

Pacific-American Climate Fund Project

Grant Solicitation: Cycle 4 Potential Applicant Questions

Request for Application Dated November 15, 2016

Q 1: What types of organizations and activities are eligible for funding under this solicitation?

A 1: For purposes of this solicitation only activities implemented in or for the benefit of Papua New Guinea will be considered. Eligible organizations may be based in Papua New Guinea or elsewhere.

Q 2: Could you help us identify an International Specialist on Climate Change, especially in the adaptation projects, where he or she can help us provide Training of Trainers (TOT) for the trainers who will be implementing the adaptation project within our operations?

A 2: It is the responsibility of each applicant to identify potential qualified specialists to include in their applications. In the interest of fairness to all applicants, PACAM cannot provide support in this regard.

Q 3: What are the chances of local and small NGOs wanting to bid for this fund? Any special considerations and support for local NGOs?

A 3: All eligible applicants who submit complete full applications consistent with the requirements of the solicitation will be considered equally. In its previous three grant cycles, PACAM has issued grants to organizations - international and local - of all sizes and encourages applicants with little or no USAID experience to apply. If awarded a grant, PACAM may provide capacity development support to organizations who need assistance with financial, administrative, or programmatic requirements.

Q 4: Would PACAM support the project idea on developing media stories about communities doing climate change adaptation activities without much support from government or other donors?

A 4: The types of projects that PACAM will consider supporting as a result of this solicitation are listed in Article 5 ("Eligible Activities") of the solicitation. Proposed activities must be logically linked to the activities described in this article. Based on what you have written, it appears that your proposed activities are indeed in line with PACAM priorities and objectives and your organization is likely eligible; however, final eligibility determinations are made by the application evaluators upon review of applications received.

We would also encourage you to closely review the solicitation as well as USAID's Integrating Biodiversity and Climate Change Adaptation in Activity Design document (available at pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00KKNX.pdf) which is also referred to in the solicitation, to see if logical linkages between our activities exist in your view.

Q 5: Can Post graduate research students in Papua New Guinea apply for the PACAM grants if eligible projects are in line with their research interests?

A 5: PACAM grants are meant for existing organizations. PACAM does not grant to individuals.

Q 6: Is there a proposal template for this call?

A 6: Please check Section II and Attachment I of the solicitation for required administrative forms, certifications and the mandatory budget template. Section II also provides a mandatory outline (including required annexes) for the technical application and budget narrative, but not a technical application form or budget narrative form.

Q 7: We have a low [bank] account balance. Are we still eligible to apply?

A 7: In order to be eligible for a PACAM grant, an applicant must have the ability to successfully complete a pre-award risk assessment (described in some detail in the solicitation). This assessment includes an evaluation of the applicant's financial viability. That said, there is no established minimum bank account balance required to be eligible for a grant.

Q 8: I would like to clarify whether a research institute affiliated with an Australian University is eligible for PACAM grant that aims to enable communities to adapt to climate change in Papua New Guinea.

A 8: Applicants do not necessarily need to be Papua New Guinean and may be based outside of Papua New Guinea. To be eligible for funding, the applicant must propose eligible activities that benefit Papua New Guinea and must be able to operate legally in Papua New Guinea.

Per Section I.4 of the solicitation, private or parochial universities are eligible for funding. Public universities may not be eligible as they may be considered "sovereign" or government entities. This is a determination that will be made by PACAM. Certain public universities (universities which receive government funding) may be deemed eligible, but they must demonstrate they have a different procurement system from the national or sub-national government. They must also demonstrate sufficient governance and management independence from the national or sub-national government. PACAM reserves the sole right to make a determination on any applicant's eligibility and applications submitted by public universities or those applications that include funded public university partnerships may be deemed ineligible.

Q 9: I wish to ascertain if the deadlines for submissions can be extended to January or February 2017.

A 9: PACAM does not foresee issuing an extension to the deadline for applications. The deadline of December 20, 2016 remains in place for all potential applicants.