Call for Pre-Qualification Proposals (NCF6)

Green Growth for Sustainable Livelihoods

Closing date 29 January 2016

Background
The Nordic Climate Facility (NCF) promotes the exchange of technology, expertise and innovative ideas between the Nordic countries and eligible low-income countries facing climate change. The aim is to increase low-income countries’ abilities to mitigate and adapt to climate change, contribute to sustainable development and alleviate poverty. NCF is an initiative by Nordic Development Fund (NDF).

Theme of the Call
The theme of NCF6 is Green Growth for Sustainable Livelihoods. Project proposals shall address adaptation to and mitigation of climate change or a combination of adaptation and mitigation linked to low-carbon development with special focus on job creation and private sector development. The projects are required to have strong positive development impacts, and be sustainable as well as innovative. Concrete implementation actions and investments are preferred. In addition, it is generally required that special attention is paid to cross-cutting issues and especially gender aspects. Empowerment of women in climate action and related business development is emphasized. The maximum project implementation period is 30 months. A more detailed description of the theme is provided in Annex 1.

Eligibility criteria
NCF financing can be granted to partnerships between relevant Nordic institutions, organisations, companies or authorities that hold a registered place of operations in either Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway or Sweden, and qualified local partners located in eligible countries. The eligible countries are: Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Honduras, Kenya, Laos, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Rwanda, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uganda, Vietnam and Zambia. Involvement of other partners from third countries is allowed.

All projects should be in line with National Adaptation Programs of Action (NAPAs) and Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action plans (NAMAs), and other relevant strategies and policies in the recipient country, as applicable. The applicants are also requested to acquaint themselves with NDF’s Guidelines for Project Identification and Screening¹.

Nature of Financing
The funding is provided in the form of a grant contribution from NCF ranging from EUR 250,000 to 500,000 and requires a minimum co-financing of 20% of the total estimated project costs. Eligible projects with more co-financing available will be scored higher.

The disbursement of grant funds is tied to achieved results and will be linked to the reaching of milestones defined in the grant agreements between NDF and the successful applicants.

Selection Process and indicative time line
Project proposals will be evaluated in two phases: a pre-qualification phase and a final selection phase. The current invitation calls for pre-qualification proposals only.

Pre-qualification proposals shall be submitted on-line at the latest by **29 January 2016 at 16:00 hrs** Eastern European Time (GMT+2 hrs). The online application platform and related guidance will be available at [www.ncfapplication.org](http://www.ncfapplication.org) from 7 December 2015. The actual on-line application form will be made available by 14 December 2015. The following indicative time line is anticipated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Launch of NCF6</td>
<td>7 December 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>On-line application tool available</td>
<td>14 December 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dead line for pre-qualification submissions</td>
<td>29 January 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Invitation to submit final applications</td>
<td>1 April 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final application submission</td>
<td>9 May 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selection of successful applications</td>
<td>by 17 June 2016</td>
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Registration and Additional Information
All communication related to the pre-qualification process will be made to applicants via the online application platform. It is recommended that applicants wishing to submit project proposals for pre-qualification register themselves on the application platform at the latest by 15 January 2016, although the application is only submitted later. Registration is not a requirement to submit a pre-qualification proposal. However, any changes or amendments to the pre-qualification process and/or guidelines will only be communicated to those applicants who have registered.

Questions relating to the pre-qualification phase can be submitted until 15 January 2016 at 16:00 hrs Eastern European Time (GMT+2 hrs). All questions will be compiled with no editing and answered *en masse* to all registered applicants well before the dead line for submitting pre-qualification applications. NDF reserves the right to amend the pre-qualification guidelines and time schedule as deemed appropriate until 5 working days before the submission deadline or extended submission dead line.

Final Application
A selected number of applicants will be invited to present a final application. NDF has no obligation to select any of the applications submitted for pre-qualification for further evaluation and/or for submission of a final application. A grant agreement template will be provided during the final application phase. Any substantial changes to or non-substantiation of the key pre-qualification information in the final application compared with the pre-qualification proposal will lead to rejection of the final application.

For further information and guidance on the theme, eligibility and evaluation criteria, application process, etc. please see the NCF6 Description and Pre-qualification Guidelines attached as Annex 1.

Annex 1: NCF6 Description and Pre-qualification Guidelines