

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) combined with Clarification Notes I & II

First and second pre-launch webinars on the Call for Projects 2023, 26 April and 17 May 2023

Clarification Notes I published on 12 June

Clarification Notes II published on 12 July

Content

1	General issues.....	1
2	Selection criteria.....	5
3	Eligibility of countries	6
4	Eligibility of Applicants, Applicant Support Partners (ASP) ¹ and Implementation Organisations...	7
5	Eligibility of sectors and technologies	10
6	Eligible support instruments in projects	11
7	Submission of Project Concepts	13
8	Detailed Preparation Phase.....	15
	Last but not least... ..	15

1 General issues

What is the best way to be kept up to date about the upcoming Call for Projects and the Mitigation Action Facility?

Please check our [website](#) for information on the [current Call](#) and [news](#) about the Mitigation Action Facility. We would also encourage you to [subscribe to our newsletter](#) to receive automatic news and updates about the Mitigation Action Facility and its Calls for Projects.

Does the Mitigation Action Facility require a matching grant?

No, projects do not need a matching grant to apply to the Mitigation Action Facility. Nevertheless, projects should demonstrate that they can leverage additional private and / or public financing with the funding provided. There is no minimum threshold for the private and public leverage. It is important to demonstrate how the mitigation technology or practice proposed in the project will be financed and showcase that the project will create favourable market conditions for further uptake and upscaling of the mitigation technology or practice.

What is the minimum and maximum funding volume per project under the Call for Projects 2023?

Funding volume requested from the Mitigation Action Facility for implementation should be in the range of EUR 5-25 million, excluding funding for the Detailed Preparation Phase (DPP). Additional information can be found in the [General Information Document \(GID\)](#).

¹ For Glossary, please check the [General Information Document \(GID\)](#), Annex 2 or the [website of the Mitigation action Facility](#)

If an Applicant submits a Project Concept without securing other partners, is there a process to connect the Applicant to relevant ministries and / or partner financial institutions?

All Applicants are encouraged to present their ideas during the Project Concept Phase even when future Project Partners are not entirely defined. If the Project Concept is selected to progress to the next assessment phases (i.e. the Outline Phase and ultimately, the Proposal Phase), the Technical Support Unit (TSU, the Mitigation Action Facility secretariat) will assist the Applicant to ensure that a suitable consortium is identified.

What is the average funding volume per project across all Calls for Projects of the Mitigation Action Facility?

Please check the [website of the Mitigation Action Facility](#) to learn more about the individual projects in the portfolio and their respective funding volume.

Is there a minimum and maximum number of projects that can be funded by priority sector?

The Mitigation Action Facility does not earmark the funding available in the Call by sector.

How many projects do you expect to fund under the Call for Projects 2023?

The limitation is the total funding available (up to EUR 100 million), not the number of projects to be funded. Applicants may apply for a funding volume between EUR 5-25 million for the duration of the project (Implementation Phase).

Must the implementing team be able to speak English/German?

The project team should be able to demonstrate the skills needed to deliver the project. This includes being able to report to and hold meetings with the Technical Support Unit (TSU) in English and understand any communications circulated by the Mitigation Action Facility in English. Where relevant, and in cases where not all members of project teams speak English, it may be necessary or preferential to include budget for translation.

What is ODA?

ODA is an abbreviation for Official Development Assistance. This assistance has been allocated under Section 1 of the International Development Act 2002. ODA contributes to a reduction in poverty and aims to further sustainable development or improve the welfare of relevant countries.

According to the OECD, Official Development Assistance is defined as financial support to eligible countries and to multilateral development institutions which are: 1) Provided by official agencies, including state and local governments, or by their executive agencies; and 2) Is administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as its main objective. More information about ODA can be found on the [OECD website](#).

If a project successfully passes through the Project Concept, Outline and Proposal Phases, could it still fail to be approved for implementation?

Yes, this is correct. The final decision whether the project will be approved for implementation is taken by the Board of the Mitigation Action Facility based on the assessment of a full-fledged Project Proposal (incl. corresponding Annexes) which is a result of a Detailed Preparation Phase (DPP) having duration of either 10 or 15 months.

Will the Call for Projects 2023 of the Mitigation Action Facility consider projects that integrate revenues from the sale of carbon credits with the grant funding provided by the Facility?

At this time, the Mitigation Action Facility is in the process of refining its position on collaborating with carbon markets. To better understand the level of interest from potential Applicants in combining the Facility's funding with carbon credit revenues, we are using the Project Concept Phase as an opportunity to explore the various approaches that are available. As such, we are welcoming all project ideas, including those that engage with carbon markets, during the Project Concept Phase. At this stage, Applicants are invited to present their ideas without limitations as the Mitigation Action Facility looks forward to seeing what innovative concepts may emerge.

CN I-01 Would a project focusing mainly on feasibility studies and/or further project development activities be eligible for support of the Mitigation Action Facility?

The need to conduct comprehensive feasibility studies at either the Detailed Preparation Phase (DPP) or during the Implementation Phase of the project would raise concerns regarding the readiness of the proposed intervention overall. In DPP, feasibility studies can be supported in limited cases only if specific details still need to be clarified in regard to, e.g. the financial mechanism or the assessment of economic, social and environmental impacts of a project. However, the overall technological and economic feasibility should be analysed already before a Project Concept is proposed to the Mitigation Action Facility.

CN I-02 If a project is selected for DPP and completes it earlier than within 10 months, would the project be able to submit a Project Proposal earlier and, upon approval for implementation, receive the funding?

Yes, it is possible to submit a Project Proposal earlier than within 10 months. The Board will take a decision on a rolling basis as it receives Project Proposals and TSU recommendations.

Please note, while the Mitigation Action Facility welcomes projects with a level of readiness high enough to immediately enter the Implementation Phase, per past experience most projects need at least the minimum amount of DPP time to further elaborate the project design and develop a comprehensive Project Proposal.

CN I-03 Are there any requirements of the Mitigation Action Facility regarding the mandatory budget shares of the Implementation Organisation and Project Partners?

Currently, there is no specific regulation of the Mitigation Action Facility with regard to mandatory shares of the project funding that need to be channelled to an Implementation Organisation and/or Project Partners. The distribution of funds shall be guided by the project design and specific country and sector context.

CN I-04 Alignment with NDC Partnership is listed as one of the required project characteristics, what steps can we take to align our technical assistance or financial support with the NDC Partnership?

The [NDC Partnership](#) supports member countries to develop and/or strengthen national government-owned plans to inform the implementation of the NDCs. Based on the NDCs submitted by countries to the UNFCCC, as well as other relevant government policies and strategies, these plans – often referred to as Partnership Plans, NDC Implementation Plans or NDC Implementation Frameworks – comprise priority cross-cutting and sector-specific actions and estimated costs. They serve as frameworks to coordinate, scale up and track the resources mobilised for NDC implementation, and inform programming priorities of partners that support NDC implementation. The Partnership also supports countries to develop Programmatic approaches to resource mobilisation through NDC Investment Planning. Alignment with these Plans and the Request for Support Letters (RSL) can be evidenced by showing a direct connection between the proposed Mitigation Action Facility project and specific components of the plan (i.e., Outcomes, Outputs, priorities, etc.) or the RSL. Some of the Partnership Plans and NDC Implementation Plans supported by the Partnership are hosted in the Online Partnership Plan Tool (OPPT) and can be accessed [here](#). [01. Country Folders](#) also include the plans that are not on the OPPT.

Additionally, information on the Partnership's engagement with member countries can be found on [01. Country Folders](#) and through engagement with NDC Partnership government Focal Points and [In-country Facilitators](#). The contact at the NDC Partnership Support Unit to connect with the NDC Partnership Focal Point and/or Facilitator is David Levy (david.levy@ndcpartnership.org).

CN II-01 How does the channelling of funds work at the Implementation Phase, e.g. in case of two Implementation Organisations? Is it possible to have sub-contractors and forward some portion of funding?

If the project is approved for implementation and has two Implementation Organisations, both organisations will receive their respective shares of funding through the Facility Grant Agent (FGA). Their legal obligations will follow the contract concluded with FGA. The Implementation Organisations will then be able to forward some portions of funding to the Project Partners.

In case a consortium is formed (the Mitigation Action Facility does not set an upper limit to the number of organisations in a consortium but recommends keeping the number as small as possible), the roles of all partners must be well defined, and a lead consortium member should be identified to become the contractual partner for FGA. This partner serves as the funding recipient and can forward funds to other consortium partners.

Good to know: All consortium partners will be subject to an eligibility check before the grant contract is concluded. A formalised consortium is not a prerequisite for two eligible entities to co-operate under one project. Details of the project's institutional set up can be finetuned and revised during the Detailed Preparation Phase (DPP).

CN II-02 If two ministries are equally responsible for the sector that the project targets, could both ministries be indicated as "line ministries"?

In the Project Concept, Applicants are required to indicate a line ministry based on the relevant responsibilities and mandate of the ministry in application to the envisioned project activities. If the Project Concept is selected for the Project Outline Phase, endorsement letters should be provided by the line ministry and the ministry responsible for issues of climate change and environment at the minimum. If there are other ministries and/or governmental agencies whose decisions are essential for the project success, these ministries can be indicated in the Project Concept in section 1.6 (for technical details, see CN II-15). With the submission of a Project Outline, the ministries in charge will have to provide endorsement letters.

CN II-03 Can the Mitigation Action Facility provide funding to a project that have a shorter timeframe than 36 months?

No, in order to be eligible for the funding of the Mitigation Action Facility, projects shall have a duration between 36 and 66 months. For more details on eligibility criteria and project characteristics, refer to chapter 4 of the [General Information Document](#).

CN II-04 At which point in time, should the Implementation Organisation and/or Project Partners be defined? Can these be changed later?

A suitable Implementation Organization shall be nominated within the first three months into the DPP at the latest. Key Project Partners shall be indicated already at the Project Concept Phase (even if tentatively). A firmer commitment and higher level of certainty regarding the envisioned Project Partners is expected in the Project Outline. If the project is selected for DPP and further project elaboration showcases the need in changing Project Partners and/or adding new ones - it can be done upon justification.

CN II-05 What does financial leverage mean?

Financial leverage means funds that would not be invested with the same purpose in the absence of the project in question. Thus, the envisioned financial ambition of a project shall indicate funding leveraged from the public, private sector and/or other donors assuming that the project receives the requested funding support from the Mitigation Action Facility.

2 Selection criteria

Where can we find out more information about the assessment criteria?

Please review Section 5 (Project Selection Process) of the [GID](#).

Since the ambitious enhanced Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) will be an assessment criterion, how exactly will NDCs be assessed?

The assessment of NDCs is anchored with the Ambition criteria. For more information on the assessment of Project Concepts, Outlines and Proposals please review Section 5 (Project Selection Process) of the [GID](#).

Are projects supposed to address the topic of social inclusion to the same extent as gender equality?

Yes, the projects are expected to apply intersectional analytical framework and propose concrete measures to address the issues identified in regard to both social inclusion and gender equality as applicable within the project boundary and considering the specific sector- and country-context. For more, please refer to [GID](#), chapter 4.1.

Does investment from end-users (e.g., households) qualify as leveraged private funding?

Yes, this qualifies as private funding mobilised, if the investment benefitted from the support of the project financed by the Mitigation Action Facility.

What is the expectation of the Mitigation Action Facility with regard to the project alignment with NDC? Is there any specific requirement with regard to NDC submission by a national government?

A project should be explicitly included in the partner country's NDC. This is to affirm the alignment of the project with national priorities, to ensure that the project supports the implementation of the NDC, is aligned with LTS and contributes overall to the UNFCCC process. The Call for Projects 2023 does not feature any eligibility requirements linked to the submission of the first updated or second NDCs by national governments. For more information see [GID](#), chapter 4.1.

To which level of detail are the Applicants expected to address the topic of upscaling potential at the Project Concept Phase?

The Applicants are advised to follow the guiding questions in the [Project Concept template](#). Specifically, the topic of upscaling can be anchored with the description of the financial mechanism (e.g. how the market is supposed to operate sustainably after the end of the project), the TA measures (how the proposed measures can lead to long-term behavioural change of the main target group and / or main beneficiaries) and the project's potential for transformational change (e.g. activities and / or expected and justified spill over effects leading to further replication and upscaling of the project approach).

What are the expectations of the Mitigation Action Facility from the projects with regard to policy support and further technical assistance (TA)?

The key expectation is that the policy support provided by the project as well as TA overall are linked to and enable investments in carbon-neutral technologies as well as facilitate behavioural change among the key stakeholders / the main target group. Specific interventions under the Technical Cooperation (TC) component are sector- and context-specific and should be tailored to address barriers preventing the dissemination of a mitigation technology and 7 or practice in the specific area (sectoral, technological and geographic) of the project implementation.

3 Eligibility of countries

Where can projects be funded?

To apply to the Mitigation Action Facility, projects must be implemented in Official Development Assistance (ODA)-eligible countries. More information about ODA can be found on the [OECD website](#).

Are cross-border and /or regional projects eligible for funding in the Call for Projects 2023?

Projects in the cross-border and regional contexts are eligible.

Please note that if the Project Concept in a cross-border / regional context is selected for the Project Outline Phase, the political commitment, readiness, implementation structure, etc. for all countries involved will be assessed at the Project Outline Phase. Endorsement letters from national ministries of all involved countries will also be required at this stage.

In addition, such cross-border or regional approaches would need to demonstrate a common "raison d'être"; for instance, several small island states of a region could join forces within one project in order to achieve a reasonable project size and scaling effects. However, it would be difficult to make a case

for the common raison d'être simply because an organisation is active in three or four countries across a continent.

Does the Mitigation Action Facility have a preference towards cross-border / regional projects or single country projects?

There is no preference. Both cross-border / regional and single country projects are equally welcome and will be assessed against the same criteria. At the same time, the experience to date has shown that complexity of cross-border / regional projects is rather high which affects the overall feasibility of the project. Feasibility increases when a project focuses on a single rather than several countries at the same time.

Are there any regional and/or geographic priorities in the Call for Projects 2023 of the Mitigation Action Facility?

No, there are no regional and / or geographic preferences as part of the Call for Projects 2023. The Call is open to all ODA-eligible countries.

4 Eligibility of Applicants, Applicant Support Partners (ASP)² and Implementation Organisations

Can a project be developed by a partnership between public and non-public institutions?

Yes. As indicated in the [GID](#) (chapter 3.4) Applicants / Applicant Support Partners (ASPs) can form a partnership to prepare and submit a Project Concept. In this case, profiles, roles and responsibilities of partners must be well-defined and clearly described in the Project Outline at the latest. Since both public and non-public institutions can serve as Applicants and/or ASPs, Project Concepts / Outlines can be submitted jointly by a public and non-public institution.

According to GID, Applicants / ASPs must demonstrate at least 5 years of experience in the respective sector. Does this experience need to have been acquired in the country of implementation?

Projects which are implemented in the relevant sector but in other countries / regions can be referenced. However, sufficient experience in the country of implementation independent from the sector of intervention is another capacity requirement that Applicants / ASPs need to demonstrate at the Project Outline Phase.

What type of organisation can submit a Project Concept?

Project Concepts can be submitted by all types of organisations. In case a Project Concept is selected for the Outline Phase, the Technical Support Unit (TSU) will assist individual Applicants and/or ASPs shall there be a need in identifying additional partners (e.g. to form a partnership in case of insufficient individual capacities or for a national ministry to define an ASP).

² For Glossary, please check the [General Information Document \(GID\)](#), Annex 2 or the [website of the Mitigation action Facility](#)

Can a government agency submit a Project Concept? Would an endorsement by the national ministry/-ies be required in this case?

Yes, a government agency is a legal entity and can therefore serve as an Applicant, Applicant Support Partner and an Implementation Organisation. All legal entities have to fulfil certain capacity and eligibility requirements as further detailed in [GID](#), chapters 3.4, 5.1.1, 5.2.2 and Annex 3. If the Concept is selected for the Project Outline Phase, a legal entity will have to demonstrate sufficient endorsement by the national government institutions relevant for the potential implementation of the project.

Can a non-governmental organisation (NGO) apply?

Yes, a non-governmental organisation is a legal entity and can therefore serve as an Applicant, Applicant Support Partner and an Implementation Organisation. All legal entities have to fulfil certain capacity and eligibility requirements as further detailed in [GID](#), chapters 3.4, 5.1.1, 5.2.2 and Annex 3. If the Concept is selected for the Project Outline Phase, a legal entity will have to demonstrate sufficient endorsement by the national government institutions relevant for the potential implementation of the project.

Would a commercial organisation based in the EU be eligible under the Call for Projects 2023, if their application is for a project to be implemented in an ODA-eligible country?

Yes, a commercial organisation (national or international) is a legal entity and can therefore serve as an Applicant, Applicant Support Partner and an Implementation Organisation. It holds true even if the commercial organisation is located in the EU / other non-ODA country as long as a proposed project is to be implemented in an ODA-eligible country.

All legal entities have to fulfil certain capacity and eligibility requirements as further detailed in [GID](#), chapters 3.4, 5.1.1, 5.2.2 and Annex 3. If the Concept is selected for the Project Outline Phase, a legal entity will have to demonstrate sufficient endorsement by the national government institutions relevant for the potential implementation of the project.

Considering the mandatory public benefit purpose of each project, national and international commercial organisations are encouraged to submit Project Concepts, Outlines and Proposals in a partnership / cooperation with a not-for-profit organisation, e.g. a national NGO, regardless of the possibility to also submit such Project Concepts, Outlines and Proposals on their own. It is also important to keep in mind that any possible funding through the Mitigation Action Facility will be granted following and in accordance with an appropriate legal review, in particular concerning the public-benefit purpose of each project and the non-violation of the EU state-aid law (where it applies).

Can the Applicant Support Partner (ASP) be different to the Implementation Organisation if the project progresses to the Detailed Preparation Phase (DPP)? How is the Implementation Organisation selected when the project proceeds to DPP?

The Project Concept and Outline Phases are open to Applicants and ASPs that do not necessarily need to qualify as Implementation Organisations. If the Applicant / ASP for DPP and the intended Implementation Organisation(s) for the Implementation Phase of the project are different entities, the Implementation Organisation(s) must be identified and confirmed within three months of starting the DPP. Implementation Organisations need to fulfil certain capacity and eligibility criteria as stipulated in [GID](#), chapter 3.4 as well as in chapter 5.2.2 and in Annex 3. The Implementation Organisation(s) must be endorsed by the national government to ensure the successful implementation of a project.

Are past or current Mitigation Action / NAMA Facility grantees eligible to apply for funding again?

Yes, past and current Mitigation Action / NAMA Facility grantees are eligible to apply for funding again. The Call will be run using an open and competitive process. Therefore, there is no guarantee that existing or previous Implementation Organisations will be successful or be allocated new funding. No advantage will be given to existing or previous Implementation Organisations.

Do projects need to have a UK / German Partner?

No, projects do not need to have a UK / German partner. Consortia (partnerships) can be constructed from Applicants / ASPs in any country. However, there is an expectation that either individual Applicants / ASPs or consortia proposed have strong networks and experience in the project implementation country, receive endorsement from the national government and possess necessary expertise in the context of a proposed project. For formal capacity and eligibility requirements to Applicants, ASPs and Implementation Organisations please refer to [GID](#), chapters 3.4, 5.1.1, 5.2.2 and Annex 3.

Can an Applicant submitting a Project Concept also potentially serve as an Implementation Organisation?

Yes, an Applicant can serve as an Implementation Organisation if the Project Concept successfully passes the Project Outline Phase and is selected for a Detailed Preparation Phase (DPP). Please note that an Applicant in this case shall be able to fulfil certain capacity and eligibility criteria applicable to Implementation Organisations (see [GID](#) chapters 3.4, 5.2.2 and Annex 3).

CN II-06 GID defines several capacity requirements that (non-governmental) Applicants, ASPs and Implementation Organisations need to comply with for being eligible to receive funding from the Mitigation Action Facility. How strict is the Facility on the compliance with those requirements, especially the one on implementation experience with a certain number of projects of a similar funding size?

Applicants, ASPs and Implementation Organisations need to meet all of the capacity criteria included in the respective sections of [GID](#) for being eligible to receive Mitigation Action Facility funding (GID, section 3.4, 5.1.1, 5.2.2 and Annex 3).

Please note that the capacity requirements for Implementation Organisations are higher than those for Applicants / Applicant Support Partners. The distinction between the two roles was introduced to extend the possibility of participating in the Calls of the Mitigation Action Facility to entities that have the experience and capacity to design projects without necessarily having the mandate, experience or capacity to implement them.

Good to know: Several legal entities can form a consortium of ASPs or Implementation Organisations to combine their expertise and experience to comply with the capacity criteria and to provide the necessary sector expertise for implementation.

CN II-07 Is there a specific limit on administration (overhead) costs and if not, how will it be assessed whether the costs proposed by the project are reasonable?

If an Applicant / ASP requests administration costs that go beyond a certain percentage, the Facility Grant Agent (FGA) uses its internal guidelines to assess the appropriateness of these costs. This is done on a case-by-case basis. As part of the finalisation of the DPP concept that takes place before the

conclusion of a funding agreement before the start of DPP, amendments to the budget might be necessary and will be negotiated with the Applicant / ASP.

CN II-08 Can a commercial organisation be part of a consortium for a project implementation?

A commercial organisation (national or international) is a legal entity and can therefore serve as an Applicant, Applicant Support Partner and an Implementation Organisation, or equally be part of a consortium. It holds true even if the commercial organisation is located in the EU / other non-ODA country as long as a proposed project is to be implemented in an ODA-eligible country.

For more details, please see chapter 4 of [FAQs from webinars I-II](#).

CN II-09 Can a commercial organisation serve as a sub-contractor?

Yes, if a commercial organisation is a designated Project Partner, it can receive a sub-grant which means that some share of funding provided by the Mitigation Action Facility to the Implementation Organisation will be further forwarded to a commercial organisation as a Project Partner. If the commercial organisation is not a Project Partner and is expected to provide services to an Implementation Organisation, a service contract based on public procurement procedures comparable to those applicable to the Facility Grant Agent, should be signed.

CN II-10 What is the difference between the Applicant and Implementation Organisation and who is doing what during which phase?

The Applicant is the institution submitting a Project Concept and, upon selection, a Project Outline to the Mitigation Action Facility. The Applicant (or ASP) will become the contracting partner for DPP and develop the Project Proposal (jointly with the Implementation Organisation) during DPP. The Implementation Organisation will then submit the Project Proposal to the Mitigation Action Facility.

The Implementation Organisation needs to be identified during the first three months of DPP at the latest. The Implementation Organisation will become the contractual partner for the potential Implementation Phase of the project, and it will be responsible for executing the project.

The distinction between the roles of an Applicant / ASP and an Implementation Organisation was introduced to extend the possibility of participating in the Calls of the Mitigation Action Facility to entities that have the experience and capacity to design projects without necessarily having the mandate, experience or capacity to implement them. If the project is approved for implementation, an entity serving as an Applicant / ASP can become a Project Partner, e.g. if it does not have sufficient capacities yet to serve as an Implementation Organisation itself.

CN II-11 Can entities based in the European Union serve as Project Partners?

Yes, entities based in the EU can be Project Partners. For more details with regard to commercial entities based in the EU, see [FAQ from webinars I-II, chapter 4](#).

5 Eligibility of sectors and technologies

Would an AFOLU or waste project be eligible if it is linked to one of the priority sectors of the Mitigation Action Facility?

As indicated on the [current Call](#) webpage of the Mitigation Action Facility, projects from non-priority sectors that are cross-sectoral and linked to one or more of the priority sectors (energy, transport, industry) are eligible under the Call for Projects 2023.

Would climate adaptation projects be eligible to receive funding from the Mitigation Action Facility or should the projects primarily focus on mitigation?

The focus of projects should be on mitigation, not adaptation. However, in certain situations, adaptation measures could be a relevant co-benefit of the mitigation project and as such be considered a driver for transformational change. Each project will be assessed on its mitigation potential and potential for transformational change. For details on the assessment criteria, see [GID](#) chapters 5.1.3 (Project Concepts) and 5.1.7 (Project Outlines).

Are blue carbon and related projects eligible to apply to the Mitigation Action Facility?

Yes, but please keep in mind that a respective project would need to fit into / be combined with the priority sectors (energy, transport, industry) of the Mitigation Action Facility.

Could you elaborate more on the eligibility of non-priority sectors?

For projects in non-priority sectors (e.g. waste and wastewater treatment; agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU); urban planning; etc.) it will be mandatory to demonstrate a link to one of the priority sectors (energy, industry or transport).

Projects targeting food processing as well as agricultural projects focusing on the entire value chain can be considered in the Call if the interventions also include an energy-related component (EE, self-supply RE, etc.) and/or a further optimisation of resource use and industrial processes that directly lead to emission reductions. Please note that such an intervention must be aligned with and ideally prioritised in NDCs.

CN I-05 Can the Mitigation Action Facility provide funding support to projects where the final investment decision has been made already?

This might be considered if the project can demonstrate additionality and justify the need in the funding support from the Mitigation Action Facility.

Please note, the Mitigation Action Facility strives to support governments and the Project Partners in implementing sector-wide mitigation actions, rather than single investment projects such as one solar PV plant or the refurbishment of a single building. The project must be transformational in nature, including elements of replicability and scalability.

6 Eligible support instruments in projects

CN I-06 Does the Mitigation Action Facility apply any minimum ratio for funding requested for the financial cooperation (FC) and technical cooperation (TC) components?

No, the Mitigation Action Facility does not apply a minimum ratio between the requested funds for financial and technical support to cater for the different needs of support in different countries and sectors. Nevertheless, it is expected that the project can demonstrate that the TC funding provided by

the Mitigation Action Facility leverages funding from other sources for investments into net-zero technologies.

While in the current portfolio of projects, the average TC to FC support ratio is 40:60, in future projects the Mitigation Action Facility aims to increase this ratio in favour of FC support.

CN I-07 Does the Mitigation Action Facility provide technical assistance for the preparation of national mitigation actions like NAMAs, for updates of NDCs and/or for the preparation of Project Concepts?

No, the focus of the Mitigation Action Facility's support is on the implementation of projects. The Mitigation Action Facility does not provide funding for the development of national mitigation actions like NAMAs, for an update of NDCs and/or for the preparation of Project Concepts. Support for the development of these would need to be sought from other sources.

The Mitigation Action Facility will provide tailored expert support in the Outline development to a limited number of promising Project Concepts (out of the 25 selected for the Project Outline Phase) submitted by Applicants that have limited previous experience with the Mitigation Action Facility (i.e. its predecessor, the NAMA Facility). The Facility also provides funding for DPP of selected Project Outlines to elaborate a comprehensive funding Proposal.

CN II-12 Can an organisation apply for the Mitigation Action Facility funding in order to cover organisation's running expenses?

No, the funding provided by the Mitigation Action Facility is project-based, so can only be allocated to specific projects that meet eligibility criteria and project characteristics of the Facility. For more details, refer to chapter 4 of [GID](#).

CN II-13 Can an energy efficiency project have a component that addresses issues up and/or down the value chain?

Projects are expected to cover the range of activities that, based on the project's Theory of Change, will ultimately lead to the achievement of the project Outcome triggering transformational change in the targeted sector. If activities along the value chain are essential to achieving the project Outcome and facilitating the sector-wide transformation towards carbon-neutrality, then these activities can and shall be part of the project. The interconnections and cumulative effect of various project components is to be elaborated in the project rationale.

Please note that it is expected that the project also presents a thorough analysis of other initiatives in the sector to identify synergies and avoid overlapping activities.

CN II-14 Is the Mitigation Action Facility able to cover already incurred project development costs if a project development is in process in order to mitigate investment risks as economic and political circumstances challenge the business case.

Costs can only be covered for activities that occur after a funding agreement with FGA has been concluded.

7 Submission of Project Concepts

Is it possible to access a Project Concept template?

An [example of the Project Concept template](#) has been published on the website of the Mitigation Action Facility. Please note that this document serves as a guidance for Applicants and should be used for information purposes only. The template is not suitable for an actual submission of a Project Concept and may be subject to minor changes.

When will the Open Application Platform (OAP) be available?

The [Open Application Platform \(OAP\)](#) will be open for submissions of Project Concepts from **2 June until 31 July 2023, 3pm CEST**. In order for Applicants to get an understanding of how [OAP](#) will be structured, the Mitigation Action Facility has published an [example of the Project Concept template](#). Please note, the template is not suitable for an actual submission of a Project Concept. The submission of Project Concepts will occur exclusively via an [Open Application Platform \(OAP\)](#).

Are there any restrictions in terms of the number of Project Concepts that can be submitted by one Applicant?

The number of Project Concepts per Applicant is restricted to 10 Project Concepts at maximum. Any concepts submitted in excess of 10 will be treated as ineligible.

The number of Project Concepts that can be submitted by one Applicant (incl. regional structures and / or subsidiaries) is limited to 10. Is this limit cumulative (i.e. will also be applicable in the next Calls of the Mitigation Action Facility) or only valid for the Call for Projects 2023?

The limitation is only applicable to the current Call and not cumulative, i.e. has no impact on the ability of an Applicant to submit new Project Concepts in the next Calls for Projects of the Mitigation Action Facility (as soon as such Calls are announced).

What approach are Applicants advised to use in order to estimate the mitigation potential at the Project Concept Phase? Will the Mitigation Action Facility provide any additional guidance on this topic?

In the Project Concept Phase, Applicants are strongly advised to estimate the mitigation potential based on actual units that will be installed through the financial mechanism during the duration of the project. The [Mitigation Guideline for the Project Concept Phase](#) is available online and specifically catered to the Project Concept Phase but also takes into account the necessary level of consistency and continuity to enable selected Project Concepts to further elaborate their calculations at the Project Outline and upon selection Project Proposal Phases.

The Project Concept looks very similar to the Project Outline as it has been used in the previous Calls of the Mitigation Action Facility. Could you please explain in more detail, how the Concept is different from the Outline?

The [Project Concept](#) features the same logic as the Project Outline but offers a much slimmer structure, particularly in sections referring to embedding into national policies as well as financial and mitigation ambition. A lower level of detail is also required with regard to topics such as business model, financial mechanism, target groups and technical assistance. At the same time, the Project Concept is designed

in a way that would enable further elaboration of the idea if the project is selected for the Outline Phase. Contrary to the Outline, no Annexes need to be submitted along the Project Concept.

With regard to an Open Application Platform (OAP), is it possible to work on the Project Concept repeatedly saving progress before the submission?

Yes, [OAP](#) foresees the saving function so that Applicants will be able to work on the Project Concepts continuously, saving progress, logging in and out, and amending / filling out the template at their own pace before the final submission. Please note that after the submission, it will not be possible to make any changes in the Project Concept.

In OAP, would it be possible to share an account (e.g. between a few staff members of an organisation) or to create a single account with multiple users?

No, such function is not foreseen in [OAP](#). Staff members of an organisation can share access details at their own risk and discretion, but it is not recommended since, if multiple staff members work simultaneously on a Project Concept, conflicts during saving will occur. It is advisable that only one person enters information on a Project Concept in [OAP](#).

CN I-08 Is it possible to add a supplementary document when submitting a Project Concept?

No, it is not required and therefore not possible. All Project Concept submissions must be made via an [Open Application Platform \(OAP\)](#). [OAP](#) does not foresee a function of adding supplementary documents since these are not required (and will not be taken into consideration) at the Project Concept Phase.

CN II-15 In case of a cross-border project, how can we add the line and/or environment and climate change ministries from all participating countries to the relevant section in OAP? Also, in case there are two line ministries for a single-country project, how to reflect it in the OAP submission? It seems that section 1.4 only foresees two entries.

In case of cross-border / regional projects, or in case of two ministries sharing responsibility for the sector the project targets, Applicants are expected to add one line ministry and one ministry responsible for issues of climate change and environment to the respective section 1.4 in OAP. Section 1.6 can be used for indicating additional ministries.

Please note that a maximum of five institutions / organisations can be added in section 1.6.

CN II-16 Can a Project Concept be submitted in other language than English (e.g. French or Spanish)?

No, all Project Concepts must be submitted in English. For more information, refer to the chapter 5 of the [General Information Document](#).

CN II-17 Does the limit of 10 Project Concepts per organisation only applies when an organisation serves as an Applicant?

Yes, it is correct. If an organisation submits 10 Project Concepts as an Applicant and also serves as, e.g. a Project Partner in a number of other Project Concepts submitted by other Applicants, these Project Concepts will be considered outside the organisation's allocated cap.

8 Detailed Preparation Phase

CN II-18 The Mitigation Action Facility can cover the cost of the Detailed Preparation Phase (DPP). Should Applicants indicate the envisioned DPP cost in the Project Concept? What were the average funding levels for DPPs in previous Calls?

Applicants will be required to provide the DPP budget and DPP concept upon selection for the Project Outline Phase. In the Project Concept, there is no need to include the envisioned DPP costs.

Please note that there is no budget limit for DPP. Nevertheless, it should be kept in mind that large budgets requested for the detailed preparation could be an indicator that the project is actually not ready for implementation. The appropriateness of the requested funding will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. As part of the finalisation of the DPP concept before a funding agreement is concluded, amendments to the budget might be necessary and will be negotiated with the Applicant or Applicant Support Partner. The budget as part of the DPP concept is subject to approval by the Board. During the DPP itself, increases to budgets are not foreseen.

The average funding support requested by projects in previous Calls for their DPP was approximately EUR 250,000. Please note that the requested funding volume and timeframe for the DPP is an indication of the project's level of readiness.

Last but not least...

Couldn't find an answer to your question?

In line with our clarification policy for the Call for Projects 2023, please submit your question in writing to contact@mitigation-action.org.

We will publish the clarification on the Mitigation Action Facility's website as part of the Clarification Note publication on the [Current Call webpage](#) and respond to your query directly.

The next and last Clarification Note will be published on 26 July 2023 – be sure to submit your question to the Mitigation Action Facility by 19 July, 23:59 CEST to ensure that your clarification is included.