

Call for Concept Notes

Application Letter, Concept Note Template and Questionnaire

To: Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Non-Profit Organizations Present in Selected Geographic Areas in Northwest Syria and Turkey.

From: Grants Department, Global Communities

Reference: Call for Concept Notes by Local Partners for Innovation Projects in NWS.

Call for Concept Notes Number: GC-CN-22-001

Background

Global Communities is an international organization committed to implementing development and humanitarian programming in partnership with communities worldwide to bring about sustainable, impactful changes that improve the lives and livelihoods of the vulnerable. We make a difference by engaging with communities, governments, the private sector, community service organizations (CSOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) as partners for good bringing together complementary strengths and shared responsibilities to work toward common goals. We work with a focus on dual accountability – to the communities whom we are committed to helping and to the donors who trust us to use their resources wisely and effectively.

Global Communities' Work in Syria

Global Communities aids those in need with an emphasis on saving lives, easing suffering and improving living conditions through the provision of agricultural inputs, quality shelter solutions, protection assistance and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) activities. Global Communities is committed to directly assisting those affected by the crisis, prioritizing the most vulnerable, while planning for a sustainable recovery. We look at how to provide immediate, lifesaving relief while also working with communities to make the impact of our programming more sustainable. In addition to our commitment to the humanitarian principles, our approach also goes beyond the distribution of goods to include working with communities on resilience.

Call for Concept Notes

As Global Communities is in a competitive process for US Government funding for programs in northwest Syria, we are searching for a new partner to implement an innovative project related to WASH, SNFI, shelter and settlements, FSL, or agriculture. GC's anticipated program will include projects in these sectors, among others, in northwest Syria, with anticipated objectives:

1. To increase food security through food and agricultural assistance and improvements in the wheat value chain through market strengthening.
2. To improve living conditions through critical protection, WASH, and shelter interventions.

To do this, we have issued this Call for Concept Notes as an open competition for innovative projects. The purpose of this Call for Concept Notes is to identify promising innovative projects that leverage the selected implementing partner's knowhow to create greater impact of Global Communities partners in Northwest Syria. The innovation concept notes should promote solutions to share knowledge and tackle the challenges, identify solutions that generate long-term sustainability, and have potential for scale-up, especially by introducing new ideas addressing the specific identified challenges and demonstrating high potential in terms of access to growth. These projects should also be in support of steps to adapt to the effects of climate change and mitigate their impact.

Application Process and instructions

To submit your concept note, an [Application Letter Annex-A](#) , a completed [Project Concept Template Annex-B](#) , and a completed [Questionnaire](#) including the requested attachments must be filled and submitted via the questionnaire link **by March 15, 2022**. Global Communities will review applications on an on-going basis. Any questions/clarifications can be sent to turkeygrants@globalcommunities.org no later than **March 13, 2022**.

All applications must be in English.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

GC will work with the selected Applicant to further develop the program activities, outputs, and timetables for implementation, as well as identify any specific award conditions, prior to issuing any subaward.

Global Communities reserves the right to incorporate forthcoming donor feedback into the selection criteria and select best fit for the final program design.

This Call for Concept Notes does not in any way commit Global Communities to make an award or compensate the responding organizations for any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of their applications.

Due to high levels of interest, we cannot provide detailed feedback on concept notes that are not selected for further evaluation stages.

Award Amount and Duration

All project concepts shall consider US\$ 150,000 as the limit but projects that require less than US\$ 150,000 will also be considered.

Any concept requiring a budget beyond the award ceiling may not be considered.

The project and the project budget must be designed so to be completed within maximum 9 months.

Selection Criteria

This opportunity is open to non-profit CSOs and NGOs working at the community level in the geographic areas listed below and sensitive to the needs of women and children. All CSOs and NGOs must have an active registration in Turkey and in Northwest Syria and have operations ongoing in Northwest Syria and/or Turkey.

Focus Areas:

The focus will be on projects that will contribute to increased local knowledge, and building resilient communities in NWS, through introducing or improving needs responsive innovative solutions projects, which have positive impact on local communities and the affected population in NWS, in the field of energy efficiency, waste management, water management, smart water solutions, air pollution or sustainable agriculture.

Relevant Geographic Areas in Syria

Interested and eligible organizations must have a presence and experience working in the following geographic locations: Northern and Western Aleppo Governorate, and in Idlib Governorate

Selection Criteria and Instructions

An application letter and completed questionnaire must be filled in and submitted by **March 15, 2022**. Global Communities will review applications on an on-going basis. Applications are submitted and evaluated against clear eligibility and evaluation criteria. The Application which fulfills all eligibility criteria, best satisfy the evaluation criteria, and can fulfill legal and financial requirements will be considered for further evaluation stages.

Eligibility Criteria are as follow:

1. Must have an active registration in Turkey. And an authorization to work in the proposed area of

- implementation in Northwest Syria (EuS and/or Idlib..etc.) with ongoing operation in Northwest Syria.
2. Must have prior experience of at least a total of one year with international donors and/or INGOs. E.g. United Nations, USAID, WHO, BPRM, ECHO, etc. Sub-grantee experience counts.
 3. Must have a presence in and experience implementing humanitarian, sustainable and community-based activities in one or more of the geographic areas listed for a minimum of six months.
 4. Must have experience implementing at least one program with a value of \$150,000 USD or more in the last two years.
 5. Must have past performance references related to the area of technical expertise and geographic area.
 6. Must have the minimum of management systems in place to manage finances and assets.
 7. Must have demonstrated knowledge and application of humanitarian principles

Evaluation criteria are as follows:

Criteria	Explanation	Points
Degree of innovation Max 30%	a) The innovation is grounded in evidence but is radically new and is superior to similar solutions.	21 – 30
	b) The innovation should result in a process or service that is better than similar solutions	11 – 20
	c) The innovation is unlikely to lead to a new or significantly improved process or service.	0 – 10
Multisector Integration Max 10%	Demonstrated a complementary integration of multispectral approach.	5 – 10
	If demonstrated poorly or not demonstrated	0 – 4
Potential for Scale-up Max 15%	Potential for scale-up and replication, which is demonstrated in scalability (incl. building on existing technology or approach, adaptable at minimum cost, addressing bigger need for the affected population) and replicability (incl. easy to duplicate, adaptable to different locations, usable in other sectors). Up to a maximum when the potential for scale-up and replication is strongly and clearly demonstrated.	11 – 15
	If not demonstrated clearly or poor	6 – 10
	If not demonstrated	0 – 5
Long-term Sustainability Max 10%	Financial, social and environment sustainability (climate smart), which fits the local context and is valid for the long term.; up to a maximum when the sustainability strategy and exit strategy is strongly demonstrated.	6 – 10
	0% if not demonstrated, not relevant or questionable	0 – 5

Project Team Max 15%	a) Project team possesses key, complementary qualifications and has strong strategic interest to implement the project and to achieve the results.	11 – 15
	b) The project team possesses reasonable qualifications to reach project targets, but competences of the team can be improved.	5 – 10
	c) The project team has no sufficient expertise overall to implement the project.	0 – 4
Audit Report Max 20%	Unqualified Audit Opinion	20
	Qualified Audit Opinion / No audit Report	0

Grants Department
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Responding organizations are advised that this Application letter and questionnaire do not in any way obligate Global Communities to make an award or compensate the responding organizations for any costs associated with the preparation and submission of their concept notes, letters and background information.