

IKI Thematic Call Selection Criteria

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

Criteria		Explanations	
! - Minimum requirements			
Both the minimum requirements and the assessment criteria are used to assess the outlines submitted. All minimum requirements which, 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			
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 in accordance with the IKI Exclusion Criteria .
Duration and amount of funding			
6	!	Funding volume	The IKI funding volume proposed in the project outline is in line with the specifications of the respective thematic priority. Exceeding or falling short of the permissible funding volume will lead to the exclusion of the project outline.
7	!	Project duration	The maximum duration of funding is eight years. Any necessary funding for a preparatory phase of up to 9 months to prepare the project application is possible on application and does not count towards the project duration.

Project funding			
8		Own funds	The financial contribution of the lead organisation and/or the amount of additional funding resources (co-financing) are clear and appropriate.
9		Private sector mobilisation	The project should contribute to mobilising private finance.

Choice of partner country / countries			
10	!	ODA-eligible countries	The partner countries are on the list of ODA-eligible countries at the time the outline is submitted.
11	!	Partner countries	The partner countries suggested in the project outline are in line with the possible partner countries in the thematic priority. Deviations will lead to the exclusion of the project outline.
12		Appropriate geographical approach	The geographical approach of the project outline (regional/bilateral/global) is clearly justified.
13	!	Number of partner countries	The number of countries addressed in the project outline is limited to five. Project outlines that include more than five partner countries will not be considered.

Technical eligibility of the project concept			
14	!	Objective of the thematic priority	The planned project is technically suitable for achieving the specific objectives of the respective thematic priority.

Implementation context			
15		Relevance for the implementation of the NDCs/NBSAPs/NAPs	The planned project makes a relevant contribution to the implementation of NDCs/NAPs/NBSAPs.
16		Connectivity with national/regional policies	Additionally, the planned project ties in with specific underlying political and legal frameworks as well as policies and priorities in the respective region/country and leverages existing partnerships.
17		Relevance for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of the UN	The planned project follows the integrated approach of the 2030 Agenda and takes into account all applicable SDGs. Possible conflicting goals are taken into consideration.

18	Political backing/ Letter of endorsement	The project outline indicates that the government of the partner country generally supports the planned project activities. When submitting the project outline, letters of endorsement can be attached. However, these are required only for bilateral project outlines during the outline phase.
19	Link to the project landscape/funding landscape; no double funding	The planned project ties in with the existing local project landscape/funding landscape. Double funding is avoided.

Project planning		
20	Theory of change/results chain	The project outline demonstrates the quality of its problem-solving approach by applying the OECD results chain (see Guidelines on Project Planning and Monitoring in the International Climate Initiative). The proposed solution approach is ambitious and can be realistically implemented within the selected time frame with the available budget.
21	Ambition and measurability	The planned project has ambitious goals for the respective project context and is designed for measurable results. The targeted consideration of gender justice in the context of project planning is positively assessed.
22	Transformation	The project aims to bring about systemic and/or behavioural changes in decision-makers or a considerable number of individuals or institutions.
23	Innovation	The planned project offers a new, innovative solution for a specific region.
24	Environmental and social risks, possible safeguard measures	Possible environmental and social risks as well as possible safeguards measures are presented in a comprehensible and appropriate manner. The commitment to comply with the Safeguards Standards is a funding requirement.
25	Promotion of gender justice	The project concept provides for specific measures to counteract unequal gender roles, relations, and norms. A gender-responsive approach is therefore plausible. These measures serve to implement the project objectives and are clearly recognisable in the results chain.
Target groups		
26	Participation and knowledge transfer to target groups	The project outline clearly shows how relevant target groups and their concerns have been – or will be – included in the 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			
27		Exit strategy	The project outline indicates how project activities contribute to ensuring that funded activities and outcomes continue or are maintained once the IKI funding ends (exit strategy).
28		Replicability	The planned project can be replicated in other countries/regions and/or in other sectors.

Eligibility of implementing organisations			
Eligibility of the consortium			
29	!	Application as consortium Number of consortium partners	The project outline provides for an application as a consortium (i.e. an association of at least two organisations). Bilateral projects may be carried out by a maximum of three consortium partners, and regional or global projects are to be implemented by a maximum of six consortium partners. Exceeding the maximum permissible number of consortium partners will lead to the exclusion of the outline.
30		Local Action (50% rule)	At least 50% of the total IKI funding (in relation to the amount of funding requested by the applicant) is implemented by actors classified as local organisations (see Annex 3: Classification as “local” organisations).
31		Appropriate distribution of roles and tasks	The roles and tasks within the consortium are clearly and appropriately assigned.
32		Appropriate budget allocation	The total budget allocation between the implementing organisations is appropriate, fair, cost-covering for all parties involved, and comprehensible.
Eligibility of implementing organisations			
33		Technical eligibility and qualification of all implementing organisations	The lead organisation and consortium partners have the necessary technical and administrative eligibility as well as management competency to implement and coordinate the planned project activities.
34		Access to relevant stakeholders	The lead organisation presents its access to the stakeholders in the partner country relevant to the project (including the local population such as IPLCs) in a comprehensible way – either directly or via the consortium partners.
35	!	Legal structure	The lead organisation and consortium partners have a suitable legal form and are therefore eligible for funding.
Formal eligibility of the lead organisation			

36	!	Turnover criterion	The lead organisation meets the turnover criterion.
37	!	Expenditure based accounting	The accounting of the lead organisation is done on an expenditure basis (applicable for organisations with headquarters in Germany).
Technical eligibility of the lead organisation			
38	!	Experience in international cooperation	The lead organisation has at least five years of experience in thematically relevant project implementation in ODA countries.
39		Regional expertise	The lead organisation should have experience in the chosen target region.