

FY06 CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR ACTIVITIES TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE TRUST FUND FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY AND SOCIALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (TFESSD)

Background

The Multi-donor Trust Fund for Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development (TFESSD) provides grant resources for activities aimed at mainstreaming the environmental, social and poverty-reducing dimensions of sustainable development into overall Bank work. The intention is to encourage inter-linkages between these dimensions.¹

As a pilot this year, the country directors for Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania have agreed to submit a country-based, strategic and integrated package of proposals. TMs who plan to submit proposals for these countries should coordinate their projects with Rick Scobey who is coordinating the package for the two country directors. Proposals for other African countries follow the normal procedures.

Priority Topics for Call

The aim is to encourage activities that are innovative and catalytic. All work supported must be operationally relevant, be implemented in a participatory and inclusive manner, and include a focus on the likely impacts.

Proposals covering the following topics will be considered for funding:

- upstream analytical work on poverty, vulnerability, environment and social issues linked to the preparation and implementation of CASs, PRSPs, and/or development policy lending with a focus on likely impacts of policies
- downstream activities to monitor and /or evaluate the
 - poverty, vulnerability, social, and environmental impacts of Bank supported policies; or
 - governance, social development, environmental sustainability and other innovative aspects of projects and programs

Within the scope of the priority topics above, the Sector Boards for Environment and Social Protection have suggested some thematic priorities where they would like to see proposals (see appendix).

¹ In addition to the three windows – environment, social and poverty – the TFESSD now includes a fourth window for social protection.

Selection Criteria²

Priority will be given to proposals that:

- are innovative, setting the stage for future operations;
- are in line with corporate, regional or country strategies;
- support inclusion and participation;
- are catalytic and have the potential to achieve significant development impact;
- are technically sound and cost-effective and could be replicable;
- are multi-sectoral;
- support capacity building within institutions in developing countries to strengthen local systems and processes;
- support and are integrated with the national poverty reduction strategies and monitoring systems in the countries.

Innovative upstream work such as forward looking operational research within the priority areas of the call may, in some cases, be considered for funding, without explicit country demand.

The funds from TFESSD are untied. National partners (experts and institutions), as well as potential partnerships with UN agencies, and Norwegian/Finnish researchers/institutions are encouraged and should be indicated in the application.

General Guidelines

- *Eligible Task Managers:* The Trust Fund is Bank executed and proposals can only be submitted by, and task managed by, Bank staff who are 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 and staff travel. Eligible expenditures are consultant fees/travel, workshops, training, client equipment, publications etc. Bank procurement regulations apply in all cases.

² Each proposal will be rated between "0" and "3" (i.e., "no fit" and "very good") against the set of five criteria:

- Strategic fit with the priorities in the Call for Proposal - 35%
- Fit with Bankwide & regional thematic and sectoral strategies - 15%
- Realism, doability and fit with country strategies - 25%
- Promoting cross-family/network collaboration - 10%
- Contributing to capacity building in client countries - 15%

- *Eligible countries:* The TFESSD is limited to financing activities in countries included in the bottom three categories in the OECD/DAC ODA list.³ Fifty percent of TFESSD funds shall, according to the legal agreement, go to work in/on Sub-Saharan Africa. Elsewhere, preference will be given to IDA countries.
- *Funds release:* Work can span up to three fiscal years (FY06-08). While an overall amount is tentatively allocated when the project is approved, funds are released in installments as needed. Funding beyond the first year will be released based on good performance as reported in progress reports.

How to Submit a Proposal

- Proposals should be no more than three pages long, and in addition include a logical framework of objectives, key performance indicators, monitoring and evaluation, and critical assumptions. Please use the Application Form and Logframe templates attached to the Call for Proposals (also available on the TFESSD web site).⁴ Any needed background information should be submitted as an annex; this will be regarded as a reference document only and may not be read by the technical reviewers.
- Proposals should clearly indicate the linkages of the proposed project with, and value added over, ongoing or planned regular Bank analytical, program or project activities, and its relevance as input into Bank/country CASs, PRSPs etc. Proposals should indicate how the proposed activities support and are integrated with the national poverty reduction strategies and monitoring systems in the countries concerned.
- Proposals should indicate milestones and monitorable indicators, especially if they are multi-year, since progress will be reviewed annually based on progress reports. They should include a clear budget with planned expenditures by type of expenditure, FY, and source (BB, TFESSD, other sources). No project will be approved without evidence of BB. There is no minimum or maximum limit per proposal, but we require you to use the same standards for budgets that you would use for regular ESW and other analytical work.
- Proposals for country-level work need to be approved by the Country Director or whomever the CD has designated to give such approvals (an email is fine, and should be attached when the proposal is submitted).
- You are encouraged to consult with your sector board member before submitting the proposal and copy him/her when submitting it.

³ See <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/35/9/2488552.pdf>

⁴ See <http://www.worldbank.org/tfessd>, under Templates.

Deadline and Selection Process

- Proposals should be sent to Joyce Chinsen by email **by 11:59 pm Washington D.C. time, March 31, 2005**. Proposals received after this time or incomplete proposals will not be considered.
- The proposals will be reviewed by technical reviewers nominated by the Environment, Social Development, Social Protection and Poverty Reduction Boards and rated based on the criteria spelled out above. Then the Directors of Environment, Social Development, Social Protection, and Poverty (or their designates) will review the ratings and present a prioritized list in a joint meeting of the four sector boards.
- The list approved at the joint meeting will be submitted to the donors for approval.
- Funds will be available at the beginning of FY06.

Timetable

Call for Proposals: March 8, 2005

Deadline to submit proposals: March 31, 2005

Reviewers present to Directors: April 20, 2005

Prioritized list sent to Sector Boards: May 2, 2005

Discussion by Sector Boards: by May 13, 2005

Submission of final selection to the Donors: by May 27, 2005

Final decisions: June 17, 2005

Activation of TFs: July 2005

For Further Information...

- Check the TFESSD website at www.worldbank.org/tfessd
- Call or email your Sector Board member or one of the Window managers: Haddy Sey (Social Window), Vera Wilhelm (Poverty Window), Laura Tlaiye (Environment Window), Valerie Kozel (Social Protection Window)

Sector Board Priorities

Priority areas from the Environment Sector Board:

- a) Methodology and Tool development
- b) Poverty-Environment Linkages
- c) Environment in PRSPs and CASs
- d) Environment in Sectoral Planning and Programs
- e) Environment and Governance (comprising policy/institutional frameworks and performance, and linkages to fiscal issues, e.g., decentralization, environmental expenditure management).

Priority areas from the Social Protection Sector Board:

- a) Evaluation of SP programs and policies, with particular focus on evaluating the effectiveness of measures designed to support *ex ante* risk management.
Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals that have cross-country or regional coverage, and focus on thematic evaluations rather than evaluations of single projects.
- b) Identifying links between risk and economic growth, with particular focus on *ex ante* risk management instruments (SP and non-SP)
- c) Labor markets, vulnerability and the working poor
- d) Vulnerability of the elderly, effectiveness of measures to protect of the elderly