



CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTERESTS

The 2018/2019 Projects of the QIAO Plan

1. THE QIAO PLAN

In January 2018, the United Nations QIAO Plan on Climate Change and Nature Conservation (hereinafter as “the QIAO Plan”) was launched by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) and the Beijing Qiaonyu Foundation. The QIAO Plan is highlighted as the first major non-governmental funding instrument in support of the developing countries since the enter-into-force of the Paris Agreement.

During the next 5 years (2018~2023), the QIAO Plan will make available approximately \$ 13.5 million to developing countries in support of pragmatic demand-driven projects on climate change and nature conservation. UNOSSC, supported by the Southern Climate Partnership Incubator (SCPI), is the Secretariat of the QIAO Plan.

In the 2018/2019 project cycle, the QIAO Plan intends to support one-year projects with funding volumes of \$ 100,000 - 200,000 each, as well as longer-term projects with a maximum duration of three years and total contribution of up to \$ 1.5 million each. Financial support will be made in grant form and cannot be used for any commercial purposes.

2. INTENDED APPLICANTS

This call for expressions of interests intends to inform and mobilize potential applicants of QIAO Plan projects. An applicant can be from one of the following categories and should also be the leading implementation organization of the planned project:

- 1) United Nations entities and relevant project units;
- 2) Other international and multilateral organizations and institutions;
- 3) Institutions in project host countries and/or beneficiary countries;
- 4) Universities, think-tanks, NGOs, non-profit industrial associations, etc.

3. THEMATIC PRIORITIES

The QIAO Plan supports climate action and nature conservation activities in developing countries and regions. For the 2018/2019 project cycle, the QIAO Plan will support projects in the following three thematic areas:

Scaling-up Sustainable Energy Solutions

Projects that promote an ambitious transition at the local and community level towards a clean, efficient and renewable energy sector, including improving energy efficiency in both production and consumption, and moving from fossil-fuel dependent economic and social systems towards accelerated expansion of clean, renewable and sustainable energy solutions.

Nature Conservation with Climate Co-benefits

Projects that advance the conservation of the forests, wetlands, grasslands and their ecosystem services, including via pro-conservation sustainable livelihoods, while also leveraging the climate mitigation potential of developing countries, and ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) projects to strengthen climate resilience in a highly cost-effective and sustainable way.

Business and CSOs Climate Innovation for Sustainable Development

Projects that mobilize climate actions of the private sector and the civil society to seize opportunities presented by low carbon and climate-resilient development via identifying, demonstrating and replicating innovative and pragmatic solutions on climate change, in the context of sustainable development and national/local circumstances.

Projects of the QIAO Plan will support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda. Projects that integrate gender balance and equality, as well as cultural considerations including religion, nationality and aging, will be prioritized.

4. EXPRESSIONS OF INTERESTS AND TIME FRAME

An applicant wishing to apply for the QIAO Plan funding is required to send an official communication containing the proposed project concept note to UNOSSC.

The communication should be addressed in English to the QIAO Plan Secretariat, Mr. Xiaohua Zhang, and sent to: scpi@undp.org. The communication should be sent no later than 20 May 2018, 24:00 Eastern Standard Time (EST), using the following template and the following name convention in the subject line and file name: "QIAO Plan CN-[Applicant Name]-YYYYMMDD":

A. General Information (max. 1/2 page)			
A.1. Project Title (max. 15 words)			
A.2. Thematic areas for the project (single or multiple choice)		<input type="checkbox"/> Scaling-up of sustainable energy solutions <input type="checkbox"/> Nature conservation with climate co-benefits <input type="checkbox"/> Business and CSOs climate innovation for Sustainable Development <input type="checkbox"/> Others, please indicate (_____)	
A.3. Indicative total project cost	Amount: USD _____	A.4. Any co-financing	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
A.5. Estimated project duration	<input type="checkbox"/> One year <input type="checkbox"/> Two years <input type="checkbox"/> Three years		
B. Project description (max. 1.5 page)			
B.1. Context and Baseline (max. 1.5 page)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Describe the relevant climate vulnerabilities and impacts, GHG emissions profile, nature conservation challenges and urgencies, and the mitigation and adaptation needs to be addressed by the prospective intervention. - Describe the main root causes and barriers (regulatory, institutional, technological, financial, social, gender, ecological, etc.) that need to be addressed. - Please indicate how the project fits with in the respective country’s national and local priorities, action plans and programs, and how it helps to achieve the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda and the climate goals of the Paris Agreement. - Describe the results/outcomes framework of the project, as well as the planned set of components and activities to address the above barriers identified that will lead to the expected outcomes. - Describe in what way the implementing organization (the applicant) is well placed to undertake the planned activities and what would be the implementation arrangements of the implementation organization and other implementing partners. - Brief breakdown of the planned project budget. 			

The received Expressions only reflect the interests of the submitting organizations to participate and implement QIAO Plan projects. Full project proposals will be requested of short-listed applicants to inform the decision-making of the QIAO Plan.

Disclaimer: Please note that this notice does not constitute a solicitation and UNOSSC reserves the right to change or cancel this project at any time. Submitting a reply to an EOI does not guarantee that the submitting organization will be selected to implement the project.