



Building Resilience through Innovation, Communication and Knowledge Services Project (BRICKS)

Sahel and West Africa Program (SAWAP) in support of the Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI)

Call for proposals to submit proposals to offer grants to the best regional innovations for the development of information and communication tools



BENIN
BURKINA FASO
CHAD
ETHIOPIA
GHANA
MALI



MAURITANIA
NIGER
NIGERIA
SENEGAL
SUDAN
TOGO

July 2015



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1. PRESENTATION OF BRICKS

1.1 Background

The World Bank and the GEF are funding a Sahel and West Africa Program (SAWAP) in support of the Great Green Wall Initiative in twelve sub-Saharan countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan and Togo). SAWAP's objective is to extend sustainable land and water resource management in the target zones and in vulnerable climate zones in West Africa and the Sahel. Thanks to this programme, the World Bank provides support to those countries in order to provide them with more livelihood means while protecting natural resources and taking into account climate variation and change. SAWAP also contributes to the TerrAfrica project which is funded and currently being implemented by the World Bank and NEPAD-UA.

It is in this context that the Building Resilience through Innovation, Communication and Knowledge Services (BRICKS) project was created. BRICKS is a six-year project and constitutes the SAWAP's regional component.

1.2 Objectives of BRICKS

BRICKS' development objective is to improve access to the best practices and monitoring information contained in the SAWAP's portfolio on integrated management of natural resources, climate change and natural disasters.

It will provide support in monitoring and evaluation, and possibilities of sharing knowledge and good practices among the twelve World-Bank-funded projects, while reinforcing the capacities of the regional centres of excellence (CILSS, OSS, IUCN) to act in partnership within the countries.

1.3 Implementation of BRICKS

The BRICKS's project is implemented by three regional organisations known as centres of excellence which are: the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS), and the West and Central Africa office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

CILSS is responsible for regional coordination, knowledge management and dissemination (components 1 and 3), and the monitoring and evaluation of all the activities and expected outcomes of the project. OSS is in charge of geo-spatial applications and the monitoring-evaluation of the SAWAP project portfolio (component 2), and IUCN is leading the fields of biodiversity and networking and communication strategies.

1.4 Intervention components

To achieve the expected outcomes, BRICKS is structured around three main operational components:

Component 1: Knowledge management

This first technical component aims at facilitating a regular exchange of technical and operational knowledge through a regional educational center which establishes a network

between the institutions and the persons executing the investment operations of the twelve countries. This component is coordinated by CILSS.

Component 2: Monitoring and evaluation

This component deals, on the one hand, with deployment and capacity building on the new tools of monitoring the procedures and impacts deriving from projects portfolio at the national as well as at the regional level, and, on the other hand, with regular monitoring of the SAWAP programme with regard to a series of thematic indicators and processes. The coordination of the implementation of this important component is the responsibility of OSS.

Component 3: Project management

The last component addresses project management in support to an effective and efficient regional decision-making. It is coordinated by CILSS .

Within the framework of the first component « Knowledge management », CILSS, in collaboration with OSS and IUCN, issues this call for proposals to select the best innovations in the area of natural resource management/climate change.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

This call for proposals aims at inviting various stakeholders who work in the area of natural resource degradation and climate change management to submit proposals to offer grants to the best regional innovations for the development of information and communication tools.

3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

3.1 Eligible project promoters: who can submit a grant application?

Eligible project promoters must be from the 12 countries of the SAWAP Programme, which are Benin, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan, Chad and Togo.

These promoters can be a producer organization, a local government area (notably municipalities), an association, a private or civil society entity.

3.2 Eligible themes and types of intervention needed

BRICKS will give preference to initiatives that are the most relevant to its objectives, namely those which:

- ✓ Contribute effectively to restore and/or to address land degradation;
- ✓ Can be taken over by local communities and which have an optimal « cost/profit » ratio;
- ✓ Contribute to local development and populations' income improvement while taking into account gender;
- ✓ Enable populations to better address climate variability ;
- ✓ Contribute to rational management of agricultural and potable water ;
- ✓ Contribute to agricultural and animal waste management and recovery ;
- ✓ Generate profit for the world environment.

Additionally to that, BRICKS will pay special attention so that the intended actions would be

connected sustainably with the local economy and would aim at securing and improving the income which the rural populations draw from natural resource exploitation, while improving the sustainability of land and water management systems and reinforcing social cohesion.

The main intervention themes to be considered are as follows:

- ✓ Water conservation, restoration and sustainable land management in agriculture ;
- ✓ Saline and/or degraded lands recovery;
- ✓ Sand encroachment/silting control and river banks protection;
- ✓ Pastoral resource development and management;
- ✓ Agricultural and animal waste management and ecological sanitation promotion;
- ✓ Hydro-agricultural developments and integrated management of local and cross-border watersheds;
- ✓ Integrated water resource management ;
- ✓ Urban and factory waste (rubbish, waste water, etc.) and urban and peri-urban agriculture management ;
- ✓ Development and participative management of forest resources (assisted natural regeneration, agro-forestry, etc.);
- ✓ Forest plantations based on high economic value species ;
- ✓ Promotion of alternative, eco-compatible energies ;
- ✓ Sustainable land management and adaptation to climate variability and change (vulnerability-population and climate).

3.3 Grant price

The total grant price is US\$ 200 000. Each grant requested for each project must be between US\$ 10 000 and US\$ 15 000.

4. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

4.1 Submission of concept notes

Concept notes of initiatives shall be sent to CILSS via mail, e-mail or via any other channel. The quality of the submitted proposals shall be the priority criteria in considering received proposals.

4.2 Submission of proposals

The concept notes of proposals that will be pre-selected should be finalized by their promoters according to a specific template provided by CILSS.

The writing of these applications shall be done, if need be, with the support of a resource person after a prior agreement by CILSS for the formulation of the detailed proposal. Its cost shall be covered by CILSS from the project fund.

Project promoters are required to:

- ✓ Submit their applications in French. Applications can also be written in English or Portuguese ;
- ✓ Submit their applications as carefully and clearly as possible in order to facilitate their processing. Applications must also be clear with enough details ;
- ✓ Number the pages of the dossier ;

- ✓ Respect proposed templates and follow the order mentioned in each part ;
- ✓ Submit the application in a printed form (one original and three copies) and electronically (Word document, Times New Roman font, size 12, on a CD-Rom or USB pen drive).

The maximum project duration shall be 2 years.

5. SELECTION PROCEDURE

Examination and selection of proposals shall be made in two steps:

✓ **Step 1: Preliminary examination and analysis of concept notes**

This first analysis shall be conducted by the Regional Selection Committee (RSC). This committee is made up of the three implementing agencies (CILSS, OSS, IUCN), two representatives of the concerned 12 SAWAP countries, a representative of TerrAfrica and any resource persons or bodies deemed necessary. The committee members shall receive the applications electronically and shall provide reasoned opinions to be compiled by CILSS. The World Bank shall assist the deliberations as an observer.

The members of the RSC shall not be authorized to submit applications to avoid their being judge and party.

The main selection criteria are:

- The qualification and origin of the bidder (a person from the 12 countries of the SAWAP Programme) ;
- Eligibility of themes and intervention themes ;
- The quality of the project document (clarity, accuracy, relevance ...).

After this analysis, the best concept notes shall be selected and the promoters shall receive a notification to develop their projects.)

✓ **Step 2 : Examination and selection**

Complete project dossiers shall be selected by the RSC. The committee shall adopt an examination and selection system based on a proposal by CILSS. During the selection process, additional information can be asked to promoters.

The main selection criteria are:

- Bidder's qualification ;
- Project relevance ;
- Project feasibility ;
- Sustainability and replicability.

10 to 15 proposals shall be chosen based on the proposed amounts.

6. HOW TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION

The concept note of the initiative and the complete dossiers can be sent via a registered mail, by express service, or hand-delivered to the following address :

Secrétariat Exécutif du CILSS
Sis Ouaga 2000, Porte N° 2754
Boulevard Moammar Khaddafi

03 BP 7049 OUAGADOUGOU 03

Tel: 00 (226) 25 37 41 25/26; 25 49 96 00

BURKINA FASO

They can also be sent via email to the following address: sandrine.ouattara@cilss.bf

7. SUBMISSION DEADLINE

The deadline for the submission of applications is **31 October 2015 by 3.30 p.m. (GMT)**. Any applications submitted after the deadline shall be automatically declined.