

Sr. No.	Question	Response
1.	In the minimum criteria document, point #2 describes that lead organization must have 10 mil GBP grants management and implementation experience. Is it concerned with managing 10 mil GBP grant only in Pakistan or else BHC will consider the global portfolio?	BHC will consider Global portfolio
2.	What is the difference between Terms of Reference and Statement of Requirements?	Terms of Reference (TORS) are more prescriptive on the scope and deliverables and commonly used for commercial procurements. Statement of Requirement (SOR) provide scope through the overall objective and results expected.
3.	What is an Accountable Grant (AG)?	The AG is the funding arrangements which we sign with Not for Profit Organisations.
4.	Can you please clarify what you mean by consortium partners and/vs. downstream partners? Will it be alright for a lead to propose both key consortium partners and then a range of downstream partners for actual delivery in NMDS and in South Punjab	<p>Consortium Partners include not for profit organizations which have come together with the Lead Implementing Partner in the preparation of the proposal. Any changes to the consortium partners will require formal review by FCDO and an amendment to the grant arrangement.</p> <p>A reminder – the AGA will be signed with one Lead Implementing Partner (LIP). Any partners other than the LIP will be considered a downstream partner.</p>
5.	Which currency shall be used for signing the grant?	We will sign the AG with the lead consortium partner in UK£. All funds disbursed and financial reporting will also be in UK£s. It is up to the lead partner to decide which currency they choose to use for contracts/agreements with their downstream partners.
6.	Can partners request for release of funds in advance?	FCDO does not release funds in advance of need. Our preferred mode is to reimburse the actual

		expenditures on a quarterly basis. This is discussed and finalised at the due diligence assessment stage.
7.	What if the implementing partner fails to deliver the agreed output linked to the release of payment?	There shall be a grace period of one quarter from the agreed date of deliverables to cover a progress lag. Strong justification will be required and has to be agreed in advance with FCDO.
8.	Estimated start date of the project following sign of the grant letter?	The project starts on the date of signing the Accountable Grant Agreement by both FCDO and the lead partner.
9.	Could you please also share the templates for submission of bid documents.	Templates/formats have been shared with the call for proposals as annexures. The Statement of Requirement (SOR) and annexures are available on this link: Khilo Aur Barho: Action for Learning (GOAL) programme in Pakistan - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
10.	So it's one partner to be selected for this grant?	Yes. FCDO will award the grant to only one Lead Implementing Partner (LIP). The LIP can make consortium arrangements can be made with one LIP and multiple downstream partners. Downstream partners are to be managed by the LIP in entirety including funds, results/delivery, etc.
11.	How will the Service Delivery component link with the LTTA component of GOAL? Can organizations which LTTA component also bid for the service delivery component?	Non-profit organisations can bid for the service delivery component, even if they are bidding for the Long Term Technical Assistance (LTTA) component. In terms of link between components, it is expected that components will coordinate and work together during implementation. This should include aligning and coordinating as well as building synergies.
12.	There was no technical proposal template included in the released documents. Only Annex D talks about the format of the technical proposal. Is that what you mean with template, i.e following the formatting requirements?	The format shared in Annex D should be followed. Template for proforma budget is also shared as Annex C.

13.	Hey team GOAL, please let me know if we need a separate needs assessment report as annex?	All requirements have been explicitly mentioned in the Statement of Requirements and annexures.
14.	The AGA template was not shared with the pack of documents, can you please share this?	The Accountable Grant Agreement template is attached.
15.	Hi, it's good to hear only non-profit organisations are eligible. Is the 10 million for lead partner is for one grant or overall portfolio?	The £10m grant management requirement applies to one grant, not overall portfolio. The grant itself can be multi-year/with extensions.
16.	Could FCDO consider monthly payments too?	This can be considered only for the inception phase. Payments in the implementation period will be quarterly.
17.	Is there a limit to the number of downstream partners within a consortium? And would the eligibility criteria apply and those organisations as well or just on the lead organisation?	There is no limit on the number of downstream partners, however, it should be feasible and manageable by the Lead Implementing Partner in their planning. This consortium arrangement should be efficient and effective. The eligibility criteria only apply to the lead.
18.	We have an FCDO grant in another country, and we requested payment in advance for the first quarter and it was agreed	This is possible for the inception period. It can be worked out in the Due Diligence Assessment (DDA) stage, where financial capability/strength are also reviewed by FCDO.
19.	How will the results of Bridging TA be shared with bidders to ensure fair competition?	These will be uploaded to the ISAPS website as they are finalised on this link – two relevant reports are available already: Institute of Social and Policy Sciences (I-SAPS)
20.	Is the Lead Implementing partner expected to work across a selection of districts in South Punjab and KP?	The Lead Implementing Partner should indeed be working across both provinces. Downstream partners/consortium members can be limited to one province/district. No minimum or maximum for number of districts has been defined by FCDO. Concerns of inclusivity/target populations coupled with depth and efficiency in the given budgets should be kept in mind.

21.	We do not expect that SD pays for student stipends but to help the work of education foundations with private schools to get scaled up, can you confirm?	FCDO cannot support payments to governments at this stage, and the service delivery funds cannot be used to do this at any stage. However, support to low-fee private schools can be provided within the SOR objective and focus areas; low-fee private schools for this contract are schools with a fee of PKR 3,000/month or lower.
22.	In assisting children in and out of school transitioning to higher levels of education, is the support for transition expected both for transition to middle school as well as to secondary education?	The support to out of school children should include middle and secondary education levels. Education continuity from one level to the next is extremely important for us.
23.	What is the preferred font size for technical proposal? What is the preferred text margin for technical proposal? Are footnotes allowed? Are embedded links to other documents/references/evidence allowed?	The preferred font size is 11 Arial. No preferred text margin. Footnotes are allowed. Embedded links/references also allowed.
24.	the SOR mentions "proposed interventions should not be dependent on uptake by Government or other actors to delivers the targets above" Could you please explain this?	This means that the intended outputs should be achievable within the lifetime of this project. Also, that the sustainability of impact planning should not depend on the government or another organisation taking the initiatives forward.
25.	We have to respond to both provinces (south of punjab and new emerged districts of KP) we cannot choose one province, is this understanding correct, thanks.	Yes, this understanding is correct. Khilo aur Barho must be implemented in both provinces across multiple districts.
26.	The British Council is part of a consortium applying for the GOAL TA ITT published on February 26, 2024. Will this preclude us from applying as a Lead Implementing Partner for Khilo aur Barho/GOAL alongside other partners?	British Council and any other non-for-profit applying for the GOAL Technical Assistance ITT can apply for Khilo aur Barho as Lead or Downstream partners. If you are registered as a non-for-profit, you can bid for this.
27.	Is financial proposal submitted as an addition to the 20-25 pages of technical proposal + Annexures (up to 30 pages), or it is included in this number of pages – and where – in the tech proposal or in the annexures?	Financial proposal is in addition to the technical proposal.

28.	On the proposed team and organogram, does the High Commission want bidders to provide CVs for personnel as well? Differently put, since there is a page limit to the Annexures (up to 30 pages), in what format information about personnel should be included (CVs as a separate addition, i.e. not counted as annexes, or some form of individual professional profiles as a part of Annexures)?	CVs for personnel are not required as part of this. Please provide brief profiles of proposed individuals for technical lead, key leadership and management roles.
29.	Will bidders be able to ask further clarification questions after the EME 19th March? If so, what will be the deadline and what is the process for bidders to submit any further clarification questions?	Unfortunately, not. EME sessions is the only opportunity for bidders to ask clarification questions.
30.	Annex D confirms the main contents of the technical proposal, 25 pages with up to 30 pages annexes. What material would the High Commission expect bidders to provide in the annexes?	All required documents are listed in the SOR and/or Annexures for Khilo aur Barho available on this link: Khilo Aur Barho: Action for Learning (GOAL) programme in Pakistan - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) Other annexures are up to the discretion of the bidders.
31.	When do you think the Third Party Monitoring and Evaluation be carried out for GOAL?	We're in early stages of planning for this. We expect it to be in place by the end of the calendar year.
32.	For the payment by results portion, when will the 'mutually agreed milestones' be defined? Do we need to include them in our proposal, or will they be part of the contract negotiation/inception period?	These milestones will be designed and agreed upon during the inception period. The proposal is expected to cover intended outputs against each proposed intervention, and a monitoring framework to assess these results.
33.	Could you also please clarify whether it is strictly only for non-profits or also for other forms of not-for-profit entities/other types of entities?	This call for proposals is strictly for registered not-for-profits/NGOs/INGOs
34.	What is the funding threshold with respect to floor and ceiling amount for a single grant/award?	There is no minimum amount defined; the maximum is up to £20m. Up to partners to decide their budget to achieve the defined targets from the Statement of Requirements.

35.	How will goal take into account the needs and capabilities of children with disabilities to ensure the FCDO's commitments in the disability inclusion & rights strategy published earlier last year? Disability is not explicitly mentioned in this call	Children with disabilities is a major priority for the GOAL programme. Support to children with disabilities is part of the proposal evaluation criteria (Annex B) as well as defined under target population and focus area section of the Statement of Requirement.
36.	Is the NOC will be required before signing of the contract for the project?	Partners are expected to have authorisation to work in Pakistan at the time of bid submission or at least demonstrate progress/process completion to have this authorisation. All federal and provincial requirements including NOC's must be fulfilled during the inception phase.
37.	Is fund divided between two province and how many districts in each province? Can lead partner apply in both provinces?	The only ear-marked part is £5m for Newly Merged Districts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. And we expect one Lead Implementing Partner covering both provinces.
38.	The SOR mentions that "currently a bridging TA is in place until at least mid-2024".... Can the implementors of current TA apply for the current initiative - Khilo aur Barho?	Yes.
39.	There is a mention of Urban Slums if there are none in NMDs can these be selected in the adjacent district/s to NMDs?	Urban slums anywhere in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab can be targeted. Not all the groups/populations described need to be overlapping. Additionally, GOAL is especially concerned with NMDs in KP and South Punjab but not limited to this.
40.	The AGA template was not shared with the pack of documents, can you please share this? I did not mean the budget template, but the Accountable Grant Agreement, i.e. the contract	See response to question no. 14 above. AGA will be shared with the selected partner at the time of finalisation.
41.	May an organization/consortium apply for one province only?	No. The proposal must cover both provinces. See response to question no. 20 above.
42.	I want to know some points in the light of following:	Lead Implementing Partners must meet the Minimum Qualification Criteria to apply.

	<p>"Despite our company, Intellectual Property Experts Consultancy (IPEC), being newly established in December 2023, we believe our partnership with two NGS highly experienced supporting partners strengthen our consortium's validity. While our company's operational history may be limited, we have been actively involved in several projects since our registration. Although we may not have extensive project data available yet, we can provide relevant details such as bank statements to demonstrate our financial standing. Additionally, leveraging the track record and experience of our supporting partner enhances our credibility and capacity to deliver on the Khilo Aur Barho programme."</p> <p>can we proceed with this situation?</p>	
43.	Is fund divided between two province and how many districts in each province? Can lead partner apply in both provinces?	See responses to question nos. 38 and 20 above
44.	What is the preferred number of districts in KP and MDs?	No set number. We're looking for a balance of depth and coverage.
45.	can please detail once more on the template for narrative? as only a template for financial proposal was shared.	See response to question no. 12 above.
46.	Skilling education (Technical Education) for youth will be considered for this grant or not	Technical education for youth (aged 16 years or younger) will not be considered unless it contributes to learning continuity directly. For example, financial literacy, climate-smart gardening, etc. may be considered if they improve student motivation and retention by addressing some root causes for low learning levels or drop-outs.

47.	How can i signup for receiving all the documents and question answer document and slides, i did not receive them earlier.	All documents are available on this link: Khilo Aur Barho: Action for Learning (GOAL) programme in Pakistan - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
48.	Infrastructural accessibility of schools is one of the roadblocks for children with disabilities accessing education. Does SD component covers the cost of infrastructural adaptations?	Retrofitting to the existing infrastructure can be considered as long as the changes are not structural. Minor adaptations with the appropriate pre-authorisations from FCDO can be considered.
49.	Are downstream partners expected to be tied to the PBR requirement as well?	Management of downstream partners is a decision of the the Lead Implementing Partner.
50.	Technical and Vocational education under this call is applicable or not	See response to question no. 47 above.
51.	Just wonder if Afghan refugees will be considered as part of the design? Any aspects related to school based climate resilience for ensuring no further drop out?	Afghan refugees can be considered as a marginalised group, however the correct authorisations apply. Aspects related to school-based climate resilience for ensuring no further drop-out are welcome.
52.	Arial 12 is rather big, can we use Arial 11 given that the total number of pages is 20-25 for the technical proposal?	Arial 11 is acceptable, but smaller than that shouldn't be used.
53.	If an organization is national and is interested to take a lead but it does not have 10 mil GBP grant management experience in one grant, but overall it surpasses the threshold. Will FCDO consider its experience for one grant or overall portfolio	Please see response to no. 15.
54.	Why is NPAC scored in the financial criteria? NPAC comes out of audited accounts, its not something we can adjust to be competitive. This seems like a requirement of a commercial contract	NPAC is a standard requirement for Accountable Grants as well.
55.	For the minimum qualifications first step - will FCDO provide clear guidance on what the lead organizations have to submit? Templates used, and for evidence of track will we be required to submit completion	Clear guidance on what documents to submit is provided in Annex A. Supporting document listed in Annex A is a requirement. Additional evidence can be requested by FCDO.

	certificates or just a capability statement. Is there a detailed template we fill out similar to an SQ form?	
56.	Well noted on the 5 million allocation for NMDs- are there any other required geographic allocations, for the project, outside of targeting the two provinces?	No.
57.		
58.	For applicants proposing tech-based learning solutions, does the SD cover technological equipment procurement, and are there any sourcing guidelines set by FCDO?	The budget for Khilo aur Barho has been set and shared already. It is up to partners to propose how these funds are to be used and lead partners are expected to have their own procurement processes which will be assessed during the Due Diligence Assessment. [do we really need to refer them to smart buys/say anything beyond this right now?]
59.	Regarding break points: at 4 months and 24 months. Can you confirm if the AGA will be initially issued to 4 and then additional 24 months? Or will it follow more standard approach of AGA being issued for the given FY year (Apr-Mar)?	AGA will be issued for the entire grant period.
60.	could you please also share the slides along with the recording of the session?	Slides will be shared along with a copy of all questions and their responses. Recording of the meeting will not be shared.
61.	Under financial criteria - How will FCDO calculate the score of the Value for money sub-criteria n.4 (ie Value for Money of proposed interventions)? How is this calculation done in regards to the proposed budgets?	We will score based on the FCDO 4 E's to measure Value for Money - economy, effectiveness, efficiency and equity
62.	Does it mean that we need to include budget of consortium partners for example specifically xxx amount for partner A and XXX amount for partner b?	Yes. Please follow the instructions provided in the budget proforma Annex C.
63.	If FCDO could share the calculation (formula) that will be done for each of the financial sub-criteria that will be helpful	

64.	How long do you expect the TPM and Evaluation to last for?	Third Party Monitoring will continue throughout the life of the AG period. Project activities will be monitored through a third party on a quarterly basis or more frequently if needed. GOAL is expected to have a midterm and end of programme evaluation tied to its programme cycle.
65.	We cannot link at least 30% of the budget to the delivery of mutually agreed milestones? Can we still participate in this process?	Yes. Any lead organisation who may not have used the PBR mechanism in past or not willing to link 30% of budget/expenditure can still submit their bids.