

High Level Prosperity Partnership Fund: Call for Bids

Project proposals invited for the 2015/16 High Level Prosperity Partnership (HLPP) Fund. Approximately £285k available for a high impact targeted project that will cover 5 countries: Angola, Cote D'Ivoire, Ghana, Mozambique, and Tanzania.

Deadline for concept bids is 26 January 2015

1. The project bid will focus on improving the business environment across HLPP countries in line with FCO Conditions for Growth: Openness, Sustainability, Opportunity and Reputation.
2. We are looking for **single bid** that will have activities covering some or all of the HLPP countries. We may consider bids that extend beyond the five countries, but such a bid would need to be exceptional.
3. The activities carried out in each of the target countries must have a sectoral focus in one or more of the following sectors:
 - a. Agriculture/Agri-business
 - b. Energy
 - c. Extractives
 - d. Infrastructure
 - e. Education/Skills
 - f. Finance
4. The project may look at one sector across all five countries, or a different sector depending on the circumstances of the country.
5. Activities in each country will need to align with, and complement, existing HMG programming by DFID or UKTI.
6. All project proposals will need to demonstrate how they support the Prosperity Directorate Conditions for Growth and explain clearly how the project will deliver **measurable benefit to the UK** in support of prosperity metrics.
7. Our evaluation criteria will include the following
 - a. Potential to partner with private sector
 - b. Potential to open up space for UK companies to compete and operate in in sectors that have previously been challenging
 - c. The increased market value to UK companies of an enhanced business environment

The Bidding Process

8. The 2015/16 bidding round for the HLPP Fund is being announced by a public call for bids via gov.uk. The website explains the criteria for which we invite proposals centrally.
9. The HLPP fund bidding round will include a project concept stage, followed by a full proposal stage. The concept stage ensures that there is a focus on bids that are a good strategic fit and are look likely to deliver most impact.
10. The bidding timeline is as follows:

- 7 Jan 2015:** Concept bidding round opens.
- 26 Jan 2015:** Deadline for potential implementers to submit concepts to Africa Strategy and Network Unit (ASNU).
- 9 Feb 2015:** Appraisal of concept bids complete. Results issued to implementers.
- 26 Feb 2015:** Deadline for potential implementers to submit full bids to ASNU.
- 13 Mar 2015:** Appraisal of full bids complete. Results issued to implementers.
- 31 Mar 2015:** Final contracts signed.
- 1 Apr 2015:** 2015/16 project commences.

11. Guidance is available for 2015/16 covering the type of projects we would like to see, the application process, ensuring a quality bid, and getting the budget right.

Funding available

12. As a guide, the HLPP Fund is not an appropriate source of funding for small tactical activity: we are expecting a project bid to be in the region of £285,000 to reflect the strategic nature of the project and the need for high impact. The proposed project activities should be focused to run within financial year 2015/16 as multi-year funding is unavailable.

How will it work in practice?

13. All bids should be submitted to ASNU at the following e-mail address:
Africa.Prosperty@fco.gov.uk
14. If project officers have any questions, they should contact the ASNU team by emailing Africa.Prosperty@fco.gov.uk.