



Date: **11 June 2013**
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Subject: **Addendum 2 to the Request for Submissions for the *Australia Afghanistan Community Resilience Scheme (AACRS)***

Eligibility
<p>Question 1: The <i>AACRS Competitive Grant Guidelines</i> state that to be eligible to apply for AACRS detailed design and project funding, NGOs must be registered to work in Afghanistan. What does it mean to be registered to work in Afghanistan?</p> <p>Answer: To be eligible for AACRS funding, organisations must be registered to work in Afghanistan by Afghanistan's Ministry of Economy.</p>
<p>Question 2: The <i>AACRS Competitive Grant Guidelines</i> state that to be eligible to apply for AACRS detailed design and project funding, NGOs must "be signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct, or an international equivalent." Does registration as a US 501(c)3 non-profit count as an "international equivalent"?</p> <p>Answer: No. Being a registered non-profit is not equivalent to being signatory to a code of conduct for development NGOs. Applicants should review the <i>AACRS Competitive Grant Guidelines – Addendum 1</i> for examples of equivalent codes.</p>
<p>Question 3: If an applicant has an Australian office, but works in Afghanistan through affiliate organisations, should it apply as part of a consortium?</p> <p>Answer: No. If organisations are affiliated through an international confederation then they may apply as the Australian affiliate. They should then note in their response to Annex A of the <i>AACRS Competitive Grant Guidelines</i>, under 'Concise Profile of NGO', that the proposed project will be implemented by the Afghanistan-based affiliate.</p>
Proposed Project
<p>Question 4: Annex A of the <i>AACRS Competitive Grant Guidelines</i> asks applicants to note their project concept's "Sectoral Focus". What does this mean?</p>

Answer:

Applicants should provide details of the sector/s their proposed project will work in. For example: disaster risk reduction; food security; natural resource management; private sector development.

Submission Format**Question 5:**

Can Submissions include a title page on the front page of their Submission? For example, a title page with the applicant logo and project title?

Answer:

Yes, but this is not a requirement.

Question 6:

Can Submissions include a page of acronyms?

Answer:

Yes, but this is not a requirement.

Question 7:

Can we put our organisation's logo within the headers and/or footers of our Submission?

Answer:

Yes, but this is not a requirement.

Question 8:

Do we need to include a log frame as part of our Submission?

Answer:

No. The *AACRS Competitive Grant Guidelines* do not require applicants to provide a log frame.

Question 9:

When do applicants need to submit supporting documentation, such as information on financial systems, or child protection policy and procedures?

Answer:

All documentation requested in the *AACRS Competitive Grant Guidelines* (including the documentation requested in Annex F) is to be included in the Submission, and cannot be provided separately at a later date.

Once the Request for Submissions is closed, AusAID will select up to five organisations to be funded through the AACRS. AusAID will then undertake due diligence assessments of organisations which do not have AusAID accreditation, before finalising grant agreements. It is during this due diligence assessment that information not required as part of the AACRS Submission will be requested.

Question 10:

Annex F of the *AACRS Competitive Grant Guidelines* requests applicants to provide financial documentation. Can we provide these documents in a language other than English?

Answer:

No. As set out in the *AACRS Competitive Grant Guidelines*, Submissions must all be in English. This includes supporting documents. When an original document is in a language other than English, applicants should provide the document in both the original language and in English. The applicant should state that the translation accurately reflects the original document.

Question 11:

In what part of an applicant's AACRS Submission do organisations accredited through AusAID provide details of their accreditation?

Answer:

AusAID accredited NGOs should provide details of their accreditation in their response to Annex A of the *AACRS Competitive Grant Guidelines*.

Budget**Question 12:**

Does AusAID require AACRS projects to be co-funded?

Answer:

No, AACRS projects do not need to be co-funded. However, applicants should note in their proposed budget if they are funding parts of their proposed project through other sources, and provide detail on this in their response to Annex A of the *AACRS Competitive Grant Guidelines*.

Letters of Support**Question 13:**

Noting that applicants intending to work with Community Development Councils (CDCs) will likely partner with dozens of CDCs, does AusAID expect a letter of support from each CDC?

Answer:

Noting the difficulties of collecting numerous letters of support from CDCs, in these circumstances it would be appropriate for applicants to provide letters of support from District Development Assemblies in the districts they plan to work in.

Applicants should note that this response is further to the advice given in Answer 25 of the *AACRS Competitive Grant Guidelines – Addendum 1*, which states that letters of support should only be from Afghan CSOs.

Question 14:

Is there a limit to the number of letters of support that organisations can attach?

Answer:

No, there is no limit to the number of letters an applicant can attach. However, the Submission process is not intended to over-burden applicants or Afghan partners. As such, if applicants are proposing to work with numerous local partners, they should look to provide supporting letters from those they consider the key Afghan partners, rather than all parties.

Question 15:

Annex F of the *AACRS Competitive Grant Guidelines* requests applicants to provide a letter of support or association from each Afghan partner organisation to be involved in the project. What type of information should this letter include?

Answer:

There are no specific requirements as to what the letters of support should contain. Applicants may wish to ensure the letters contain information about the partner organisation, the relationship between the applicant NGO and partner organisation, and the partner organisation's agreement to collaborate on the proposed project.

Past Experience**Question 16:**

Annex E of the *AACRS Competitive Grant Guidelines* asks for details of two relevant NGO programs or projects that demonstrates the applicant's ability to fulfill the AACRS objective. Can we provide details of a project that we are currently executing and not due to finish for a number of years?

Answer:

Yes. You are able to provide examples based on ongoing projects in your Submission.

Assessment**Question 17:**

Annex E of the *AACRS Competitive Grant Guidelines* asks for details of two project referees. Should these be external referees or can it be people who worked on the project?

Answer:

The referees should not work for your organisation, or for AusAID. Aside from these requirements, the choice of referee is the applicant's decision.

Question 18:

If an applicant is requested to take part in a phone interview with the AACRS Technical Assessment Panel, who should take part in this?

Answer:

If an applicant were to be selected to take part in a phone interview as part of the AACRS assessment, it would be the applicant's decision as to who they provided for interview.