

Trust Fund for Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development (TFESSD)

FY10 Call for Proposals

The Trust Fund for Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development (TFESSD) funds strategic and innovative work on environmental, social, and poverty dimensions of sustainable development. TFESSD was established in 1999 and is funded by Norway and Finland.

This call for concept notes invites proposals from Bank teams for analytical work, action research, and capacity building to address the following two themes which have been agreed with the donors: (a) climate change impacts and responses, and (b) food insecurity, financial shocks, and vulnerability. We expect to allocate \$5 million per year to new activities starting in FY10. Only low and lower-middle income countries are eligible. At least half of the funding will go toward activities in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The application process consists of two stages. This Call is the first step and invites the submission of a one or two page concept note. The concept notes will be assessed by a panel of technical reviewers according to relevance to the themes and other selection criteria outlined below. Teams with successful concept notes will be invited to submit a longer full proposal. The concept note template is attached below.

Deadline for concept notes is **cob December 2, 2008** (please send to Rasmus Heltberg and Carmen Martinel along with an email indicating sector manager approval).¹ The selected concept notes will be invited to submit a full proposal by February 2, 2009.

Themes for FY10 Proposals

Climate Change Impacts and Responses

We welcome proposals which focus on the impacts of climate change; adaptation to climate change; or the social and environmental consequences of climate change mitigation strategies. Proposals linking climate change and food insecurity are particularly welcome. We encourage proposals that support the implementation of the Strategic Framework on Climate Change and Development, the regional climate change business plans, and the WDR2010 on Climate Change and Development. Work under this theme could include:

- Social and human consequences of climate change. This includes efforts to understand and address impacts of climate change on health, gender, poverty, conflict, migration, food insecurity, assets of the poor, and natural disaster risk.
- The social (including gender), economic, and environmental impacts of climate change adaptation interventions. This would include advances in the measurement of adaptive capacity; governance and priority setting for adaptation interventions; and Poverty and Social Impact Analysis (PSIA) of adaptation.
- Understanding and addressing the social (including gender), economic, and environmental impacts of carbon finance (including projects addressing avoided deforestation and land use) and low-carbon technologies. This would include PSIA and

¹ We ask for sector manager approval of the concept notes and country director approval of the full proposals.

impact evaluation of costs and benefits of forest carbon finance and low-carbon technologies.

- Capacity building and regional dialogue addressing climate change.

Food Insecurity, Financial Shocks, and Vulnerability

We welcome proposals addressing food insecurity and vulnerability in the short, medium, and long term. Proposals may focus on short and medium-term responses to food insecurity stemming from food price, fuel price, or financial shocks. They may also focus on the causes of long-term food insecurity and vulnerability and how to address these challenges. Proposals linking short-term shocks and responses to long-term food insecurity are particularly welcome. Work under this theme could include:

- Assessing the impacts of increasing food, fertilizer, and fuel prices and financial shocks on different communities and social groups (including households, genders, and individuals). This includes impacts on poverty, food insecurity, and the distribution of assets, income, and opportunity. Research could also look at the links between food and fuel prices and how to insulate the food economy from fuel price and other shocks.
- Distributional and political economy analysis of policies and programs addressing food insecurity and vulnerability. This includes PSIA, monitoring, and evaluation of Bank and country responses in areas such as trade, agriculture, nutrition, social protection, or subsidy reforms.
- Improving, scaling up, and replicating successful nutrition and social protection programs.
- Linkages between climate change, environment, poverty, and long-term food insecurity; failures of rights and entitlements to food; efforts to understand how the type, quality, and pattern of growth affect starvation, hunger, and malnutrition.²
- Understanding and addressing the social, economic, and environmental implications of bio-fuels. PSIA and other analysis of trade and subsidy regimes for bio-fuels and the impact of bio-fuels on foodgrain prices.
- Capacity building and regional dialogue on food insecurity, vulnerability, and responses to address it.

Selection criteria

Selection is highly competitive. We rank proposals according to their relevance to the themes described above and the following criteria:

- Strategic fit: links to WBG corporate and country strategies, operations, and PRSPs.
- Overall quality: technical soundness and realism; promotion of innovative ideas; clearly defined outputs and outcomes.
- Attention to dissemination and knowledge management. We encourage in-country dissemination as well as short (2-4 page) knowledge briefs/dissemination notes for wider distribution.
- Catalytic potential: operational innovations with promise to become part of WBG strategies, dialogue, and lending.³
- Cross-sectoral: promoting collaboration across networks.

²See World Resources Report 2008: Roots of Resilience for an investigation of poverty-environment-climate change links: <http://www.wri.org/publication/world-resources-2008-roots-of-resilience>.

³TFESSD funds cannot finance current Bank operations but activities nevertheless need to demonstrate policy and operational relevance. For example, TFESSD has been used to pilot social accountability and environmental assessment tools and approaches that have later been scaled up using other funding sources.

- Rationale for grant funding versus Bank budget.
- Partnership with Norwegian or Finnish researchers and institutions.

Eligibility criteria

- *Eligible Task Managers:* The Trust Fund is Bank executed and proposals can only be submitted by, and task managed by, Bank staff accredited to manage trust funds.
- *Eligible expenditures:* Project preparation work will not be funded, nor components which could be funded as part of ongoing operations. Funds cannot be used for staff salaries, staff travel, or sub-grants. Eligible expenditures are consultant fees/travel, workshops, training, publications etc.
- *Budgets.* Please use the same standards for budgets that you would use for ESW and other analytical work. There is no maximum limit for proposals but we do not encourage proposals below \$50,000.
- *Eligible countries:* TFESSD is limited to financing activities in low and lower middle income countries.⁴ At least fifty percent of TFESSD funds will go toward work in/on Sub-Saharan Africa. Elsewhere, preference will be given to IDA countries.
- *Bank Commitment:* At the time of the final proposal, TTLs must indicate adequate Bank budget to supervise the activity and include the activity in the Work Program Agreement (WPA).
- *Implementation period.* Work can span up to three fiscal years (FY10-12). While an overall amount is tentatively allocated at the time of approval, funds are released in installments as needed. Funding beyond the first year will be released based on performance as reported in annual progress reports.

For further information

- www.worldbank.org/tfessd
- Secretariat for the Norwegian-Finnish Reference Group for TFESSD (<http://www.sum.uio.no/research/poverty/tfessd/>)
- Rasmus Heltberg, Administrator & Sr Technical Specialist (X35396). We are happy to brainstorm with teams considering applying.

Attachments:

- Template for concept notes

⁴ As defined in the OECD/DAC list of ODA recipient countries, see <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/23/34/37954893.pdf>

Template for concept notes

**Proposal to the Trust Fund for Environmentally & Socially Sustainable
Development (TFESSD) - FY10 Call for Proposals**
FY10 TFESSD Funding Proposal Concept Note (max. 1-2 pages)

Name of activity:	
Task team leader (TTL):	Department/unit of TTL:
Cleared by sector manager:	
Total TFESSD grant applied for: \$ _____ of which FY10: \$ _____	
Percent of grant going to activities in Sub-Saharan Africa:	
List of countries benefiting/participating:	
Development objective of proposed activity:	
Proposed activities, including capacity building and dissemination strategy:	
Expected outputs (products to be delivered):	
Will a knowledge brief/dissemination note be produced?	
Expected outcomes (what will change as result of proposed activity):	
Internal and external partners (please avoid acronyms so that external partners can read this document):	

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