eastern Cape, National departments and agencies (including DoEE, DoT, DoA, DMRE, DFFE, DWYPD, and others), Presidential Commission on Climate Change, Development finance institutions / funding facilities (e.g. World Bank, DBSA, IDC, Land Bank, African Development Bank, and commercial banks), among others.</p>
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## Project Description and Aims

This project seeks to update the Eastern Cape Climate Change Response Strategy (ECCCRS) for the years 2026 - 2036, develop a strategic implementation plan, and identify and develop at least 2 business cases for interventions identified.

### 1. Update of the Eastern Cape Climate Change Response Strategy

The ECCCRS was initiated by the Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development and Environmental Affairs (DEDEA) in 2010. The strategy has not been updated since its inception, necessitating a revision which incorporates the latest data, analysis and strategic information regarding climate change patterns in the province, and responds to changes in the climate policy and governance landscape locally and globally. This will include a deeper understanding of the differentiated impacts of climate change on the vulnerable and appropriate GEDSI-aware responses.

The current ECCCRS has four Strategic Objectives, which should be reviewed and updated:

- Strategic Objective I: Eastern Cape Climate Change Scenario – provides an understanding of the issues and context of climate change in the Eastern Cape. This addresses five components:
  - Legal and Policy Framework – with an international, national and local policy and legislative context for climate change response in the Eastern Cape.
  - Climate Change Scenarios and Impacts – manifestations of climate change and related impacts relevant to the Eastern Cape are identified.
  - Risk Assessments of appropriate sectors and resources of the Eastern Cape – a systematic process of identifying and prioritising risks to various sectors was undertaken.
  - Eastern Cape provincial development priorities – development policies and strategies are reviewed to ensure that the ECCCRS is informed by developmental priorities.
  - Greenhouse gas inventory – a preliminary assessment of the greenhouse gas “footprint” of the province was undertaken.
- Strategic Objective II: Provincial Needs and Technology Assessment – technical options for climate change mitigation in accordance with the circumstances and needs of the Eastern Cape were identified.
- Strategic Objective III: Guideline Document on Sectoral Climate Change Action Plans – priority response options were identified and developed as cross-sectoral programmes. The response programmes were then grouped into adaptation programmes and mitigation programmes.
- Strategic Objective IV: Eastern Cape Climate Communications, Education and Public Awareness Strategy – detailed communication plans were developed to raise community awareness.

The update of the ECCCRS is vital to ensure that the strategy remains relevant and effective in addressing the evolving challenges posed by climate change, with an added focus on the identification and disaggregation of vulnerable groups (e.g. women, rural communities, persons with disabilities) and sectors. The updated strategy will incorporate the latest scientific data, technological advancements, and best practices in climate change mitigation and adaptation. Communication of the updated strategy should consider accessibility and inclusivity.

## **2. Development of a Strategic Implementation and M&E Plan to support the implementation of the ECCCRS**

- To accompany the updated ECCCRS, a Strategic Implementation Plan should be developed, translating strategic goals into concrete actions, timelines, responsibilities, and performance metrics.
- This should be accompanied by a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan, detailing performance metrics and feedback mechanisms to ensure that the ECCCRS and its supporting plan is implementable.

## **3. Identification of strategic climate mitigation projects and development business cases and/or early-stage project preparation, with a goal to access climate finance**

- To further enable implementation, it is envisaged that at least 2 mitigation projects be identified, scoped, and developed into business cases (this may also take the form of early-stage project preparation), with keen adherence to the requirements of potential funders.



<p><b>Required outputs</b></p> <p>While innovation and addition is welcomed, applicants must include these outputs as a minimum.</p>	<p>The following outputs should be achieved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Updated Eastern Cape Climate Change Response Strategy, supported by up-to-date data, policy alignment, emissions and scenario modelling, as well as meaningful, inclusive stakeholder engagement and consensus-building (particularly amongst populations most affected by or vulnerable to the impacts of climate change e.g. women, rural communities, those employed in natural resource and automotive industries etc.).</li> <li>2. Strategic Implementation Plan to support the implementation of the ECCCRS.</li> <li>3. M&amp;E Plan to support the implementation of the ECCCRS.</li> <li>4. At least 2 business cases and/or early-stage project preparation support for strategic mitigation projects, with a goal to access climate finance.</li> <li>5. Capacity-building initiatives for local authorities and stakeholders to effectively implement the updated strategy.</li> </ol> <p>GEDSI considerations should be reflected across outputs to ensure the needs and interests of socially vulnerable and marginalised communities are included, and that barriers to participating in inclusive climate action are addressed.</p> <p>Additional outputs may be considered. UK PACT typically recognises outputs in the following forms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skills enhanced and capacities built to improve climate action.</li> <li>• Innovative models, including policy, accelerated and/or piloted to deliver improved climate action.</li> <li>• Knowledge, evidence and learning generated and shared, and policies and practices informed.</li> <li>• Partnerships and networks established and strengthened, and policies and practices informed.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Scope of activities</b></p> <p>While innovation and addition is welcomed, applicants must include these activities as a minimum.</p>	<p>The scope of activities includes, but may not be limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Review and update of the Eastern Cape Climate Change Response Strategy, including:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a comprehensive policy review and update, utilising the existing ECCCRS as a baseline document.</li> <li>• Ensure alignment with requirements of the Climate Change Act at sub-national level, as guided by DFFE.</li> <li>• Conduct analysis of the latest climate data and trends specific to the Eastern Cape province.</li> <li>• Provide guidance on incorporating new strategic information and best practices in climate change response.</li> <li>• Develop Regional Climate Models (RCMs), to provide more detailed climate projections and assess the disaggregated impacts of climate change for the province, considering the needs of women, rural communities, people with disabilities, those employed in natural resource and automotive industries, and other marginalised groups.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

- Develop scenarios including emission scenarios, baseline scenarios and impact scenarios for the Eastern Cape province across all sectors, including disaggregated impacts on vulnerable groups.
- Develop climate mitigation and adaptation strategies tailored to the Eastern Cape.
- Design and conduct capacity-building workshops and/or technical mentoring to enable the province, through the AIDC-EC, to address regional climate challenges effectively, equitably, and inclusively.
- Engage with key stakeholders, including government agencies, private sector, and civil society, to ensure a comprehensive and inclusive update process.

**2. Development of a Strategic Implementation Plan and M&E Plan to support the implementation of the ECCCRS, including:**

- Develop a Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP), which translates strategic goals into concrete actions, timelines, responsibilities, and performance metrics. Ensure alignment with requirements of the Climate Change Act at sub-national level, as guided by DFFE.
- Engage with key stakeholders, including government agencies, private sector, and civil society, to build consensus and accelerate coordinated action (i.e. The SIP should be developed with participation from relevant stakeholders).
- Develop a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan, detailing performance metrics and feedback mechanisms to support ECCCRS implementation.
- Consider how Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) may be strengthened to support ECCCRS implementation as well as regional, national and international climate reporting requirements.

**3. Identification of strategic climate mitigation projects and development business cases and/or early-stage project preparation, with a goal to access climate finance. This activity may include:**

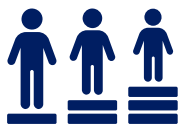
- Identify at least 2 strategic mitigation projects to pilot or advance during the project timeframe to support early implementation, based on the updated ECCCRS and in line with the newly developed Strategic Implementation Plan.
- Develop business cases and/or commence early-stage project preparation and/or initiate pilot projects for at least 2 strategic mitigation projects identified above.
- Engage with key stakeholders, including potential funders, to ensure alignment of preparation activities and enhance access to finance.

**4. As part of Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) activities, and UK PACT's ongoing efforts to mainstream Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) considerations, the implementing partner will be required to:**

- Develop a project case study (UK PACT will provide guidance on the structure of this case study to the successful applicant).
- Report on UK PACT as well as JETP MEL indicators on a quarterly basis (templates will be provided to the successful applicant).
- Report on outputs, intermediate outcomes, and outcomes of the project.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a GEDSI Action Plan for the project (templates will be provided to the successful applicant).</li> <li>• Develop, provide and deliver presentations for input by the AIDC-EC, EC DEDEAT and various governance structures, and deliver capacity building for the AIDC-EC and EC DEDEAT teams to enhance implementation.</li> </ul>
<b>Expected outcomes</b>	<p>The project is expected to contribute to the following outcomes, among others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhanced adoption and implementation of ECCCRS that delivers more ambitious, sustained, equitable and inclusive action on emissions reduction.</li> <li>• Enhanced capabilities to implement the ECCCRS and deliver more ambitious, sustained, equitable and inclusive action on emissions reduction.</li> <li>• Mainstreaming of equity and inclusion into the Eastern Cape's climate response.</li> <li>• Implementation of an updated ECCCRS that is utilised as a crucial planning tool for the province to facilitate its response to climate change, to deliver accelerated and ambitious emissions reductions and facilitate inclusive and resilient economies.</li> <li>• Scaling and expansion of previous ECCCRS achievements to meet the needs of excluded groups.</li> <li>• Mobilisation of climate finance toward accelerated and ambitious emissions reductions and inclusive and resilient economies.</li> </ul>

## Important things to consider in your application:



### Gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI)

All proposals must consider accessibility and inclusivity as a key action area in creating a more democratic, equitable and just transition to reduced emissions. As a result, **all projects are required to mainstream GEDSI** within the projects stated above and ensure adequate expertise and resources are available throughout delivery to achieve this, including developing a GEDSI Action plan during the inception period with support from the UK PACT South Africa GEDSI Advisor. Illustrative examples of potential activities include:

- Conducting a GEDSI analysis and systematically taking account of the differentiated needs, knowledge, experiences, and priorities of women, youth, and historically disadvantaged and other marginalised groups in all project activities.
- Contributing to improved evidence and policymaking to tackle energy poverty and increase inclusive energy security in South Africa.
- Ensuring project outputs/deliverables reflect evidence-informed GEDSI-specific considerations and recommendations, or discuss GEDSI impacts and outcomes.
- Conducting enhanced needs assessments and meaningfully engaging with civil society groups, including women's rights organisations, youth associations and organisations of people with disabilities, to better understand energy and employment needs and opportunities.
- Ensuring that the development of a green economy is built on inclusive supply chains, removing barriers faced by small businesses, marginalised groups, and those working in sectors which may shrink over time (e.g., fossil fuels).
- Recognising the role of marginalised groups and communities in informal sectors or roles with low visibility, including how they may be brought into the Just Transition.
- Facilitating increased engagement of women, youth, poor households, people with disabilities, and historically disadvantaged and other marginalised groups in decision-making, public consultation, and participatory planning.
- Increasing the integration of GEDSI-sensitisation and -considerations in policies, regulation, and planning processes and/or improved implementation of these.

We will score all projects using GEDSI selection criteria to ensure that projects seek to understand and address the needs and vulnerabilities of women and marginalised groups. All proposals are required to:

- Consider the key differences in the ways that local communities, youth, women, lower-income households, marginalised groups, and people with disabilities access and use energy and contribute to the Just Energy Transition. Key issues may include those of affordability, accessibility, safety, and representation.
- Identify specific outputs that would address some of the issues faced and integrate these activities through the project.
- Ensure that the project's monitoring and results framework explicitly states how GEDSI outcomes will be achieved through the project's outputs.
- To reflect FCDO's commitment to the localisation of delivery, additional consideration will be given to consortia which include local organisations, Level 1 & 2 B-BBEE contributors, women-owned entities, and entities owned by people with disabilities.

Applicants are encouraged to review [\*\*UK PACT's GEDSI Ambition and Guidance\*\*](#) when developing their proposals. On the UK PACT website, applicants can also find guidance on how to mainstream GEDSI in different sectors and case studies from previous programming.



## **Budget and funding availability**

Each proposal will be assessed independently. We will support projects with grants of up to £500,000 per financial year (UK financial year, April – March).

Funding is available for up to 12 months. All projects are assumed to have a start date in October 2025. The projects must have a clear indication of the outputs expected to be achieved over the course of the year.

During the project delivery phase, should additional funding become available, we may be able to consider project extensions beyond the initial 12-month period, but this cannot be guaranteed. Budgets and workplans should therefore only be submitted for 12 months, and should deliver distinct, comprehensive, and meaningful projects and outputs as part of a 12-month delivery timeframe.

Proposals can be submitted for more than one project. However, separate applications should be prepared for each project.



## **Government engagement**

### **Guidance on Government engagement during the application period for this targeted Terms of Reference:**

The British High Commission Pretoria is leading government engagement for this project. The ToR are the result of intensive consultation with the Government of South Africa. To avoid confusion with government counterparts, we therefore do not encourage applicants to have direct engagement with government on this project during the bidding process or prior to receiving an award.



## What is the timeline for selection?

Stage	Date
1. Terms of Reference (ToR) and application process launched	30 June 2025
2. Deadline for receipt of clarification questions	25 July 2025
3. Consolidated answers to clarification questions will be published on the 3 occasions, on the South Africa-UK PACT web page. Kindly note that clarification questions will not be answered by email.	14 July 2025 21 July 2025 28 July 2025
4. Deadline for submission of applications	8 August 2025 17:00 SAST/ 15:00 UTC
5. Applicants notified	September 2025
6. Due diligence, co-creation and grant signing	September 2025 - October 2025
7. Projects start date	October 2025

*Timelines are subject to change. Changes will be communicated on the South Africa-UK PACT Call for Proposals web page.*



## Application guidance

All applications for this call must be submitted via the Call for Proposals web page by **8 August 2025, at 17:00 SAST / 15:00 UTC**. Projects will be selected through a one-stage open and competitive Call for Proposals. Applicants should read the Terms of Reference and Applicant Handbook to understand what is required to submit a strong proposal for this call.

### Application submission process

#### Step 1:

Visit the respective UK PACT Call for Proposals web page.

#### Step 2:

Download the application pack

#### Step 3:

Fill out the application pack

#### Step 4:

Submit the form linked on the CfP page under the respective project

#### Step 5:

You will receive a link by email to submit your application. Upload the completed application pack to the link sent via email (upon the completion of Step 4)

Once you have submitted your documents on the web browser, you should see a green tick on your webpage with a message indicating that your submission was successful. Kindly note that you will not receive an email confirming receipt of your application.

### What do you need to submit?

You will submit **4 key documents using the UK PACT templates provided** (via the CfP web page). These are:

1. **Project proposal template** — please ensure that you populate the proposal template as fully as possible, to avoid submitting an incomplete application.
2. **Budget and workplan template** — note: all proposals must include an inception phase of one month in the workplan, during which time any necessary engagements with the Government of South Africa will be carried out, deliverables confirmed and theory of change finalised. At the end of this period a revised workplan may be required.
3. **Project Theory of Change form**
4. **Project risk and issue register template**

**Applications MUST include each of the application documents in order to be eligible.**

(For this application, you DO NOT REQUIRE a Letter of Support from the Government Counterpart)

Additional supporting documentation may be submitted, such as CVs of key staff.



## What are the eligibility criteria?

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### Eligibility criteria

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- Applicant**
- We invite all organisations with relevant experience in delivering technical assistance and capacity-building projects. This could be think-tanks, consultancies, academic institutions, community organisations, NGOs, professional associations, or any similar organisations that have the knowledge, skills and experience to deliver an eligible project.
  - UN agencies are eligible to apply, however please note where a UN agency is the lead applicant, project awards will be subject to signing a Contribution Arrangement with FCDO. This may impact timescales for implementation.
  - Proposals from private sector entities are welcomed, noting however that profit cannot be funded through grant funding and projects must be submitted on a not-for-profit basis. Companies are encouraged to refer to the Applicant Handbook and the Budget and Workplan Template (linked on the CfP webpage) for clarity on eligible costs.
  - Government agencies and Government departments **are not eligible** to receive UK PACT funding, either as a lead organisation or partner in a consortium. This includes state-owned enterprises.
  - However, as part of this call for proposals National and Provincial Government Enterprises (i.e. only **public institutions listed in PFMA schedules 3B and 3D for 2025, linked here**) may form part of consortia **as downstream partners**, but may not apply as the lead implementing partner.
  - Universities may apply as lead implementing partners or as part of a consortium.
  - We encourage consortia to apply. We do not restrict sub-partners from applying as part of multiple consortia.
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- Project**
- Proposals can be submitted for more than one project, but a consortium cannot apply more than once to the same project.
  - **Budgets must not include tangible assets or capital expenditure.** Including these costs may result in your application being ineligible.
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- Application**
- All applications must be coherent and legible.
  - **All relevant templates** must be completed.
  - **All relevant sections** in each template must be completed.
  - Applications must be submitted in English.
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## What are the selection criteria?

Area	Heading	Criteria description	Weighting
Technical (70%)	Project description, methodology and workplan	The applicant clearly articulates how the project responds to the Terms of Reference, plans to deliver the expected outputs and lays out a project plan which includes a description of the project, activities, workplan, and stakeholder engagement plan. The applicant provides a convincing rationale for the ability of the project to deliver outcomes.	25
	Impact	The applicant clearly articulates how the project will specifically help the counterpart achieve and accelerate their goals of achieving carbon emissions reductions in relevant sectors. The applicant provides a clear impact pathway [See the Theory of Change template to be submitted] showing how their outputs will lead to the outcomes required for transformational change and identifies opportunities for replication / scaling up of activities	15
	Knowledge, skills, experience, and team structure	<p>The proposed project team has relevant knowledge and experience in the subject area and has the skills in place to deliver the project. This includes knowledge, skills and experience in the specific thematic area the proposal responds to, technical assistance/capacity building, and public sector project implementation. The core skills, experience and knowledge required to deliver all elements of the project that have been outlined (including project management, monitoring and evaluation, and GEDSI mainstreaming) are covered and the team is well structured and available to mobilise quickly.</p> <p>To ensure effective knowledge transfer and capacity building, applicants must demonstrate a strong understanding of South African priorities and delivery context, as well as bringing relevant expertise required.</p> <p>Additional consideration will be given to consortia which include local organisations, Level 1 &amp; 2 B-BBEE contributors, women-owned entities, youth-owned entities, and entities owned by people with disabilities.</p>	15
	Gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI)	The applicant clearly identifies how the project will seek to understand and address the needs and vulnerabilities of women and marginalised groups, including considerations of race and class. The proposal has considered the key differences in the way that local communities, men, women, youth, lower-income households, marginalised groups and people with disabilities are impacted by a just transition, as well as their barriers and opportunities to participate in climate action. The proposal has successfully mainstreamed GEDSI in their project and identified specific outputs that would lead to desired GEDSI outcomes.	15

## What are the selection criteria?

Area	Heading	Criteria description	Weighting
Project Management (15%)	Project Management	The proposal outlines a clear plan for mobilising the project quickly and effectively. There are robust project management mechanisms to ensure activities stay on track and deliver project results. The applicant provides a clear plan for managing consortia where applicable.	10
		The applicant has clearly outlined the key risks associated with delivery with clear plans for mitigating these and an understanding of the likelihood and impact of each. This includes impacts on marginalised/indigenous groups and changing political and security contexts.	5
	Environmental sustainability	The applicant has outlined a robust approach to minimising any negative impact on the environment due to this project. For example, through minimising travel, tracking emissions, implementing environmental policies, carbon off-setting etc.	Y/N
Financial (15%)	Budget	The budget is clearly linked to the activities and outputs outlined, 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 to allow for close coordination with UK PACT.	10
	Value for money	The application provides confidence that the project will represent good value for money, including FCDO's Four Es (economy, efficiency, effectiveness, and equity). The Four Es are detailed in the <a href="#">Applicant Handbook</a> .	5

## How do we score each criterion?

Score	
5	<b>Excellent response, significant degree of confidence:</b> extremely clear response, explicitly addresses the requirements of the call.
4	<b>Strong response, high degree of confidence:</b> strong response, addresses the requirements of the call to a good degree.
3	<b>Good response, good degree of confidence:</b> fairly strong response, addresses most of the requirements of the call.
2	<b>Weak response, some degree of confidence:</b> weak response, Addresses some of the requirements of the call.
1	<b>Poor response, limited degree of confidence:</b> doesn't address requirements of the call

## What to do if you have questions?

Applicants should read this Terms of Reference together with the [Applicant Handbook](#) and other guidance documents for all the details on how to apply.

Questions related to this call for proposals can be addressed to: [southafrica@ukpact.co.uk](mailto:southafrica@ukpact.co.uk). **Answers will be published on the South Africa-UK PACT Call for Proposals web page.** Kindly note that clarification questions will not be answered by email. **Clarification questions will be accepted until 25 July 2025 at 17:00 SAST/ 15:00 UTC.**

If you have any technical issues with the **Call for Proposals web page** or the submission process, please contact: [southafrica@ukpact.co.uk](mailto:southafrica@ukpact.co.uk).

# UK PACT

UK Partnering for Accelerated Climate Transitions (UK PACT) is a programme funded by the UK Government. UK PACT supports countries that strive to overcome barriers to clean growth and have high emissions reduction potential to accelerate their climate change mitigation efforts.

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