# CCAC Food & Nutrition Challenge 2025 FAQ

| Question | Answer |
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| **GENERAL APPLICATION** ||
| *Can proposed projects be integrated with the implementation or scale-up of existing initiatives?* | Yes, the proposed project can be integrated with existing initiatives or support the scaling up of ongoing projects, as long as it aligns with the objectives and priorities outlined in the call. CCAC funding should have a clear value add/additionality to ongoing activities with impact aligned with the scope of the Food & Nutrition Challenge. |
| *Is prior engagement with the CCAC a requirement for organizations to be considered strong candidates?* | No, prior experience working with the CCAC is not a requirement and does not give an organisation a stronger chance of being selected. All proposals are evaluated based on the quality of the submission, relevance to the objectives, and the capacity of the organisation to deliver. We welcome applications from both new and existing partners. You are asked to explain your existing engagement with the CCAC in the concept note. |

CLIMATE &
CLEAN AIR
COALITION
TO REDUCE SHORT-LIVED
CLIMATE POLLUTANTS

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| *Is there a limit to the number of concept notes an organization can submit as Lead Applicant?* | No, there is no maximum number of concept notes an organisation can submit as a Lead Applicant. Each submission will be evaluated independently based on the content of the proposals. We kindly request that organisations ensure there is internal coordination on the submission of proposals to avoid duplication. |
| *The Call encourages addressing at least two out of the five focus areas. Is there a recommended upper limit, or are proposals covering all five areas equally welcome?* | Proposals must cover at least two of the five focus areas. We're especially looking for proposals that are collaborative, cross-sectoral, and innovative. More than two can be covered as long as the approach is coherent and impactful. Proposals covering more than 2 focus areas will not be inherently prioritized over others. |
| *For proposals addressing three focus areas, is equal emphasis required across all, or can one area be the primary focus?* | While proposals must address at least two focus areas, it is not required that each receives equal emphasis. One focus areas can be primarily addressed as long as at least one other is meaningfully integrated, and the overall approach remains coherent and aligned with the objectives of the call. |
| *Does the CCAC recommend using a specific logical framework or Theory of Change (ToC) throughout the project design?* | There is not a specific Theory of Change provided for this call for proposal beyond the description of the challenge provided on the website. Your concept note should clearly outline the challenge, the proposed solution, the proposed approach, the intended impact, and the ability of your organisation to undertake the proposed activities. All proposals submitted should be aligned with the goals of the CCAC |

| | 2030 Strategy available online here: Our 2030 Strategy | Climate & Clean Air Coalition |
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| **Where can the CCAC's gender criteria, referenced in the Call, be accessed?** | Detailed guidance on developing a gender responsive project will be shared at Step 2 of the project. Gender mainstreaming resources are available on the CCAC website here Gender Mainstreaming for Climate and Clean Air Action | Climate & Clean Air Coalition, and you can access the CCAC Gender Strategy here: CCAC Gender Strategy | Climate & Clean Air Coalition - please note CCAC project funding asks you to achieve a Score 1 on the OECD DAC Policy Marker for Gender Equality. You can find that marker and its requirements here: Definition and Minimum Recommended Criteria for the DAC Gender Equality Policy Marker | Climate & Clean Air Coalition |
| **Is registration on the UN Partner Portal required for all project partners? If not mandatory, does registration strengthen the application, and what are the potential benefits for future collaboration?** | To receive funding from the CCAC, organisations involved in project implementation must be registered on the UN Partner Portal and complete the due diligence process. Once an organisation is in the system, due diligence does not need to be repeated. Organisations do not need to be registered in order to apply for funding. The CCAC Secretariat can provide additional information on registration in the UN portal should your proposal be selected for funding. The UN Partner Portal is available online here. |

## FUNDING AND BUDGET

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| **Is there a minimum co-funding amount for this Call?** | There is no minimum co-funding for proposals submitted. Proposals will be evaluated based on their overall impact potential and cost effectiveness, |

| | particularly at Step 2 of the application process when detailed budgets are developed. |
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| **Is the $2,000,000 project size the absolute maximum (inclusive of co-funding), or is it the maximum CCAC contribution?** | A maximum of $2,000,000 can be requested per project. This amount excludes co-funding/co-financing. |
| **What can be classified as an in-kind contribution?** | This refers to non-monetary resources provided by government, organisation, or partners to support the project. It could be expert services, office space facilities, equipment and materials, logistical support, and data/tools provided without cost. |
| **Does the CCAC allow organizations to include indirect costs and/or administrative support in the project budget under this Call?** | CCAC projects are administered through UNEP Partnership Agreements which do not support overhead costs. The budget should include direct costs only. This includes staff and personnel costs related to project activities, including project management. |
| **Does the CCAC allow for procurement costs?** | CCAC project funding is administered through UNEP Partnership Agreements, which in general limit procurement to incidental procurement costs. Previously, UNEP incidental procurement was limited to $20,000 or 15% of the total budget for agreements of $200,000 and below, and up to $40,000 or 15% for agreements above $200,000. We encourage you to follow these guidelines, however if proposed incidental procurement rates exceed these thresholds, they will be evaluated following the risk-based approach outlined in the 2024 UNEP Partnership Policy. At this stage, your proposal will not be excluded for exceeding incidental procurement |

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| | rates. We will ask you for follow-up information on individual costs as necessary during Step 2 of the application process. |
| *What is the maximum budget allocated per project?* | The budget for each project is up to $2,000,000. The number of projects selected will depend on the total cost of approved projects. |
| *The concept note mentions that co-funding or in-kind contributions are highly recommended. Is co-funding part of the selection criteria?* | Available co-funding or in-kind contributions will be evaluated within the context of the proposal, recognizing some organisations have more access to additional funding streams/resources than others. Co-funding will be viewed positively in the overall cost effectiveness of proposed activities as it relates to maximizing the impact of proposed activities and therefore of CCAC investment. |
| *If a project focuses on a single country, is it advisable to request a smaller funding amount?* | No. Requested funding is not subject to the number of countries included in the proposals. Multi-country projects are not mandatory for this call, and projects may take place at sub-national, national, or regional scopes. The amount of funding requested should reflect the intended impact, and the ambition of the proposed outcomes, outputs, and activities proposed. |
| *Are letters of participation required from potential co-funders, governments, or other stakeholders?* | No, letters of endorsement are not required at the concept note stage, however, they are seen as positive signals of concrete engagement from relevant stakeholders. Please disclose in the relevant co-funding fields whether this funding is confirmed/secured or not. The CCAC Secretariat may follow up for additional information on stakeholder engagement in the absence of letters of endorsement submitted during Step 2 of the application process. |

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| ***Do co-funders need to be affiliated with specific types of organizations or entities?*** | No, there are no requirements on the sources of co-funding. We do ask that you disclose co-funding sources and whether that funding has been confirmed or not. |
| ***What types of private sector involvement are eligible for funding?*** | For-profit organisations are not eligible for funding. However, co-funding or in-kind contributions are encouraged from private sector stakeholders or other donor schemes than those of CCAC. Private sector stakeholders may be involved in project activities but cannot receive CCAC funds. |
| ***Does the CCAC allow advance payments, or are payments strictly results-based? Are payment triggers agreed upon by both partners?*** | UNEP Partnership Agreements specify the payment schedule and are agreed upon by both parties in advance. The first payment is issued after countersignature. Subsequent payments are released based on the reporting cycle and depend on the rate of expenditure and delivery of results. |
| ***TECHNICAL*** | |
| ***What level of detail is expected for the mitigation estimates in the project proposal? Should Tier 1, 2, or 3 methods be used?*** | The project should provide estimated mitigation data, using a baseline and a calculation of potential emissions abated through actions taken in the project, and potentially beyond (in any scenario analysis). |
| ***What are the expectations regarding monitoring and follow-up of mitigation and co-benefit estimates?*** | If selected for funding, you will be provided with an Impact Assessment Form to be completed during your project/at project completion to update the assessed impact of project activities. The information provided will depend on whether your |

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| **What level of depth and detail should be planned or integrated into monitoring?** | project has a direct or indirect mitigation potential (i.e. reducing emissions or creating the enabling environment for emissions reductions in the future). All project activities should be robustly monitored throughout the project lifecycle, and sustainability measures should ensure that project activities continue to have benefits after the project is completed. |

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| **Can NGOs partner with academic institutions, (inter)governmental agencies, or UN entities?** | Yes. Not-for-profit entities are eligible to apply for funding, including not-for-profit academic institutions, inter-governmental agencies, and/or other UN entities. If you have individual questions related to your organisation's eligibility, please contact the CCAC Secretariat. |
| **Can research organizations affiliated with universities participate in this call as a lead applicant or as part of a consortium?** | Yes, as long as this is a non-profit organisation. |
| **For proposals based in ODA-eligible countries, are there any restrictions on including expatriate or HQ-based technical support staff in the budget?** | No. The targeted project impact must take place in an ODA-eligible country. There are no restrictions as to where project staff/team members are based (i.e. they do not need to be based in ODA-eligible countries). However, it is encouraged to include locally based organisations/local experts in project proposals. |

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| | You can access ODA-eligible countries here: ODA recipients: countries, territories, and international organisations \| OECD |
| *Can a project cover multiple countries?* | Yes |
| *Can a national research institute partner with an NGO to develop the project proposal?* | Yes, as long as it is a non-profit organisation. |
| *Is advocacy work eligible if it forms a component of a broader project concept?* | Yes. As long as advocacy activities are clearly related to the theory of change of the project, and the targeted outcomes, activities are eligible for consideration of funding. At Step 2, all projects are required to include communications activities in project logical frameworks to ensure knowledge sharing and awareness raising on project results/activities. |
| *Can a government research institute receive CCAC funding?* | Yes, as long as it is a non-profit organisation. |
| *Can a government institute partner with an international organization to respond to the call, and who should serve as the lead applicant?* | Yes, it is encouraged to form a consortium with other organisations and stakeholders for this Challenge Programme. |

***Are letters of support from local governments or partners encouraged at the concept note stage?***

Yes, if available.