New in this call

Call TEAM-SI-JOINT 2019

Eligibility criteria

As to limit the number of proposals received and to give opportunities to as much applicants as possible, following eligibility criteria are new in this call:

- Each promotor (Flemish or South) can submit up to **two proposals** for this call
- A project that was not selected when introduced for the first time, can be **resubmitted** not more than two times

Selection

Instead of working with 3 regional selection commissions, this call will work with **four regional selection commissions**. The Africa selection commission will be split up in two and is composed of following countries:

(i) Africa commission 1 (Great Lakes): DR Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda
(ii) Africa commission 2: Ethiopia, Morocco, South Africa

Each commission will consist of **4 members**, instead of having one Africa commission with 6 members. As this requires two new members for the selection commissions, a **call for experts** for the selection commission will be launched in March. This call will be open for all the regional commissions, as to renew a part of the composition of all commissions.

As for the available budget, the **indicative country budgets** can be **fully** allocated to selected proposals in the framework of this project call, but the total budget of the selected proposals per region cannot exceed the indicative available budget of the corresponding regional commission. This differs from the situation last year, where the available budget was limited to 46,8% of the indicative country budget.

The **descriptors** of the six selection criteria have also been updated, and are available in the selection system document (background document 6).

Peer review

The applicant of a TEAM project will list **6 potential reviewers** in annex 4. The applicant is allowed to check the availability of the peer reviewers for such a voluntary assessment but it is not up to him/her to contact the reviewer with the assessment form nor give any instructions.

All six peer reviewers will be **contacted** directly by **the VLIR-UOS** secretariat after the submission deadline of the call for proposals and are requested to comment on their willingness to perform this –unpaid-assignment before 25 June.

Peer reviewers should **submit** their report directly to **the VLIR-UOS secretariat** and not via the applicant or the ICOS.

Annexes

The ICOS-checklist is no longer an annex to a project proposal that needs to be uploaded in the database. The checklist is a tool for ICOS to check the eligibility and basic requirements of a proposal, but the checklist does not need to be filled in for each project proposal. The checklist is available on the webpage of the call.

Annex 1, 2 and 3 have been updated based on comments of the ICOS, selection commission members and the VLIR-UOS secretary.

Annex 4 (to list 6 possible peer reviewers) is new.

Background documents

- **Flash cards** for the **transversal and priority themes** have been added to the **formulation guidelines**, background document 1. They provide basic information on the themes, a motivation to integrate them into projects, examples and questions for reflection, tools and the contact person at VLIR-UOS. In fact, the formulation guidelines document has also been updated in view of this call.
- **For each country**, the different background documents (country strategy, JSF, link between them) have been integrated into **one single document** (see background documents 7-23). These country specific background documents include:
  - Basic information from the **country strategy** (thematic, regional, institutional focus). Partner list information for all the countries has been made available in the ICOS-checklist.
  - A table which **links** the thematic areas from the country strategy with the **Joint Strategic Framework**
  - A table with per **Belgian NGA** a short description of the activities in the country, the name(s) of the local partners(s) and the region(s) where the NGA is active. Every NGA was also asked to list a number of research themes/questions that can be addressed by a higher education/ research institute in the framework of a new South Initiative, TEAM or JOINT project. The contact person of the organization is also listed.

- The **financial guidelines for TEAM-SI-JOINT** remained unchanged but some text optimisations were included as compared to the previous version
- **Scholarship guidelines**: please take note that the scholarships guidelines and amounts are currently under revision and that as of 2019 new guidelines/amounts might apply. For local per diem amounts please check the updates guidelines document on the website. The links are included in the call document.