

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Innovation Call for Proposals 2020

#### Stronger Partnerships: Local Innovations for New Climate Realities in Cities

##### Scope:

**1. How is “climate adaptation” defined in this Call for Proposals?**

In this Call, we use the definition from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), where adaptation is understood as the “adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities”.

**2. Can the proposal be for the funding of a project that was already implemented, or does it need to be for a new project yet to be implemented?**

The call is intended to support new activities and cannot be used for retroactive funding. The proposal can, however, build upon projects already implemented in the past with the intention, for instance, to scale up the intervention or create new components.

**3. The innovation in question, must it be climate adaptation related?**

Yes, this Call for Proposals aims to advance affordable, accessible and innovative climate adaptation concepts, products and processes at the community level.

**4. Can we apply for a grant to guarantee the purchase and restoration of a building?**

Grants provided by the Cities Alliance cannot be used to guarantee the purchase and restoration of a building. Please check the Call Guidelines for more information on Types of Eligible Expenditures:

<https://citiesalliance.org/how-we-work/our-programmes/innovation-programme/new-climate-realities-cities>

##### Target Organisations:

**5. Are start-ups or other firms eligible to apply? What about local offices of international organizations, are they eligible?**

We do not fund for-profit organizations, individuals nor the local offices or affiliates of international organisations.

**6. Is the innovation call for proposals open to University-based innovation labs?**

Public universities are eligible for this call for proposals. However, please note that this Call does not fund projects focused primarily on conducting research studies. We will prioritise organisations that are rooted in their community and operate with community input, involvement, and investment, embracing the community as an integral part of their success. We also prioritise small organisations that do not have access to large government,

corporate or private funding sources, and for whom a small grant from Cities Alliance could make a significant impact.

**7. Our organization has got its certificate of registration in January 2020. Can we apply given that the organisation is less than 6 months as stated in the call?**

Organisations must be legally registered for at least six months and must have (or should be able to quickly open in case of selection) a bank account in the name of the organisation. The registration date should be on or before 01 October 2019.

**Geographic Scope:**

**8. What are the countries falling under the geographic scope of this Call for Proposals?**

The Call for Proposals is restricted to projects being implemented in cities located in Bangladesh, Burundi, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Myanmar, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan or Uganda.

**Application Process:**

**9. Is there a document that details the elements required to include in the proposal?**

All elements and required information to be included in the proposal is described in the Call guidelines and application form, which can be retrieved at:

<https://citiesalliance.org/how-we-work/our-programmes/innovation-programme/new-climate-realities-cities>

**10. Can a proposal be submitted in a language other than English?**

No, all proposals must be submitted in English. All further communications with applicants and with the projects selected for funding will also be conducted in English.

**11. The call for proposal referred to a few types of climate adaptation actions (i.e. creation of climate-resilient livelihoods, climate disaster risk reduction, enhancement of adaptive capacity, and addressing poverty, vulnerability, and their structural causes). Are these the only themes you are interested in or any line of action that can enhance climate adaptation at the community level is acceptable?**

The references in the Call for Proposals are examples. We are looking for innovative proposals that demonstrate new climate adaptation approaches built upon Public Community Partnerships and with the potential to catalyse transformational change in cities.

**12. Can an organisation submit more than one application, each for a different country or proposing a different project?**

Yes, an organisation can submit more than one proposal.

**13. Can the proposal be submitted by e-mail?**

No, all proposals and supporting documentation must be submitted through our online form <https://tinyurl.com/InnovationCfP20>. If you're experiencing difficulties with the online form, please contact us at: [innovation@citiesalliance.org](mailto:innovation@citiesalliance.org)

**14. My organisation is new and has not yet received its certificate of registration, can we still apply?**

No, organisations must be legally registered for at least six months and a valid certificate of registration must be provided at the time of application. The registration date should be on or before 01 October 2019.

**Project Budget:**

**15. Can the funds be used to buy equipment?**

Yes, equipment and other small fixed assets that are considered critical for the successful implementation of the project being proposed can be purchased. However, please note that costs in this category are limited to 5% of the total grant amount. More detailed information on the types of eligible expenditures is described in the Call guidelines and application form, which can be retrieved at:

<https://citiesalliance.org/how-we-work/our-programmes/innovation-programme/new-climate-realities-cities>

**Legal Agreement:**

**16. If selected, which organisation will the grant recipient enter in agreement with?**

The organisations responsible for implementing the projects selected for funding and receiving the grant from Cities Alliance will sign a grant agreement with Cities Alliance-UNOPS.