ANSWERS TO APPLICANTS QUESTIONS RECEIVED DURING PERIOD

☑   7 - 23 JANUARY 2020

☑ 24 – 30 JANUARY 2020

☑ 31 JANUARY 2020 (17:00 BRUSSELS TIME)

☑ 1 – 14 FEBRUARY 2020

REPONSES AUX QUESTIONS DES SOUMISSIONNAIRES RECUES PENDANT LA PERIODE

☑   DU 7 AU 23 JANVIER 2020

☑ DU 24 AU 30 JANVIER 2020

☑ DU 31 JANVIER 2020 (17H HEURE DE BRUXELLES)

☑ 1 – 14 FEVRIER 2020

Call for proposals on 'Closing the digital divide through education, training and the world of work' (1st round)

Appel à propositions sur 'Réduire la fracture numérique par l'éducation, la formation et le monde du travail' (1er tour)

BEL1707111-AP-04

Contracting authority: Enabel, the Belgian development agency

Autorité contractante : Enbel, Agence belge de développement

wehubit@enabel.be

www.wehubit.be

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Pour le français, voir ci-dessous

In accordance with the guidelines of **this call for proposals on 'Closing the digital divide through education, training and the world of work'** (point 2.2.3), applicants may send their questions by e-mail to wehubit@enabel.be, at the latest 21 days before the applications submission deadline (see table). The Wehubit Programme will not be obliged to provide clarification on questions received after this date.

Questions will be answered at the latest 11 days before the applications submission deadline. Only answers to questions and other important information not included in the guidelines or FAQ will be published. As such, regular consultation of this website is recommended in order to be informed of the questions and answers published. **If possible, we will update this file weekly**. **Questions and answers will only be published in the language in which they were received.**

We remind you our website where you can download the 2 documents (Guidelines and Introductory Note).

	Date	Heure / Hour
Date limite d'envoi des questions (1er tour) **Deadline for submitting questions (1st round)**	31 janvier 2020	17:00
Date limite réponses aux questions (1er tour) **Deadline date for responding to questions (1st round)**	11 février 2020	17:00
Date limite de soumission des notes conceptuelles des demandes de subside (1er tour) **Deadline for submitting Grant applications – concept notes (1st round)**	21 février 2020	13:00

Conformément aux lignes directrices de cet **appel à propositions sur 'Réduire la fracture numérique par l'éducation, la formation et le monde du travail'** (point 2.2.3), les demandeurs peuvent envoyer leurs questions, par courrier électronique à wehubit@enabel.be, au plus tard 21 jours avant la date limite de soumission des demandes de subside (voir tableau). Le Programme Wehubit n'a pas l'obligation de fournir des éclaircissements sur des questions reçues après cette date.

Il y sera répondu au plus tard 11 jours avant la date limite de soumission des demandes. Seules les réponses aux questions ainsi que d'autres informations importantes ne figurant pas dans les FAQ ou dans les lignes directrices seront publiées. Il est par conséquent recommandé de consulter régulièrement ce document afin d'être tenu informé des questions et réponses publiées. **Dans la mesure du possible, nous mettrons ce document à jour chaque semaine. Les questions et réponses ne seront publiées que dans la langue dans laquelle elles ont été reçues.**

Pour rappel, notre site internet où vous pourrez télécharger les 2 documents (Lignes directrices et la Note Introductive)

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS RECEIVED BETWEEN 7 - 23 JANUARY 2020

Question 1

Do only proposals qualify if the proposed programme or initiative improve the digital skills and digital literacy of your target group or do also initiatives qualify who use digital technologies to improve the skills of your target group to increase their ability to grow their income?

Answer:

All eligible proposals will be assessed by the selection committee regarding their alignment with the call's specific objective. It is not possible for the programme team to commit on the basis on the information you have provided. The introductory note is provided to give a better understanding of the scope of the call.

For other questions on the eligibility of your organisation and project, please read the guidelines of this call for proposals carefully.

Question 2

Nous sommes intéressés par la soumission d'un projet sur la digitalisation au xxx. Pour le cas particulier de xxx, pouvez-vous nous clarifier cette possibilité et nous dire quelle démarche à suivre ? Si c'est la même que les autres ou il faut explorer d'autres pistes comme collaboration bilatérale ?

Réponse:

La procédure ne diffère pas en fonction de la nature de l'organisation. Pour toute coopération bilatérale, nous vous invitons à contacter l'Ambassade de Belgique de votre juridiction.

Question 3

I have reviewed the proposal guidelines and there is no specific mention of age group, can an organization apply for a grant that targets school children?

Answer:

The guidelines and introductory note are the guiding documents. The document do not exclude school children.

Question 4

We are a UN agency placed in xxx, and would like to inquire if a UN agencies are eligible to apply for this call?

Answer:

The eligibility criteria of applicants can be found in chapter 2.1.1 of the call for proposal guidelines. These also apply to the UN agencies. If the agency meets the eligibility criteria, and provide the necessary documents, then the organisation will be considered as eligible.

Question 5

Please can you kindly advise on the questions below:

1. **Please can you provide a list of the costs funded as "structure costs"**

2. **Please advise if there are any restrictions on Indirect Costs.**

3. **Please advise how frequently project and financial reports will be required.**

4. **Please advise if templates for round 2 can be downloaded at this stage, so as to have some kind of idea of the requirements.**

5. **Please confirm if a budget is required at the first round of application.**

6. **Can an organisation submit an application without having a co-applicant.**

Answer :

1. We do not have an exhaustive list of eligible "structure costs". For our definition of eligible structure costs, please see chapter 2.1.5 of our call for proposal guidelines. A list of ineligible structure costs can be found in article 4.1 of the grant agreement draft (Annex F), which can be downloaded in the application form on our website once you are logged in.

2. For an explanation on the eligible costs, please see chapter 2.1.5 of our call for proposal guidelines or article 4.1 of the grant agreement draft (Annex F), both available to download in the application form of this call for proposals on our website once you are logged in.

3. The frequency of the financial and narrative reports depends on the time schedule of the project so will be agreed upon during the contracting phase. Usually this is 1 financial and narrative report approximately every six months.

4. The elements requested during the 2nd round of the selection process are described in chapter 2.2.2 of our call for proposal guidelines. Templates will be shared with the selected projects after round 1.

5. During the first round, only the total amount of the project is demanded in the application form. A detailed budget of the project will be requested in round 2.

6. Having a co-applicant is a possible option but not compulsory. The eligibility criteria of applicants can be found in chapter 2.1.1 of the call for proposal guidelines.

Question 6

We have recently been focusing more internationally and have done some work in xxx and would like to continue working internationally. I was wondering whether we were eligible to apply as we are not an NGO.

Answer:

The eligibility criteria of applicants can be found in chapter 2.1.1 of the call for proposal guidelines. It is the applicant's responsibility to provide all necessary supporting documents proving it satisfies these criteria.

Question 7

I am contacting you because I have the two following questions:

1. **Could the 10% co-funding for this grant come from a current ongoing DGD program?**

2. **Could you please send me the annex F for more information on the financial aspects of this call?**

Answer:

1. Concerning your question on the 10% co-funding: The guidelines of our program only define that we fund a maximum of 90% of the project expenses. We have no guideline on how to finance the remaining 10%. If they are funded by another donor, you should coordinate with them, in this case DGD.
Since DGD is also our donor, they are of course aware of this call for proposals and we will share information on the selection progress and on the finally selected projects.

2. Annex F is available for download at the bottom of the application form, once you have logged into the system

MORE GENERAL QUESTIONS – QUESTIONS PLUS GÉNÉRALES

On our website, the FAQ section can be helpful for all questions concerning account creation, eligibility, supporting documents and budget.
Please read this section carefully !

Question 8
Je vous informe que nous sommes intéressé par votre avis d'appel d'offre. A ce titre nous souhaitons avoir l'ensemble de la documentation. Merci pour votre bonne comprehension.

Réponse :
Nous vous renvoyons vers notre site web pour toutes les informations, lignes directrices et formulaire en ligne. Merci de prendre le temps de lire attentivement toutes les explications.

Question 9
Suite à la lecture de votre appel à proposition, je voudrais savoir si les entreprises sociales sont éligibles ?

Réponse :
Si vous êtes une organisation de droit privé, vous devez prouver le caractère "sans but lucratif" de votre organisation tel que décrit dans les lignes directrices BEL1707111-AP-04.
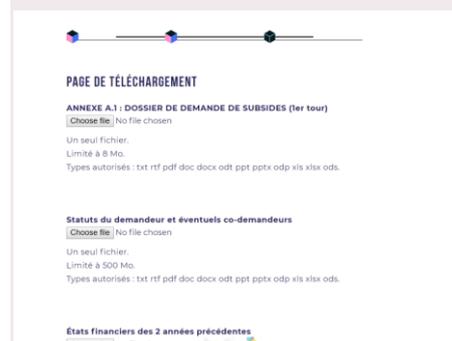
Question 10
J'ai déjà fini de remplir le formulaire mais je ne parviens pas à aller vers la page suivante.

Réponse :
Après avoir rempli le formulaire, en bas de page vous trouverez le bouton 'page suivante' comme indiqué sur la capture d'écrans suivante. Vérifiez que vous avez bien complété tous les champs obligatoires avec des valeurs correctes.
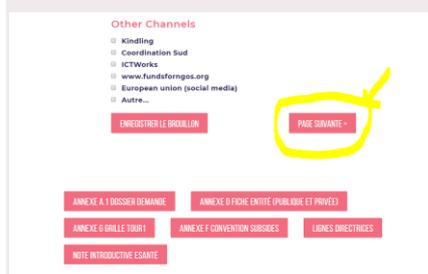
Cliquez dessus et vous arriverez sur la page de téléchargement des 4 annexes à joindre à votre candidature.

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Question 11

In reviewing the published documentation, we noticed the list of annexes. However, we were unable to locate them on the website. Could you please send, or point me toward, the annexes for the Access to Digital Solutions opportunity?

Answer :

To access the annexes mentioned in the guidelines, you must have created an account . When logged in, go the 'Grants - Calls for Proposals' section of the 'financing instruments' page and click on the 'apply for a grant' button. You will access the online form and underneath you'll find all annexes requested for the 1st round.

Question 12

Please help me to create my account and sign in. I have failed to create my account.

Answer:

To create an account, please read our FAQ on the website. If you still encounter difficulties, please send us a screenshot of the error.

Question 13

At xx we are currently preparing a response to the Wehubit call: 'Closing the digital divide through education, training and the world of work.'

Would there be a moment this week that we can discuss complementarity with our current project in xx?

Answer:

For fair and equal treatment reasons, we avoid to answer to content-wise questions on the calls we handle. Each call is accompanied by an introductory note which details the type of solutions we are looking for. The calls' guidelines also foresee a way of asking your questions through an official procedure, if you have any doubts. But this usually refers more to the administrative and legal aspects of the selection procedure.

Question 14

My organization would like to apply for the grant "Closing the digital divide through education, training and the world of work." The guidelines state that each applicant may submit just one application. Our organization operates in over 100 countries, including more than one of the countries eligible for this call.

Can our separate country offices who are implementing very different projects from one another (for example we have offices in Tanzania, Uganda, Senegal etc.) submit separate applications? Or will they be considered as the same applicant?

Answer:

Your country offices may apply separately if they are different entities from a legal point of view (Statutes, Articles, etc.). If your headquarters apply, then only one proposal can be submitted.

Question 15

We have two questions relating to the application procedure:

1) For the required financial statement in Round 1, does our organization need a full audit or would a review certified by an independent body be sufficient? (An audit is a much more costly expense than a review and has not previously been required for our non profit.)

2) Our proposal includes funding for training sessions directly related to the implementation of computer labs in secondary schools in rural Tanzania. Would these teacher training workshops be considered as acceptable funding requests?

Answers:
1) A review by an independent body is sufficient.

2) Please refer to the description of eligible and non-eligible costs in the guidelines (2.1.5).

Question 16
Please clarify what "actions consisting primarily in using a proprietary digital solution are not eligible" means. Does this mean that the project cannot have most of the activity centred on promoting a proprietary digital solution?

Answer:
The Wehubit Programme is aiming at supporting digital solutions that have been developed by the applying organisations. Organisations that are willing to scale-up their own digital innovation will be favoured according to the programme's priorities. In addition, the proposals will be assessed through the Principles for Digital Development, who promote open standards, open data, open source and open innovation.

If your project is about promoting an existing proprietary solution which your organisation has not been developing, then your proposals is outside the scope of our programme.

Question 17
Your introductory note and UNESCO Global Digital Literacy framework states activities in digital literacy and inclusion meets the call objective ''to increase the use and access to digital solutions offering better living conditions''.

Please could you say if programmatic solutions are acceptable or do you wish to limit this call to digital solutions/tools as indicated strongly in the concept note Q 2.4 and past projects funded?

We propose a programmatic solution using proven digital literacy curricular mapped to livelihood outcomes that utilises young women leadership approaches within our delivery and scaling model.

Answer:
Programmatic solutions are acceptable. Proposals will be assessed according to our guiding principles and the evaluation grid published on our website.

Question 18
Please find below some questions for clarification - I would greatly appreciated your responses.

  1. **Does the Board of Directors refer to 'Trustees' - often called a Board of Trustees?**
  2. **When the application asks about human resources of the 'organisation' - is this referring to the global organisation or specific to the country applying?**

3. **Likewise, the question about technical capabilities - does this refer to overall global organisation or the country applying?**
4. **Are the dates for the 2nd round known?**
5. **Once the whole process is final, when would contracting take place and when would the project be expected to start?**
6. **Table 1.3.2 - is this referring to the Directors within the management structure or Trustees in governance?**
7. **Is replication and scaling up from one country to the country applying acceptable / fit the criteria?**
8. **In section 4.1 - do the word limits refer to each objective, result and activity or overall? For example - where the form says 1-3 results, max 150 words, is this 150 words per result or for all results? Likewise in section 4.2 - 200 words per activity or in total?**
9. **For the 10% contribution - Is this in kind or cash? can this be existing funding or needs to be new funding?**

Answers:

1. The aim of requesting information on your organisation is to better understand who you are, the origins of your organisation, it's governance and it's technical profile/capacities. The applicant needs to estimate the quantity and quality of information it is providing, given the limit in # of words.

2. The aim of requesting information on your organisation is to better understand who you are, the origins of your organisation, it's governance and it's technical profile/capacities. The applicant needs to estimate the quantity and quality of information it is providing, given the limit in # of words.

3. The aim of requesting information on your organisation is to better understand who you are, the origins of your organisation, it's governance and it's technical profile/capacities. The applicant needs to estimate the quantity and quality of information it is providing, given the limit in # of words.

4. Yes the dates are mentioned in the indicative planning in the guidelines:

* Invitation to submit the Grant application file (2nd round) = 20/03/2020

* Deadline for submitting Grant applications (2nd round)= 22/04/2020

5. The contracting will take place around June 2020. The start date of your project will be decided together during the contracting phase. We expect projects to start latest 3 months after their selection.

6. You may present both.

7. Yes, replication and scaling up from one country to the country applying is acceptable / fits the criteria

8. Total. You will be requested to provide the same information, but with more details, in the 2nd round, if your project has been short-listed.

9. Cash. This can be existing funding if it is eligible under the contract of the other donor.

Question 19

J'ai une question concernant cette partie mentionnée dans le dossier de demande :

« Pour les ONGs : votre organisation bénéficie-t-elle d'une accréditation délivrée par la coopération au développement belge (telle que visée à l'article 26 de la loi du 19 mars 2013 relative à la coopération belge au développement) ou êtes-vous un partenaire local d'une telle organisation ? »

Si la réponse est négative, cela signifie-t-il que nous ne pouvons pas déposer de demande ?

Réponse:
Enabel a l'obligation légale d'informer le Ministère de la coopération belge au développement de tout subside octroyé à une ONG qui remplit les conditions citées ci-dessus. Il s'agit pour nous de pouvoir remplir cette obligation. Une réponse négative n'exclue en rien votre demande de subside.

Question 20

With reference on the Call For Proposal mentioned in the subject line, we would like to ask clarification about activity type. It seems to us that eligible actions and example of activity type are contradictory. Among not eligible actions we find "actions presenting a digital solution which has not yet been implemented", while in Example of Activity Type it is mentioned "Product development: adaptation/development of digital products in view of a development on a larger scale".

Please clarify which is the difference between the two actions. For example: if we are finalizing the development of a smartphone application, contributing to close the digital divide, the actions of the application dissemination and training on the application use is it going to be eligible?

Answer:
Please refer to the figure of the "scaling-up or replication of innovation" chapter under our guiding principles on our website: https://www.wehubit.be/en/about-us#policy-anchor
Organisations will be asked to clearly demonstrate they have already gone through the "Inspiration, Ideation and Implementation" stages presented in the figure, especially the previous pilot phase and its derived business model. If you are still in the development of your smartphone application, then it is not eligible. If your application is yet implemented and used, then product development could be justified by the "replication" context.

Question 21

XX is a registered Community Based Non profit Organization operating at the grass root level in xx district xx to help single mothers, vulnerable children, orphans and girls lead a meaningful life. xx was founded for women by women. I need a favour just to be sure

- in the event that we do not have the financial statements for 2 previous years reason we have not been around long enough but we have the financial statements June 30, 2019,
- secondly we have not been lucky to secure big funding from those big donor organisations at least for the time we have been in existence, but we feel we have the capability and capacity to deliver, is there an opportunity for exemption kindly please advise?

Answer:
Only organisations able to proof they comply with the eligible criteria will be assessed by the selection committee.

Question 22
If a programmatic approach to digital literacy - increased access and digital skills - partners with an existing digital solution which share outcomes around empowering young women - would this partnership be eligible or is the focus only on digital solutions?

Answer:
Please see answer to question #17.

Question 23
I have studied guidelines and the other documents related to your call on 'Closing the digital divide through education, training and the world of work' and would like to clarify the following things:

1) Will costs for computer equipment purchase and internet (to the extent necessary for staff capacity building and running digital literacy programmes) be considered eligible operational costs?
2) Could proposal's target also students and teachers of tertiary education or it should rather focus on primary and secondary education levels?
3) In case of successful 1st round application, how much time approximately applicants will have to develop 2nd round application?

Answer:
1) Eligibility of costs is defined under chapter 2.1.5 of the guidelines.

2) Tertiary education is not excluded in the introductory note.

3) 30 days. An indicative timetable is presented in chapter 2.4.2 of the guidelines.

Question 24
A question for clarification: The question about 'general assembly'.
Please can you provide a definition of general assembly. Our organisation, registered in xx, has an Advisory Committee rather than a general assembly. Does this count and therefore we give details?

Answer:
Yes. The question is about getting a better understanding of your governance structure.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS RECEIVED TILL 31 JANUARY
2020 17:00 (BRUSSELS TIME)

Question 25

This email poses questions on the "Closing the digital divide through education, training and the world of work, which are due on January 31st

> **1. Can the digital solution that is being replicated have been tested and implemented by a co-applicant, instead of the applicant?**
>
> **2. Can the digital solution that is being replicated have been tested and implemented by an associate, instead of the applicant?**
>
> **3. Please define what is meant by an existing digital solution having reached a "business case".**

Answer:
1. Yes.
2. Yes, but the associate cannot be in charge of any expenditure. Only Applicants and co-applicants can occur expenses.
3. To us it means that after having gone through the prototyping, the testing and the piloting stages, you have implemented a digital solution/service and you have now a clear understanding of its functioning in its environment, its users, its functionalities, its strengths, its weaknesses, you are able to provide some very concrete and detailed user cases, and you have a plan to sustain it. Your digital solution or service is already implemented (production/live) and is ready for being scaled-up and/or replicated.

Question 26

The guidelines for the applications state that the organisation needs to be registered at the local authorities. Can an organisation apply when it meets all other requirements but is in the process or registration? (it is not yet concluded).

Answer:
No, you have to fulfil all requirements to apply for a grant.

Question 27

We are very interested in writing a proposal for your grant. We have already developed an advisory service for farmers in Tanzania, and we would be very interested in scaling it up and testing it with more users. One of the potential co-applicants we have for this process is xxx (telecom provider company). I was wondering if we could include them as co-applicants or since it is a private company we should use other type of arrangement?

Answer:
Please refer to chapter 2.1.1. and 2.1.2 of the guidelines and note that expenses incurred by Associates are not eligible.

Question 28

We have this question: a private company (specifically a cooperative) that makes profits, but cannot redistribute them, is eligible as a co-applicant?

Answer:
The answer is yes.

Question 29

Nous avons examiné le document de questions / réponses existant et souhaitons soumettre les questions suivantes :

1. **En ce qui concerne l'exigence de gestion préalable d'un subsides équivalent à 40% du montant demandé, y a-t-il des exigences quant au type de subsides valides pour la documentation (financements institutionnels, financements par fondations privées, contrats de services ou sous-traitance) ?**

2. **En tant qu'entreprise sociale, nous n'avons jusqu'à présent pas directement géré des subsides pour des donateurs, mais nous avons agi en tant que fournisseur pour des initiatives financées par des donateurs, pour un chiffre d'affaires de 400 000 euros en 2019. Pouvons-nous soumettre des exemples de ces contrats et de leur source de financement comme documentation pour le critère de gestion précédente de fonds au niveau de 40% du montant demandé?**

3. **Comme alternative possible, nous envisageons de présenter une proposition conjointe avec une autre organisation qui a directement géré des subventions institutionnelles, par exemple notre ONG mère xxx. S'agit-il d'une ligne de conduite recommandée ?**

4. **En ce qui concerne les critères de mise à l'échelle des solutions technologiques existantes, est-il important que les solutions existantes aient été testées et mises en œuvre par notre organisation, ou pouvons-nous soumettre une proposition pour mettre en œuvre une technologie qui a été documentée et prototypée dans un autre contexte / pays (par exemple solutions open-sources et global goods) ?**

5. **En tant qu'organisation technologique qui emploie des développeurs locaux, nous sommes spécialistes en adaptation, implémentation et développement de solutions par notre propre personnel. Étant donné que les lignes directrices mentionnent l'achat de services, notre proposition peut-elle inclure le développement de logiciels internes complété par des services externes si nécessaire, ou est-ce que tous les services technologiques doivent-ils être achetés à des fournisseurs de services externes ?**

Réponses:

1. Un subside/une subvention provient d'une personne publique. Par ailleurs un contrat de service n'est pas comparable à une subvention

2. La question est : au-delà de la fourniture des services, avez-vous dû démontrer la bonne utilisation des fonds publics et respecter les règles de marchés publics dans l'utilisation de ces fonds.

3. Oui si celle-ci répond aux critères d'éligibilité.

4. Les éléments fournis ne nous permettent pas de nous prononcer. Cette question sera traitée lors du 1er tour si votre demande est éligible d'un point de vue administratif et juridique.

5. Nous ne privilégions pas nécessairement l'achat de services technologiques auprès de fournisseurs de services externes. Pouvez-vous nous transmettre la phrase qui porte à confusion afin d'améliorer nos documents de référence svp ?

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS RECEIVED <u>AFTER DEADLINE</u> OF 31 JANUARY 2020 17:00 (BRUSSELS TIME)

Question 30

XXX is a free social platform that enables the world's largest community of purpose-driven entrepreneurs and business mentors to create powerful connections, solve problems, and build successful businesses together. We're interested in submitting a Call for Proposal for WEHUBIT's "Closing the digital divide through education, training and the world of work" with a focus on Uganda.

We have a question about one of the guidelines - In section 2.1.4 it says that actions consisting primarily in using a proprietary digital solution; or actions presenting a digital solution which has not yet been implemented are not eligible.

XXX is a proprietary platform with success in other parts of the world and we see Uganda as a key market where this can be adapted for local contexts. The entire program would consist of the use of our platform, integration with partner programs to build the mentoring capacity of organizations, capacity development through training, and cultivating mentors in the community to give back via Masterclass. The platform won't be the only thing we do but a key component of the intervention.

Based on the Proposal's restrictions, can XXX still apply?

Answer :

We cannot confirm the eligibility of your proposal without receiving the application. However, please note the following elements:

The Wehubit Programme is aiming at supporting digital solutions that have been developed by the applying organisations. Organisations that are willing to scale-up their own digital innovation will be favoured according to the programme's priorities. In addition, the proposals will be assessed through the Principles for Digital Development, which promote open standards, open data, open source and open innovation.

If your project is about replicating or scaling-up an open-source solution, and therefore promotes it as a public global good, then it probably also falls in the scope of the call (Principle "Reuse and Improve").

If your project is about promoting an existing proprietary solution which your organisation has not been developing, then your proposals is probably out of the scope of our programme.

Question 31

This is in reference to Call for Proposals on "Closing the digital divide through education, training and the world of work" Reference: BEL1707111-AP-04 by your esteem organization.

We are a technology for Development organization with our international office in Montreal, Canada and our development works in India. We have our programs on MCH. TB and Digital Storytelling running in Rwanda and Uganda. We would like to participate in the above call for proposal for Uganda

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for setting up Digital Story Labs to produce interactive content on SRHR. Can we particulate for Uganda from Canada ? Please advise.

Answer :
Please refer to the guidelines. Are you established in Uganda? Is one of the (co-)applicants registered in Uganda?

Question 32

We will not have our Financial Review ready by the Round 1 deadline. Is it possible to send in all other required application forms and attachments (including a 2016 Review) and send a 2020 review by Round 2?

Answer :
Yes, please send the financial reviews from the previous years.

Question 33

Is it mandatory to have a digital solution (like a product, concrete up) already developed in order to be eligible? or is it enough to have a digital project, which includes many digital activities but is not a based on one new product, which would need to be expanded? In other terms, are ongoing digital projects (digital literacy, skills training and capacity-building programme) eligible to be scaled-up, even if they do not include a digital product?
In the eligible lists of the activities on the call, other kind of activities, apart from the digital solutions, are mentioned. On the contrary, in the template, I see that there is section dedicated only y the digital solution. Is that mandatory?

Answer :
Please refer to the answer to question 30.

Question 34

We are an international organization registered as a Non-Profit Organization and Public Benefit Organization in South Africa, the United States, and Switzerland. We are currently running Digital Skills programs in South Africa and partnering with several organizations in countries that fall under the Belgian bilateral cooperation. We are applying for this proposal together with our partners from Palestine and Uganda as co-applicants.

Could you kindly assist with the following questions:

1.   Can we list two co-applicants in the proposal or must there only be one co-applicant?

2. As an international organization operating in multiple countries, can the funding be received by the organization in the South African or the USA account (both registered and with all legal documentation, 501/c, etc) or must the funding be transferred directly into the co-applicants' account (since they are partner countries of the Belgian bilateral cooperation)?

3. The question "*For NGOs: does your organization have an accreditation from the Belgian development cooperation (as referred to in Article 26 of the law of 19 March 2013 on Belgian development cooperation), or are you a local partner of an organization with this accreditation?*" We are a registered Non-Profit Organization and Public Benefit Organization in South Africa, the USA, and Switzerland. Will this accreditation be sufficient?

4. Question 1.3.1. *Please provide the references of the external audit report drawn up by an approved auditor, certifying the applicant's accounts from the last available financial year. This obligation does not apply to public organizations.* We are a registered Non-Profit Organization and Public Benefit Organization with audited annual financial statements done every year by an independent auditor. Will these be sufficient?

Thanks in advance for your assistance. I look forward to hearing back from you.

Answers :

1. Yes, you can list 2 co-applicants in your proposal.

2. Yes it will be transferred to the lead applicant account (where ever it is).

3. Yes, this question refers to our obligation of informing the Belgian Ministry of Development Cooperation if we fund NGOs having their accreditation. Not being accredited is not a problem.

4. Yes, a review by an independent auditor is sufficient.

Question 35

We only now learnt about this very exciting RFP and had one clarifying question before completing our application.

1. One of the questions in the application asks: "For NGOs: does your organization have an accreditation from the Belgian development cooperation (as referred to in Article 26 of the law of 19 March 2013 on Belgian development cooperation), or are you a local partner of an organisation with this accreditation?"

   We do not have accreditation from the Belgian development cooperation and are not a local partner of an organization with such accreditation. Does this make us ineligible for the RFP? ?

Answers :

1. This question refers to our own obligation of informing the Belgian Ministry of Development Cooperation if we fund NGOs having their accreditation. Not being accredited is not a problem.