Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Climate Action,
Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

IKI INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE INITIATIVE

IKI Large Grants – Selection Criteria

The projects are assessed and selected by the project management agency and the responsible federal ministries according to the following requirements:

Criteria			Explanations
! – Minimum requirements Both the minimum requirements and the assessment criteria are used to assess the outlines submitted. All minimum requirements that, if not met, will lead to the exclusion of the project outline from the selection process are marked with a "**!**".			
Formal eligibility of the project concept			
Funding requirements/financing requirements			
1	!	Submission in due time via online platform	The project outline was submitted in due time and via the IKI online platform.
2	!	Completeness of the documents	The documents were submitted completely and in accordance with the specifications.
3	!	Need for public funding	There is a need for public funding.
4	!	No early start of measures	The project implementation has not yet started before the submission of the outline.
5	!	Exclusion criteria	The project does not provide for any activities that are excluded from funding or financing in accordance with the IKI exclusion criteria.
Duration and amount of funding/financing			
6	!	Funding volume/ financing volume	The IKI funding volume or IKI financing volume proposed in the project outline is in line with the requirements specified in the respective thematic or country priority.
7	!	Project duration	The maximum project duration is eight years. Any necessary funding/financing of a preparation phase of up to nine months for the preparation of the project proposal is possible on application and does not count towards the project duration.
Project funding/project financing			
8		Financial contribution	The financial contribution of the lead organisation and/or the amount of additional funding (co-financing) are transparent and appropriate.
9		Leveraged private finance	The project is intended to help leverage private financing by either directly mobilising private funds as defined by the OECD or indirectly creating a framework conducive to investment.

10		Involvement of the private sector	The project aims (beyond leveraging private financing) to involve the private sector in the project (in particular as a target group).
Choice of partner country/countries			
11	!	ODA-eligible countries	The partner countries are on the list of ODA-eligible countries at the time the outline is submitted.
12	!	Partner countries	There is alignment with the potential partner countries of the respective thematic or country priority.
13		Appropriate geographical approach	The geographical approach of the project outline (regional/bilateral/global) is clearly justified.
14	!	Number of partner countries	The number of countries addressed in the project outline is limited to five.
Technical suitability of the project concept			
15	!	Objective of the thematic or country-specific focus	The planned project is technically suitable for achieving the specific objectives of the respective thematic or country priority.
Implementation context			
16		Relevance for the implementation of the NDCs/NBSAPs/NAPs	The planned project makes a relevant contribution to the implementation of NDCs/NAPs/NBSAPs.
17		Alignment with national/regional policies	The planned project aligns with other specific political and legal frameworks as well as policies and priorities in the respective region/country and makes use of existing partnerships.
18		Relevance for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the UN	The planned project follows the integrated approach of the 2030 Agenda and takes into account all applicable SDGs. Potential conflicting goals are taken into account.
19		Political backing/ Letter of support	The project outline indicates that the government of the partner country generally supports the planned project activities. Letters of support may be attached when submitting the project outline. However, these are only required for bilateral project outlines during the outline phase (except for country priorities).
20		Link to the project landscape/funding landscape; no double funding/financing	The planned project ties in with the existing local project landscape/funding landscape. Double funding is avoided.

Project planning			
21		Theory of change/results chain	The project outline demonstrates the quality of the problem-solving approach by applying the OECD results chain. The proposed solution approach is ambitious and can be realistically implemented within the selected time frame with the available budget.
22		Ambition and measurability	The planned project has ambitious goals for the respective project context and is designed for measurable results.
23		Transformation	The project should result in systemic and/or permanent behavioural changes among decision-makers or a substantial number of individuals or institutions.
24		Innovation	The planned project offers an innovative solution for a specific region.
25		Environmental and social risks, possible safeguard measures	Possible environmental and social risks as well as possible safeguard measures are presented in a comprehensible and appropriate manner. The commitment to comply with the Safeguards Standards is a funding or financing requirement.
26		Promotion of gender justice	The project concept provides for an approach that is at least gender-responsive and includes specific measures to counteract unequal gender roles, relations, and norms. These measures serve to implement the project objectives and are clearly recognisable in the results chain.
Target groups			
27		Participation and knowledge transfer to target groups	The project outline clearly explains how relevant target groups and their concerns have been and will continue to be included in project design and implementation. In addition, it is clearly presented how knowledge is to be transferred to the relevant target groups.
Sustainability and replicability of the project results			
28		Exit strategy	The project outline indicates how project activities contribute to ensuring that funded or financed activities and outcomes continue or are maintained once the IKI funding or financing ends (exit strategy).
29		Replicability	The planned project can be replicated in other countries/regions and/or in other sectors.
Criteria for implementing organisations			
Eligibility of the consortium			
30	**!**	Application as a consortium Number of consortium partners	The project outline provides for an application as a consortium comprising at least two organisations. Bilateral projects may be carried out by a maximum of four consortium partners and regional or global projects by a maximum of six consortium partners.
31		Local Action (50% rule)	At least 50% of the total IKI funding (based on the grant amount requested by the applicant or the funding amount for the contractor) must be implemented by actors classified as local organisations with relevant

			expertise related to the project objectives (see Annex 3:Classification as “local” organisations). The clear focus should be on cooperation on an equal footing with local consortium partners.
32		Appropriate distribution of roles and tasks	The roles and tasks within the consortium are clearly and appropriately assigned.
33		Appropriate budget allocation	The allocation of the total budget among the implementing organisations is appropriate, fair, sufficient to cover the costs incurred by all parties, and transparent.
Eligibility of implementing organisations			
34		Technical qualifications and capacities of all implementing organisations	The lead organisation and consortium partners have the necessary technical and administrative qualifications as well as the management capacity to implement and coordinate the planned project activities.
35		Access to relevant stakeholders	The lead organisation clearly demonstrates direct access to project-relevant stakeholders in the partner country, including the local population such as IPLC, either directly or via the consortium partners.
36	**!**	Legal structure	The lead organisation and consortium partners have a suitable legal form and are therefore eligible for funding or financing.
Formal eligibility of the lead organisation			
37	**!**	Turnover criterion	The lead organisation meets the turnover criterion.
38	**!**	Expenditure-based accounting	The lead organisation accounts for the grant on an expenditure basis (applicable to organisations with headquarters in Germany).
Technical qualifications of the lead organisation			
39	**!**	Experience in international cooperation	The lead organisation has at least five years of experience in thematically relevant project implementation in ODA countries.
40		Regional expertise	The lead organisation has experience in the target region.