



Partnership | Progress | Prosperity

ASEAN-UK Green Transition Fund

Climate Policy, Green Finance, and Clean and Just Energy Transition

Call for Proposals – Responses to clarification questions

Updated 17 January 2025

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A. Introduction

This document compiles clarification questions and answers from the ASEAN-UK Green Transition Fund (GTF) call for proposals (CfP) for the Climate Policy, Green Finance, and Clean and Just Energy Transition in ASEAN.

Palladium will provide the answer periodically. The first round of questions during the Market Engagement Event on 12 December 2024 has been published. This document compiles Questions submitted from 19 December 2024 to 15 January 2025. Applicants are welcome to submit their questions before 30 January 2025.

The Q&A in this document are divided into four categories: post-event communication, scope and focus of the CfP, eligibility, and others.

B. Post-event communication

1. Q. Where are post-information session documents shared, specifically a summary and list of webinar participants?

A. You can find post-MEE information at this link: [ASEAN-UK GTF Market Engagement Webinar Climate Policy, Green Finance, and Clean and Just Energy Transition in ASEAN](#)

All information regarding the ASEAN-UK GTF Call for Proposal can be accessed at the following links:

[Climate policy, green finance, and clean and just energy transition call for proposals ASEAN-UK GTF](#)

We have sought consent from webinar registrants to share their contact details. If you have provided your consent, we will email a list of consenting participants' contact details.

C. Scope and focus of the CfP

2. Q. Which sectors in Work Packages 2.2 are included as industrial sectors? More specifically, is agriculture included as a target sector?

A. GTF will review how the applicants' proposals best respond to the scope of work mentioned in the Terms of Reference (ToR). We understand that each applicant will propose the best of their existing knowledge and best practices to be shared with all ASEAN Member States and Timor-Leste beneficiaries.

- 3. Q. Is the funding provided on a reimbursement basis or as a lump sum? If it is reimbursement-based, what are the specific requirements for claim submission, such as documentation, frequency of claims, or eligible expenses? Is there an agreement between the funder and the recipient if the grant is awarded? What are the reporting requirements and timelines for funded projects? Are there any specific compliance or monitoring processes that grantees should be aware of?**

A. During the implementation phase, once the grant is signed, payment will be made quarterly in arrears on a reimbursable basis after the submitted quarterly report is approved. Before submitting the quarterly report, a monthly delivery meeting will be conducted between grantees and Palladium to discuss monthly activity progress. Grantees are also mandated to submit output completion reports depending on the project.

Palladium will brief all grantees after the grant signatory, including the template and requirements for the quarterly report, monitoring plan, output reporting, communication plan, etc. All eligible expenses to report are available in the [UK PACT Applicant Handbook](#).

- 4. Q. Does the fund cover actions in Colombia? Can proposals be submitted in Colombian territory?**

A. ASEAN-UK Green Transition Fund covers ASEAN Member States and Timor-Leste.

- 5. Q. I wanted to seek clarification on whether the restriction on ‘government entities’ receiving funding under ASEAN-GTF would, in principle, apply to the OECD. As you may know, the OECD is an international organisation of 38 member states (including the UK) which operates as a forum and knowledge hub for data, analysis and best practices in public policy. While it is not a ‘government entity’ (the Organisation has its own legal personality apart from those of its member states)**

A. When we refer to government entities, we mean national government institutions. Multilateral organisations are eligible to apply for the Call for Proposals.

6. Q. We would like to ask a clarification question for Work Package 3.1: Enhancing Grid Resilience and Clean Energy Market Transformation. Would FCDO consider solutions to upgrading the grid in a specific country (instead of between different countries)? Would it be of interest to propose solutions that focus on a specific country (such as Vietnam, connecting the north and south regions)? We understand that knowledge and know-how will be shared with other jurisdictions and that the countries of interest will be defined together with FCDO and ASEAN.

A. GTF will review how the applicants' proposals best respond to the scope of work mentioned in the ToR. We understand that each applicant will propose the best of their existing knowledge and best practices to be shared with all ASEAN Member States and Timor-Leste beneficiaries.

7. Q. For a defined work package, is it expected that we will select one country to implement the project or do this for all countries listed? Are all subtopics mentioned in a work package description expected to be addressed in the proposal, or can a selection be made?

A. The project should focus on and benefit all ASEAN Member States, not only one ASEAN Member States. We expect each proposal to respond fully to one work package and include all the activity components

8. Q. The website states (on some pages) that an EOI form must be filled out. However, we are unable to locate this EOI form. We are only able to locate the forms related to the application pack. Is it possible to get your kind assistance directing us to the EOI form? We are keen to declare our intention to submit a proposal for this grant. Therefore, we would appreciate your help in clarifying this for us.

A. Unlike some other Funds in UK PACT, the ASEAN-UK GTF Call for Proposal is a one-stage open competitive call for proposals. If a potential implementing partner is willing to participate, the organisation submits proposals. EOI submission is not required.

D. Eligibility

9. Q. Is a UK university eligible to lead a consortium for this call? I am not sure if publicly funded UK universities are considered government

agencies. Can ASEAN partners also receive funding? Is there a limit on the percentage of budget allocations between UK partners and ASEAN partners?

A. Universities are categorised as not-for-profit organisations and are eligible to apply. We expect proportionate resource allocation between partners, including ensuring that partner organisations based in ASEAN can effectively deliver the work packages as expected. Please refer to the eligible budget in the [UK PACT Applicant Handbook](#)

10. Q. Are inter-governmental organisations, such as the Mekong Institute, eligible to apply for funding under this initiative?

A. Yes, international organisations are eligible to apply, especially those with direct experience working with ASEAN in the region.

11. Q. Are applicants allowed to apply as the lead organisation for one work package and as a partner in a consortium for a different work package within the same Pillar? Are applicants allowed to apply as the lead organisation for multiple work packages within the same Pillar?

A. Organisations can submit proposals for multiple work packages, whether as lead organisations or partners in a consortium. However, a lead organisation can only submit one proposal for each work package.

12. Q. Are national laboratories based in the U.S. or federally funded research and development centres managed by a public university eligible to apply for a work package as the lead organisation or as a partner in a consortium?

A. Yes, it is eligible as long as the project outputs benefit ASEAN and its member states.

13.Q. May I double-check whether UNICEF is eligible to apply for this call? We would greatly appreciate it if you could share the specific eligibility criteria for UN agencies.

A. Yes, UNICEF is a multilateral organisation that is eligible to apply for this Call for Proposals. We have no specific eligibility criteria for UN agencies.

14. Q. The documentation states, “All projects must be delivered on a not-for-profit basis.” Does this mean that businesses and corporations are ineligible to submit proposals?

A. Profit organisations are eligible to submit proposals as long as they work on a non-profit basis. Please refer to the Eligibility section number 79 in the responses of clarification questions document that was updated on 20 December 2024.

15.Q. We would like to inquire whether a private sector entity can submit a proposal for a project with the potential for commercialisation or profit generation, but where the proposed activities under this project would solely involve non-profit activities such as Expert support and consultancy services.

A. Private organisations are eligible organisations to submit proposals. UK PACT is an official development assistance programme, and it is a strict requirement that our grants do not include any element of profit, regardless of the nature of the entity receiving the grant funds. UK PACT is committed to reimbursing implementing partners for the full cost of delivering their grant projects, including a robust overhead contribution based on the organisation's historic indirect costs. Please refer to the eligible budget in the [UK PACT Applicant Handbook](#)

16.Q. I would like to know whether two UK universities are permitted to submit a single proposal for the above funding opportunity.

A: We welcome applications from a consortium of organisations. This means one of the two universities must be the lead, and the other must be a consortium member and submit the proposal.

E. Others

17. Q. How do you define profit? If profit is simply any expert cost in excess of their direct cost plus overhead, then can you advise if a not-for-profit entity can charge an excess on an expert they provide (i.e. an amount in excess of the expert’s direct cost plus overhead – often referred to as surplus)?

A. UK PACT is an official development assistance programme, and it is a strict requirement that our grants do not include any element of profit, regardless of the nature of the entity receiving the grant funds. UK PACT is committed to reimbursing implementing partners for the full cost of delivering their grant projects, including a robust overhead contribution based on the organisation's historic indirect costs. Please refer to the eligible budget in the [UK PACT Applicant Handbook](#)

18. Q. The ToR states that the maximum value per year is £800,000. As the expected project duration is 19 months, could you kindly confirm the final estimated budget, £1,266,666 to £1,300,000 or around £1,250,000?

A. For a project that lasts for 19 months, the maximum estimated budget is £1,266,666.

19. Q. We requested an agreement template/contract draft for this project. Additionally, please confirm the following points related to the contract procedure. 1) For the UK PACT projects, will the contracting party be Palladium or the UK PACT? 2) If the contracting party is Palladium, please advise the name of the contracting entity; 3) If we are contracting with Palladium, kindly share a draft contract for our review process. 4) Please advise if we could negotiate the contract terms. 5) For our risk assessment purposes, we would also like to request information on the ownership structure of Palladium. 5) As a private sector company operating in Indonesia, we would need to charge VAT on the fee/grant payable by UK PACT/Palladium - please clarify how this would be treated regarding the financial evaluation of proposals.

A. This funding opportunity will be made on a grant basis and not under a contractual agreement. By default, all grants will be signed by Palladium under the entity of Palladium International Ltd. Should a different treatment be required, a review will be conducted on a case-by-case basis. The Palladium International Ltd house record can be accessed at this [link](#).

We will be sharing grant agreement templates with successful applicants. All proposed budgets should include VAT applicable within the jurisdiction where the applying organisation is legally registered. Please refer to the eligible budget in the [UK PACT Applicant Handbook](#).

20. Q. We are interested in applying for the ASEAN-UK Green Transition Fund. However, the online application link does not appear to be working. Could you kindly send me the correct link to apply?

A. You can find the application link on the ASEAN-UK GTF Call for Proposals webpage under the How to Apply section. Click on the link based on the pillar you choose for proposal submission. If you have any issues with the link, here is the application link for each pillar:

- Pillar 1 – Climate Policy: [ASEAN-UK GTF December 2024: Climate Policy \(Page 1 of 19\)](#)
- Pillar 2 – Green Finance: [ASEAN-UK GTF December 2024: Green Finance \(Page 1 of 19\)](#)
- Pillar 3 – Clean and Just Energy Transition: [ASEAN-UK GTF December 2024: Clean and Just Energy Transition \(Page 1 of 19\)](#)