



# Livelihoods and Food Security Fund



CfP/LIFT/2019/1/Urban

Questions arising from LIFT’s Call for Proposals: Reducing the vulnerabilities of internal migrants to labour exploitation and poor health and nutritional outcomes in the peri-urban areas of Yangon

The deadline for written questions was extended to 11 March (from 4 March) 2019. Answers are compiled and will be published on 8 March and 15 March 2019.

1	<p><b>Q1:</b> Is any limitation to the participation of UN System organizations? We represent the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization and, as part of our mission, support the ILO’s Decent Work agenda through training and other capacity building actions.</p>
	<p><b>A1:</b> There is no limitation to participation of UN system organisations. From the LIFT operational guidelines “Eligible implementing partners include the Government of Myanmar, international and national non-governmental organisations, United Nations agencies, other international organisations, academic or research institutions and private sector companies.” <a href="http://www.lift-fund.org/guidelines">http://www.lift-fund.org/guidelines</a></p>
2	<p><b>Q2:</b> Can you please specify if there is a minimum – maximum amount of grant per component?</p>
	<p><b>A2:</b> There is no minimum or maximum grant per component. The overall budget for the call for proposals is USD 9 million and indicative allocations by component are provided on page 9.</p>
3	<p><b>Q3:</b> Is co-funding also requested?</p>
	<p><b>A3:</b> Co-funding is <u>not</u> requested.</p>
4	<p><b>Q4:</b> Are international organizations with relevant expertise eligible as lead applicant or co-applicant in a consortium?</p>
	<p><b>A4:</b> International organisations are eligible both as lead or co-applicants.</p>
5	<p><b>Q5:</b> Our organisation is considering submitting a project proposal in relation to CfP/LIFT/2019/1/Urban, which we believe would provide an intervention under ‘<i>Component 2: Increased opportunities for decent work</i>’.</p> <p>In brief, our proposal would entail the initial provision of a series of workshops and training</p>

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	<p>inputs with relevant stakeholders (workers, management, owners etc.) on key thematic topics that serve to prevent labour exploitation. These would include, but not solely; human rights, workers rights, gender-based discrimination, equal pay, prevention of sexual harassment, prevention of exploitative practices, policy and procedural development.</p> <p>The second phase would involve round-table discussions with management, owners, labour organizations and other key stakeholders to inform the development of agreed best practices, followed by training delivery to on-site assessors.</p> <p>In principle, would a proposal of this nature be considered for the programme?</p>
	<p><b>A5:</b> As stated in the call for proposals, interventions which support inclusive social dialogue are considered relevant.</p>
	<p><b>Q 6:</b> Are research proposal (e.g. RCT) welcome?</p>
	<p><b>A 6:</b> Yes. Research proposals relating to the three components would be welcome.</p>
	<p><b>Q 7:</b> Are proposal for technical services related to formative research, design, targeting and monitoring specific to urban settings welcome?</p>
	<p><b>A 7:</b> Yes, if there is a clear linkage with the interventions listed in the call for proposals.</p>
	<p><b>Q 8:</b> The guidelines state on p.9:</p> <p>“20% of the programme funds have been ring-fenced for support to civil society and labour organizations. A minimum grant size of USD 150,000 will apply to these funds.”</p> <p>Is our understanding correct that a minimum of 300,000 USD have to be allocated to civil society and labour organizations?</p>
	<p><b>A 8:</b> No. 20% of the USD 9 million budget for the call will be allocated to projects implemented by civil society and labour organisations. The per-grant minimum amount for these funds is USD 150,000.</p>
	<p><b>Q 9:</b> Is our understanding correct that at least either one grant of 300,000 USD or more or two grants (or more) of 150,000 USD or more need to be allocated?</p>
	<p><b>A 9:</b> No. 20% of the USD 9 million budget for the call will be allocated to projects implemented by civil society and labour organisations. The number of grants this will represent has yet to be determined.</p>
	<p><b>Q 10:</b> If the above is correct and fulfilled, is it possible to award additional smaller grants (below 150,000 USD) to other civil society and labour organizations?</p>

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	<b>A 10:</b> Civil society and labour organisations seeking grants of less than USD 150,000 should partner in a consortium with other organisations or join a bid as a sub-grantee.
	here are three townships mentioned in section 2.3, with the instructions “The proposed action should focus on one or two townships within the peri-urban areas of Yangon, selected from among Hlaing Thayar, Shwe Pyi Thar and Dagon Myo Thit”. We currently operate in townships of Yangon with high prevalence of migrants and sex workers, in line with background section 2.1, but not the three townships mentioned. Will proposals targeting other, neighboring , townships with similar or identical issues, be considered? For example south of Hlaing Thayar are nearby Dala, Seikgyi and Twantay, and south-east of Dagon Myo Thit are Thanliyin and Thongwa.
	<b>A 11:</b> The target areas for the proposed interventions should be within Hlaing Thayar, Shwe Pyi Thar and Dagon Myo Thit townships as the intent is for the programme to have a concentrated impact.
	<b>Q 12:</b> There are 3 components and each has an allocation (2,4 &3 respectively) on this;  We wish to know is there any sealing for each component for single proposals or we can still plan for the total allocation?.
	<b>A 12:</b> There is no ceiling for each component for single proposals.
	<b>Q 13:</b> Can we design the project integrating multiple components?
	<b>A 13:</b> Yes. As stated in the call, “Proposals can include interventions for one or more of the components but must present a cohesive approach that creates synergies between the interventions.
	<b>Q 14:</b> If yes can we combine the funding and submit a single proposal combined or we need to submit separate proposals ?.
	<b>A 14:</b> A single proposal should be submitted combining multiple components.
	<b>Q 15:</b> Any idea for budget sealing for such proposals?
	<b>A 15:</b> The overall budget for the call for proposals is USD 9 million and indicative allocations by component are provided on page 9.
	<b>Q 16:</b> How many applications can you submit as lead?
	<b>A 16:</b> Any organisation can submit only one application as lead agency, but can be co-applicant for another proposal with a different lead agency.

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	<b>Q 17:</b> How many applications can you submit as a partner of a consortium?
	<b>A 17:</b> See question 16 above.
	<b>Q 18:</b> The CfP explicitly mentions internal migrants as the key target groups for the programme: Is this focus only on migrants from rural to urban areas or would it also include migrants from urban to urban areas?
	<b>A 18:</b> Urban-to-urban migrants can be included as a target group.
	<b>Q 19:</b> The 3 townships targeted by the programme encompass large numbers of people who migrate from other parts (Townships) of Yangon city for various reasons (economic, documentation problems, evictions etc.) and who face similar vulnerabilities than migrants from rural areas: would these people also be eligible for the project support?
	<b>A 19:</b> Yes. Migrants from other townships within Yangon are also eligible for support under the programme.
	<b>Q 20:</b> The 3 townships targeted by the Programme gather individuals who have migrated at different times: is there a time-limit set by LIFT to define who is a migrant and who is not?
	<b>A 20:</b> There is no specific time-limit in defining who is considered a migrant.
	<b>Q 21:</b> How is also LIFT taking into account the fact that people who may have been in these townships for some time already can still be at risk of migration and labour exploitation because of economic shocks, or issues with documentations amongst other push and pull factors?
	<b>A 21:</b> See question 20 above.
	<b>Q 22:</b> Page 7, component 2: “vocational and soft skills training upon arrival for migrant women and men”: is it possible to define what period of time “upon arrival” would refer to? Would LIFT also consider including other individuals who may have been in these areas for longer periods and who are at risk of labour exploitation and/or exposed to unsafe environment and undernutrition?
	<b>A 22:</b> See question 20 above.

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	<p><b>Q 23:</b> Proposed Interventions under component 2 include skills development but does not reference support for business development. Would LIFT consider individual or HH support eligible (e.g. productive grants) so as to also promote business development, self-employment or to potentially support targeted individuals in covering costs associated with employment (job seeking costs e.g.)?</p>
	<p><b>A 23:</b> No. Enterprise development activities will not be supported under component two of the programme.</p>
	<p><b>Q 24:</b> Page 7, component 3: “Nutrition sensitive market analysis to identify and support (...) business opportunities (...)” would this support include costs associated with the set-up of the business (e.g. transfer of capital to purchase inputs and equipment required for a food processing activity)?</p>
	<p><b>A 24:</b> No. LIFT encourages proposals that facilitate access to existing financing through formal financial institutions rather than providing capital for business start-up.</p>
	<p><b>Q 25:</b> Page 8, component 3: “Promoting livelihood opportunities (...)” same question as above: would that also include costs such as productive transfers?</p>
	<p><b>A 25:</b> This is dependent on the rationale given for the intervention; however, LIFT strongly encourages proposals that facilitate access to existing sources of financing from formal financial institutions rather than providing support for productive transfers directly.</p>
	<p><b>Q 26:</b> Page 8, Data collection: “Proposals must demonstrate a firm commitment to disaggregated data collection particularly by sex, age, and poverty status (...)”. Can LIFT explicit what tools are expected to be used, in particular if this is expected to be done through Proxy Means Testing (e.g Myanmar poverty scorecard)?</p>
	<p><b>A 26:</b> The requirements for LIFT’s Monitoring and Evaluation for Accountability and Learning (MEAL) framework can be found here: <a href="https://www.lift-fund.org/monitoring-and-evaluation-learning-and-accountability-meal-framework-january-2016">https://www.lift-fund.org/monitoring-and-evaluation-learning-and-accountability-meal-framework-january-2016</a></p>
	<p><b>Q 27:</b> Would that also mean that the project is expected to target individuals based on poverty status - using such tools (e.g. poverty scorecard)? There is increasing global evidence that such targeting approaches lead to inaccurate identification of individual poverty status and lead to exclusion and inclusion issues. In addition, if the Myanmar poverty scorecard is expected to be</p>

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	<p>used, it is debatable that it is relevant to the context of the project since:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is administered at household level, which would then exclude the possibility to target individuals (e.g. a person who has migrated to Yangon and lives in a hostel)</li> <li>○ The scorecard performs better in rural settings than urban settings.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>A 27:</b> No. There is no implication that targeting must be based upon poverty status. However, the data collected on beneficiaries must be disaggregated by poverty status for monitoring of results. The specific methodologies to be applied for this purpose will be discussed with successful bidders during their inception phases.</p>
	<p><b>Q 28:</b> Can LIFT share further guidance on how to calculate costs for the gender budgeting mentioned in Annex 3, in order to facilitate reporting at a later stage?</p>
	<p><b>A 28:</b> At least 20% of the budget expenditure for programme activities should contribute to gender equality and women’s empowerment. These specific programme activity expenditures would constitute the numerator, while the total programme activity expenditures would be the denominator. Gender-specific or mainstreamed activities can be counted as part of the gender budget. More specific guidance will be provided to successful bidders during their inception phases.</p>
	<p><b>Q 29:</b> Please confirm if Evaluation Questions are required within the proposal.</p>
	<p><b>A 29:</b> Yes, evaluation questions are required.</p>
	<p><b>Q 30:</b> Page 9 – “*20% of the programme funds have been ring-fenced for support to civil society and labour organizations. A minimum grant-size of USD 150,000 will apply to these funds”. Please clarify further and confirm if this allocation is intended as a separate allocation or should be a minimum allocation within all proposals.</p>
	<p><b>A 30:</b> There is no required amount of funding for civil society and labour organisations per proposal. The 20% of funding for civil society and labour organisations applies to the overall programme. However, as stated in the call for proposals, “LIFT strongly encourages proposals from and/or implemented in partnership with civil society and labour organisations.”</p>
	<p><b>Q 31:</b> Child labour is not a major focus within the call for proposals (only mentioned once under the research on working conditions in Component 2) and children are not mentioned as a target</p>



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	group, except in relation to nutrition. Does LIFT see opportunities for a wider set of interventions focusing on child labour (and child protection) being included in the programme approach under component 1 and component 2?
	<b>A 31:</b> Interventions to address child labour can be included within the proposals as part of a wider set of interventions if a clear rationale is provided to justify them.
	<b>Q 32:</b> Could children (especially adolescents) be considered as a target group?
	<b>A 32:</b> Yes, if a clear rationale for targeting them is provided within the proposal.
	<b>Q 33:</b> Would apprenticeships be considered within training components?
	<b>A 33:</b> Yes.
	<b>Q 34:</b> Can you please provide a definition of an 'internal migrant'?
	<b>A 34:</b> Following the definition used in Myanmar's population census in 2014, an internal migrant is a person who has changed her or his usual place of residence from one township to another.
	<b>Q 35:</b> How do we quantify and qualify the above in our M&E? Is the average of 60% internal migrants used?
	<b>A 35:</b> Efforts should be made to correctly identify the target group for interventions. No average amount is applicable.
	<b>Q 36:</b> What do you mean by 'engagement with health services and to improve access to nutrition and health services'? Does this mean rendering services or referring to services?
	<b>A 36:</b> The intention is to support improved access to those existing services through referral, improved information, outreach or other means.
	<b>Q 37:</b> Can you provide a definition of 'vulnerabilities'?
	<b>A 37:</b> For this call for proposals, it refers to the state of being exposed to the possibility of labour exploitation or poor health and nutritional outcomes.
	<b>Q 38:</b> In the recently shared nutrition strategy, we noticed that you also plan to focus on

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	adolescent nutrition. Do you plan to support adolescent nutrition, which is beyond the first 1,000 day focus, under this window of opportunity?
	<b>A 38:</b> Yes
	<b>Q 39:</b> Are small and medium sized enterprises (SME) eligible to apply for this LIFT call?
	<b>A 39:</b> See question 1.
	<b>Q 40:</b> If an SME applies for the call, however does NOT have non-profit registration status (for development efforts), does LIFT require any supporting documents? If so, what specific documentation does LIFT require?
	<b>A 40:</b> See question 1.
	<b>Q 41:</b> What is LIFT's experience of funded SMEs being levied commercial tax for project funds? Under Myanmar law, foreign and Myanmar companies are levied a 5% commercial tax for sale of goods and services. We are concerned that LIFT funds directed to an SME would be treated as income by the taxation department. Advice from an accountant is that a letter from a donor stipulating the amount and purpose of the funds would help support an SME request that no commercial tax be applied for such funds, given their purpose and a donor's tax-free status.
	<b>A 41:</b> LIFT has and continues to fund SMEs and other private sector organisations. Organisations typically use the Grant Support Agreement signed between UNOPS and the organisation for this purpose. If needed, LIFT/UNOPS can provide a letter to the IP confirming the purpose and use of funds, however, it will be the IP's responsibility to ensure tax exemption is received. Funds from LIFT cannot be used to fund commercial taxes.
	<b>Q 42:</b> Will 20% of programme funds from EACH of the 3 components be ring-fenced for civil society & labour organizations? Or is 20% of the overall \$9,000,000 ring-fenced?
	<b>A 42:</b> 20% of the total budget of USD 9 million is ring-fenced for support to civil society and labour organisations.
	<b>Q 43:</b> Has LIFT published its refreshed 2019-2023 Strategy? If so, where can this be found?
	<b>A 43:</b> No, but it will be published shortly on the LIFT website.
	<b>Q 44:</b> Page 8 of the guidelines – "Identified partners should have already built trusted relationships with relevant local stakeholders..." Shall we assume that existing MoU with YCDC or any line ministry/department covering the targeted townships will be a necessary precondition

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	for the award?
	<b>A 44:</b> An MoU is not a precondition for award. Applicants should present how they have trusted relationships with relevant local stakeholders.
	<b>Q 45:</b> Is it permissible for the proposed project to contain a contingency reserve/mechanism to address the possible negative impact on the Myanmar garment factory workers by removing duty-free, quota-free access to the EU market through the Everything But Arms (EBA) scheme which is currently considered by the European Commission?
	<b>A 45:</b> Yes. It is permissible to include a contingency or reserve mechanism if relevant for the proposed interventions. The contingency may be added as a budget line within the project budget.
	<b>Q 46:</b> Page 6, Section 2.2, states the following: “Proposals can include interventions for one or more of the components but must present a cohesive approach that creates synergies between the interventions.”  Please clarify if the interventions are the bulleted activities under each of the components?
	<b>A 46:</b> Yes. The bullet points under each programme component are the interventions.
	<b>Q 47:</b> Please clarify if proposals should address <u>all</u> interventions outlined for each component, or if they are expected to address at least one?
	<b>A 47:</b> Proposals should address one or more of the interventions outlined. It is not required that they include all of the interventions listed.
	<b>Q 48:</b> Can bidders propose an alternative intervention relative to a particular component?
	<b>A 48:</b> Yes, but a clear rationale for the alternative intervention must be provided.
	<b>Q 49:</b> Does the “cohesive approach” mean that the synergies are expected to be between all the interventions in the same component or across each of the 3 components?
	<b>A 49:</b> It specifically refers to synergies between activities under different components of the programme. However, consideration of synergies between activities within each component is strongly encouraged.
	<b>Q 50:</b> Page 8, Section 2.8 (target groups), state the following (below). Other than the informal sector workers, are the targeted groups expected to be individuals who are already working in factories and that are based in Yangon. Or individuals who are currently not working in these factories, but in the labour market to work in these areas?

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	<p><i>“The proposed action should focus on one or two townships within the peri-urban areas of Yangon, selected from among Hlaing Thayar, Shwe Pyi Thar and Dagon Myo Thit. Proposals are particularly encouraged that target women, ethnic minorities, LGBTQI, informal sector workers, people with disabilities and other groups facing discrimination within the labour market.”</i></p>
	<p><b>A 50:</b> The programme target groups are not limited to those who are already employed in factories in Hlaing Thayar, Shwe Pyi Thar and Dagon Myo Thit. Other vulnerable groups can also be targeted.</p>
	<p><b>Q 51:</b> Will LIFT make just one award for each of the 3 components; or, could there be multiple awards for each component?</p>
	<p><b>A 51:</b> Single or multiple contracts could be awarded for each of the 3 components. This has yet to be determined.</p>
	<p><b>Q 52:</b> Page 8, Section 5—Funding Allocation: Is the funding allocation indicated the <u>total</u> amount for each respective component—regardless of the number of awards that are ultimately issued under that component?</p>
	<p><b>A 52:</b> As stated in the call for proposals, the allocations detailed are indicative amounts by component. They may change during the formation of the programme.</p>
	<p><b>Q 53:</b> Eligibility: are for-profit international companies eligible to submit a proposal?</p>
	<p><b>A 53:</b> See question 1.</p>
	<p><b>Q 54:</b> Is the ILO eligible to submit a proposal for this solicitation?</p>
	<p><b>A 54:</b> See question 1.</p>
	<p><b>Q 55:</b> What industries are more important for LIFT—for example, manufacturing or agriculture?</p>
	<p><b>A 55:</b> No specific sectors have been identified as being more important to the programme.</p>