



## Request for Qualifications: Impact evaluations of agriculture and health sector programs in the Philippines

Date posted: 22 September 2021

### Question and answers document

Questions received before the 17 September 2021 deadline have been edited to anonymize the information shared with 3ie. Responses to similar questions have been combined under these themes:

- [Eligible applicants](#)
- [Proposal application requirements](#)
- [Proposal submission requirements](#)
- [Other questions](#)

### *Eligible applicants*

#### 1. Are international research organizations based in the Philippines eligible to apply?

Yes, international research organizations based in the Philippines are eligible to apply.

### *Proposal application requirements*

#### 2. When applying as a "Consortia of registered organizations" under Modality 2, will each organization member of the consortium be required to apply for the qualification individually, or one application for the "consortium of organizations" is enough? Are there any conditions?

Organizations applying as part of the consortium need not apply individually. Among the consortia members, one organization would need to be the grant-holding institution. This organization should fulfil the conditions laid out in the RFQ, both in terms of eligibility and grant signing process that will follow in case shortlisted for grant award.

#### 3. Can an individual researcher apply for Modality 1 and also be part of an organization that has applied for Modality 2?

Yes, an individual researcher applying for Modality 1 can also be a proposed team member in organizations applying as part of Modality 2. In case both are selected for award, the individual researcher in consultation with 3ie will assess the feasibility of participating on

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both studies and may be requested by 3ie to withdraw from any one if the time commitment across the two studies seems unrealistic.

- 4. We are applying as an organization (Modality 2). When completing Part A of the qualification application form, is it correct to assume that Part A does not need to be filled out separately for each team member?**

Yes, organizational responses (Modality 2) to Part A do not need to be filled out for each team member separately. Instead, the responses should summarize the relevant experience of the proposed team to highlight how they meet the requirements outlined in the request for qualifications document.

- 5. For Modality 2 (organizations), do we need to submit the complete research team with lead and/or list of principal investigators?**

Yes, applicant organizations should propose the full team of principal investigators, co-principal investigators, and research managers.

- 6. For Modality 2 (organizations), do we need to submit sample publications of all the proposed principal investigators, and co-principal investigators?**

Yes, sample publications of all the proposed principal investigators, and co-principal investigators need to be submitted with the application.

- 7. When applying for Modality 2 (organizations) and if selected, would the organization be responsible to carry out one impact evaluation or all three of them?**

Applicant organizations will be considered for one impact evaluation under each sector. In case the applicant is interested in responding to RFQ for both health and agriculture sector, two separate applications should be submitted.

- 8. Will the selected organizations develop a rigorous evaluation design and budget for the evaluation of the assigned program?**

Yes, based on the application review, 3ie will make an assessment about which shortlisted teams are best equipped technically to develop an impact evaluation proposal for what programs within their identified sector of expertise. Please note that the program list is still tentative. However, in case the applicant has a preference for evaluating any one of the programs listed in the RFQ, they may specify that.

- 9. The grant size for each of the evaluations is USD 100- 500K and actual size will depend on the scope of the evaluation and the data collection activities expected to be undertaken. Is this correct?**

Yes, it is estimated that each impact evaluation supported under the evidence program is likely to cost anywhere in the range of USD 100,000-500,000, depending upon the evaluation scope and data collection to be undertaken.

## ***Proposal submission requirements***

### **10. Are applicants expected to provide data collection costs/survey costs?**

No, the RFQ is only soliciting budgets for proposal preparation grants up to USD 10,000.

### **11. When preparing our indicative budgets, which of the following approaches should we take: a) Create four separate budgets for each of the four programs? b) Choose three programs and create separate budgets for each? c) Choose three programs and create one budget that covers all three?**

The list of programs is only indicative, so the application should respond to the sectors rather than the programs mentioned. If applying for evaluations in both sectors, that is agriculture and health, please submit two separate applications and a budget accompanying each application that is not tied to an individual program. You may, however, state your program of preference for evaluation.

### **12. For the qualifications stage, are we already expected to submit budget proposal, as indicated in Section 8 of the RFQ? Is this expected in the first step of the application or only following a potential selection to submit a full proposal.**

Yes, a budget with a ceiling of up to USD 10,000 needs to be provided with the application. The budget for full impact evaluation will only be requested of selected teams once they have developed the impact evaluation proposal in consultation with the relevant government department.

### **13. Are due diligence documents to be provided with the application?**

No, due diligence documents are not part of the application pack. We will request them only from those organizations who are selected. However, all applicant organizations should self-assess their ability to fulfil these requirements (if selected) and only then apply for the grants.

### **14. In the budget template, do individual researchers have to fill the consultancy and the travel details?**

No, Individual researchers are required to only enter the consultancy details.

## ***Other questions***

### **15. The four topics/areas listed for impact evaluation are only indicative. The final topics/areas will revolve around these and the final selection will happen later. Is this correct?**

The current call is based on the priorities identified by the Philippines government. 3ie, however, cannot guarantee that the government's priorities will not change or evolve over

time, especially in the light of COVID-19. In case the government identifies a new sector, a new RFQ will be announced.

**16. The proposed programs are complex. How will priority components for evaluation be identified?**

The research team will be required to work in close collaboration with the departments of health and agriculture to identify the priority research questions and accordingly define the scope and methodology for the evaluation.

**17. What is the scope to influence program implementation and roll-out?**

Any flexibility in program implementation and roll-out and the associated timelines will need to be explored with the departments of health and agriculture. The government's contextual and operational constraints will determine their ability and willingness to accommodate these requests, where possible.

**18. Will the study area (geography) be the same or different for the different impact evaluations? Can it cover more than one region/ province or be nationally representative?**

The geographies for each of the evaluations are not linked and will be determined by the implementation plans drawn up for the programs by the respective departments.

**19. Will the organizations/evaluation teams have any role in determining the programs/interventions to be evaluated?**

No. the programs and interventions to be evaluated as part of 3ie's evidence program will be identified by the Philippines government in line with its policy priorities.

**20. Can we add new team members to the proposed core team at the full impact evaluation stage?**

Yes, new team members may be added to the team at the full impact evaluation stage. However, the minimum team composition requirements, as set out in the RFQ, should be provided in the application being submitted in response to the RFQ. Any substantive changes to the team composition at the full impact evaluation stage may not be acceptable, especially since the RFQ applications will be scored on team composition provided in the first stage.

**21. What are the usual daily rates charged by 3ie's principal investigators?**

The consultation fees vary based on principal investigators' experience and rates charged by them on similar assignments.