

**RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS AND REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATION REGARDING THE COVID19
CHALLENGE FUND (as of 26th May 2020)**

Q1: When is the deadline of the submission of EOI for applicants? The Call for Proposal only indicated a deadline for inquiries which is set at May 25.

Answer: As noted on the bottom of Page 5 in DaNa's Application Guidelines, there is no deadline for submission. EOIs will be accepted on a rolling basis until all of the £500,000 of funding has been allocated.

Q2: Can a single entity submit 2 separate applications? Can entity submit a second application with other partners?

Answer: Yes, organisations may submit more than one EOI by themselves or with partners.

Q3: The challenge mentioned that the participant needs to be legally registered as an organization in Myanmar. Are foreign organizations able to participate directly or through local partner organizations?

Answer: Yes, if appropriate arrangements such as a joint venture or other legal partnership is in place.

Q4: The deadline for submission is not limited so we can submit the proposal at any convenient time when we are ready to. And the submission form can be a pitch deck or any other recommended form to be submitted from the office? Any additional suggestion to participators?

Answer: There is no deadline for submissions, EOIs will be accepted on a rolling basis, however once all of the £500,000 of funding is allocated, no additional grant awards will be approved. A pitch deck or additional information and attachments beyond the requested five pages is acceptable.

Q5: Can we use Arial font (10), instead of the Calibri font (11) you provided in template? Can we use tables and pictures in template?

Answer: Yes, please use the font that is most suitable. Please feel free to add additional pictures and templates beyond the requested five pages.

Q6: On page 1 of the Application Guidelines document it states "The DaNa team sees strong potential in using a "challenge fund" modality to mobilise the capacity and ingenuity of fintech and technology-savvy firms". Our organisation is an international development agency and we fulfil all the eligibility requirements. However, I wanted to clarify if applying firms have to specifically be fintech or technology firms?

Answer: Any organization legally registered in Myanmar is eligible to apply.

Q7: A proposed budget is required in the EOI - is there a specific template or requirement elements for this?

Answer: No specific budget template is required for the EOI. DaNa will share a budget template and work plan template for organisations selected to complete a full application.

Q8: I would also like to please clarify if when referring to Yangon, for example on page 4 "some preference for activities in regional centres, outside of Yangon" - does this mean a preference for projects outside of Yangon City or Yangon Province?

Answer: Yangon City.

Q9: We are incorporated in Singapore and not incorporated in Myanmar yet. But we are operating and based in Myanmar. Are we still eligible to apply for the grant or we will need Myanmar incorporation?

Answer: Only locally registered organisations are eligible to apply.

Q10: In case this contribution happens to be found by another grant - would that be a problem? If not, can a COVID-19 Challenge Fund grant be taken in parallel to another window of the DaNa facility? What is the benchmark percentage of contribution by the company?

Answer: Multiple grant awards from DaNa are allowable. Co-financing can only be counted once for any grant award from DaNa or other organisations or development partners. As noted on Page 5 of DaNa's Application Guidelines: The DaNa Facility strongly encourages co-funding as much as possible. This may be in the form of cash or in-kind investments (e.g. time of staff that is not allocated to the grant budget).

Q11: What are expected timelines to start / end the project? What are expected approval timings for (1) Expression of Interest and (2) Full proposal?

Answer: Ideally, grants would start in June and end in December 2020. Approval should take approximately one week for EOIs and two weeks for full proposals, however timing may vary depending on DFID approval, due diligence assessments, and other factors.

Q12: In case some funds have already been allocated, would it be possible to know how much funds remain "available" at the time of submitting the application (or at least as of 25 May 2020, the deadline for question submission)?

Answer: Unfortunately, this is not feasible.

Q13: Would a project that has the following characteristics be applicable for the COVID - 19 Challenge Fund? 1) Initiated during the first 6 months under a pilot testing, 2) Big scale results are realized in a period of 1-3 years

Answer: No, DaNa is looking to address COVID-19 impacts rapidly and expects some significant deliverables and measurable impact within six months.

Q14: For one of the targeted population we are interested in making sure are financially included are blind people from rural areas. There is a gender disparity amongst smartphone ownership of blind women compared to blind men. Is there an opportunity to use the funds to secure smartphones for the most marginalized blind women in rural Myanmar? Can we propose Dana Facility COVID challenge budget to buy affordable smartphones for blind population who can't afford a smartphone?

Answer: Depending on the complete EOI, this may be an allowable cost.

Q15: 50% matching fund: Is this applicable to non-profits? What counts as matching funds/time? Does staff time count toward that? We would like clarification on matching funds.

Answer: As noted on Page 5 of DaNa's Application Guidelines: The DaNa Facility strongly encourages co-funding as much as possible. This may be in the form of cash or in-kind investments (e.g. time of staff that is not allocated to the grant budget). Staff time could potentially count as match funding. Matching funds contributed by the business may consist of: 1) Cash/equity investment by the lead company and/or third parties; 2) Bank facilities (e.g. loans and overdrafts); 3) Facilities provided by other institutions (e.g. contracts, supplier credit and loans); 4) Re-invested profits; and 5)'In kind' investment by any consortia member and/or third parties. Items eligible as in-kind investment include: Staff salaries; Office running costs; Training; and Assets such as machinery, equipment and buildings etc.

Q16: Can we propose to use the Dana funds to provide initial COVID response to blind and deaf and disabled community as incentive to create Tier 1 mobile money wallets?

Answer: Yes

Q17: What is the maximum amount of COVID Challenge fund that we may be able to qualify for?

Answer: As noted on the bottom of Page 4 of DaNa's Application Guidelines: Proposals must support rapid delivery of innovations, with an average of £50,000 per grant (smaller or larger grants will be considered with a maximum of £100,000), with a co-investment or contribution required by the business.

Q18: Can we propose the funding to cover production costs and marketing costs?

Answer: Yes.

Q19: Inquiring whether you accept concepts from single individuals the fact that I lost market for my agricultural produces last year which subjected me loose all my entire capital due to covid pandemic.

Answer: Only registered organisations in Myanmar may apply for funding.

Q20: Since the template in the PDF file provided on the website does not have room to fill out the actual proposal except some legal information and signature, is it okay to submit a separate document which is less than 5 pages?

Answer: Yes.

Q21: Could we attach supporting files such as a brief info about partners as well as a budget sheet?

Answer: Yes.

Q22: When, realistically, could the project start date be estimated?

Answer: Middle of June

Q23: Which type of MSME's (or) especially Agro-based business do you accept?

Answer: Any registered business in Myanmar is eligible to apply.

Q24: How do you choose the applicants when the covid period only (or) from the COVID period forward to long term sustainability?

Answer: Please see selection criteria from pages 6-8 in DaNa's Application Guidelines

Q25: Does CCF has priority geographic areas and target groups such as ethnic state and region?

Answer: No, however DaNa does provide some preference for activities in regional centres, outside of Yangon.

Q26: Can the project design for Covid 19 immediate response together with recovery activities?

Answer: Yes.

Q27: Is project time frame six months -should it be started from contract period?

Answer: Yes.

Q28: Can we use Co-funding (50%) - both in-kind and in-cash from project partners?

Answer: Yes.

Q29: Under the session 2.4 - key outputs: an implementation plan for carrying out the COVID-19 response activities, with some preference for activities in regional centers, outside of Yangon. Can you please clarify what does it means by Regional Centers?

Answer: Yangon, Mandalay, and other major urban centres.

Q30: For implementation partners that reduce their staff costs or offer free trainings/activities, should we quantify their pro-bono hours in GBP and list them as implementation + funding partners?

Answer: Yes.

Q31: Would this challenge allow the purchase of essentials assets?

Answer: Yes, though a strong justification is required for why the assets are necessary and why purchasing them provides DFID with value for money in the project.

Q32: Is there any penalty if we can't finish the project within a six months project period?

Answer: The final payment will be made only after all deliverables are completed, and if the delays are deemed to be excessive, or the expected results are not achieved, DaNa has the right to terminate the grant agreement.

Q33: Within 5 types of activities that Dana facility have indicative in the guidelines, is it eligible that the proposed project activities can be covered cross disciplinary.

Answer: Yes

Q34: In Section 2.3, Dana Facility mentioned that participants must possess sufficient financial standing; how much capital or investment are we required to eligible to apply for this grant?

Answer: There is no standard requirement, however DaNa will conduct a due diligence assessment for all organizations considered for a grant award, verifying financial capability to implement the grant, maintaining proper financial records and documentation, and continuing operations as a sustainable enterprise.