

Call 2016

Phase 1 Applications

North-Driven Development Research Projects: Denmark

South-Driven Development Research Projects: Ghana, Tanzania, and Nepal

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark

Deadline:

September 4, 2015, 12:00 hrs. (Danish Time)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark
March 6, 2015

Table of Contents

1. Introduction.....	2
2. Objectives.....	2
3. Main Applicant.....	2
4. Participating Researchers and Institutions.....	3
5. Identifying Danish Research Partners.....	4
6. Thematic Framework.....	4
7. Assessment Criteria.....	7
8. Project Description.....	8
9. Required Format of the Application and Appendices.....	10
10. Finances.....	11
11. The Overall Application Process.....	12
12. Obligations.....	13
13. E-application Information.....	15

1. Introduction

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (MFA) provides grants for development research activities as part of Denmark's international development cooperation. Within this framework, the MFA invites Phase 1 applications for research grants related to development research.

The objective of the Danish support to development research is to generate new knowledge capable of alleviating development problems and strengthening research capacity in Danida priority countries¹. For more information, see "*Strengthening Research Capacity Strategic Framework for Danish Support for Development Research 2014 – 2018*", http://um.dk/en/~media/UM/English-site/Documents/Danida/Partners/Research-Org/Strategi_DevelopmentResearch_web.pdf.

All potential applicants are invited to attend information meetings at which the MFA, the Research Council (FFU), and Danida Fellowship Centre (DFC²) will provide information regarding requirements and procedures in relation to the Phase 1 and 2 applications. The meetings will be held in Denmark and Nepal in March 2015, in Tanzania in April 2015, and in Ghana in May 2015. Further information can be found at <http://dfcentre.com/research/calls-for-applications/>.

The deadline for submission of Phase 1 applications is **September 4, 2015 at 12:00 hrs. (Danish Time)**. Applications must be submitted in English and electronically via DFC e-application system.³

The total budget available for this Call is DKK 135 million (approximately USD 22,6 million). Duration of the grants is up to 5 years, and the grant is up to DKK 10 million.

2. Objectives

Grants will be awarded to strategic research cooperation which generates new knowledge relevant to the needs and strategies of priority countries and to Denmark's development cooperation and contributes to strengthening research capacity in these countries.

The development research projects supported by the MFA must include substantive elements of research capacity strengthening, which focus on national priorities and ownership in developing countries. In order for research partners to benefit from the collaboration, partnerships should be equal, and all partners must actively contribute to the preparation of research applications in Phase 1.

3. Main Applicant

Applications can only be submitted by an institution, e.g. a governmental institution, private-sector enterprise or private organization. For the North-driven research projects this implies an institution in Denmark. For South-driven research projects this implies an institution in Ghana, Tanzania, or Nepal. The Main Applicant must be attached to the institution, which will be responsible for the grant, if approved.

The Main Applicant must at the time of submitting the application hold a Ph.D. or equivalent qualifications, documented clearly in the CV. It is regarded as equivalent to a Ph.D. if it is documented in the CV that the applicant is at Professor, Assistant Professor, or Associate Professor Level.

¹ Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, Palestine Territories, South Sudan, Somalia, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

² The MFA has outsourced the administration of the support to development research to Danida Fellowship Centre (DFC). See the DFC website for the General Conditions regarding on-going projects, calls, e-application forms, etc. at <http://www.dfccentre.com>.

³ See Section 13 for information on how to gain access to the e-application system.

Experience shows that the Main Applicant plays a key role in ensuring that a research collaboration project is successful. An effective engagement/ involvement of the Main Applicant must entail a work load of at least 12 months during the project duration.

It is important that the Main Applicant and the research team are able to document relevant scientific merits/qualifications and research background within the research topic applied for.

4. Participating Researchers and Institutions

The application must list all research partner institutions. The North-driven applications must list partners in Danida priority countries and possible international partners, while the South-driven research project applications must list partners in Denmark (and possibly, in addition, partners in other Danida priority countries and international partners). At least one specific researcher from each partner institution must be named in the Phase 1 application. Only in Phase 2, all of the participating researchers must be named.

Research collaboration is considered an important means to strengthen research capacity of institutions in priority countries. In order for research partners to benefit from the collaboration, partnerships should be equal, and partners should be able to contribute actively in preparing both Phase 1 and Phase 2 applications. Research applications which have been prepared without the active involvement of partners in priority countries or Denmark will not be approved. Other important aspects of equal partnerships include joint fieldwork, joint publishing, knowledge sharing, access by South partners to databases and libraries, etc. In particular, perspectives and preliminary plans for joint field work should be clearly indicated.

International research institutions and research institutions in countries outside the Danida partner countries can only be included as secondary partners and be supported by the grant for their direct services to the research institutions in the South partner countries. Partners from the private sector can participate in a proposal if it is documented how they will contribute with additional resources to the research.

In the South-driven research applications it should be indicated in the application to which extent the research cooperation may have perspectives for South-South cooperation.

Support to Ph.D. students is considered as an important part of research capacity strengthening. The research application should indicate the plans for involvement of Ph.D. students in the project in terms of number of Ph.D. students.

Ph.D. candidates from the priority countries included in the project must seek enrolment at a university in their home country, alternatively at a university in the region of the partner country. Enrolment in Denmark can only be considered if enrolment in the partner country or the partner country region is not possible and if sufficient justification for this is provided. More details on this will be provided in Phase 2.

Master students in priority countries, but not in Denmark, may be supported in exceptional cases. A maximum of two Master students can be included in the proposal, and may be approved only on the basis of convincing arguments.

5. Identifying Danish Research Partners

South-driven research applicants must approach relevant Danish research partners. If partners are not already identified from earlier collaborations or professional networks, it is possible to identify relevant Danish researchers by searching international scientific databases such as <http://scholar.google.dk/>, <https://www.researchgate.net>, or the Danish research database <http://www.forskningsdatabasen.dk/>. Inspiration can also be found by searching among ongoing and past projects at the Danida Research Portal <http://drp.dfcentre.com/>, and at the Danish Development Research Network website <http://ddrn.dk/intro.html>. An overview of the universities in Denmark is accessed at <http://www.dkuni.dk/english>, with links to each of the eight universities in Denmark, and searching may be done among their researchers, according to subject.

In case it is not possible for South-driven applicants to identify relevant Danish researchers, further guidance may be requested from the Research Unit at DFC. By providing information concerning the application (applicant name, applicant qualification (degree) and position, applicant e-mail address, applicant institution, project title, brief project description/project idea (10-15 lines)), DFC will post the information at the DFC website under a “Research Collaboration Market Place” accessible to the Danish research environments. However, there is no guarantee that any Danish researchers will be contacting the applicant, and it is therefore important that the Main Applicant continuously and actively engage in identifying Danish researchers relevant for the project and contact the Danish researchers directly.

6. Thematic Framework

The themes of the Call are as follows:

6.1. South-driven research projects

Ghana:

- **Theme 1: Natural Resource Management/Climate-Smart Agriculture/Environmentally Sustainable Solutions**
- **Theme 2: Economic Development and Poverty Reduction/Role of the Informal Sector**
- **Theme 3: Health: Right to Health/Health Care/Determinants of Health**

Theme 1: Natural Resource Management/Climate-Smart Agriculture/Environmentally Sustainable Solutions

Many growing economies are facing substantial socio-economic, agricultural and environmental sustainability challenges. Especially smallholder farmers are often facing a difficult situation when trying to adjust to the new challenges.

We need research that addresses knowledge gaps on technological, methodological, policy institutional, regulatory, financial and adaptation-related aspects of climate-smart agriculture and environmentally sustainable solutions. We particularly need a deeper understanding of the possibilities and challenges related to these solutions for smallholder farmers and other vulnerable groups, local communities, and private sector actors.

Theme 2: Economic Development and Poverty Reduction/Role of the Informal Sector

A number of growing economies recognize the informal sector as the engine of economic growth, increased employment, production and poverty reduction.

We need more knowledge on the informal sector, which faces many challenges related to regulatory frameworks, technology, management and marketing skill, health and working environment, access to

finance and access to public/utility services. Also more research on opportunities and challenges for inclusive gender-balanced employment and decent green jobs is needed.

Theme 3: Health: Right to Health/Health Care/Determinants of Health

Poor health constitutes a significant barrier to the economic and social development for millions of people in growing economies. Access to quality health care is still a huge challenge both in rural areas and in many poor urban areas with a high population density.

We need more research on the political economy, sociological and environmental determinants of health, as well as a deeper understanding of the importance of health systems in general development processes.

Tanzania:

- **Theme 1: Good Governance**
- **Theme 2: Economic Development and Poverty Reduction/Green Growth/Natural Resource Management**
- **Theme 3: Health: Right to Health/Health Care/Determinants of Health**

Theme 1: Good Governance

After many years with increased focus on good governance in developing economies, we still need a deeper understanding of its many aspects.

We need more research on possible links between good governance in the sense of inclusive transparent and accountable government systems and broader development processes. And we need a better understanding of the rights aspects, including how the regulatory frameworks and institutions can respond to the rights and needs of the population.

Theme 2: Economic Development and Poverty Reduction/Green Growth/Natural Resource Management

The notions of green growth and green economy are increasingly seen as answers to unsustainable and inefficient growth patterns. A “green economy” is often understood as one that is efficient in the use of natural resources, clean in that its activities minimize pollution and negative environmental impact and fair in socio economic distributional terms.

While the potential of a green economy is clear, it is not inherently inclusive and pro-poor. In a developing country context, there is an urgent need to better understand the dynamics of green growth, how incentives play out, and how institutions and business models may be designed to promote a greening of economies that generates green and decent employment and is pro-poor, gender sensitive and inclusive.

Theme 3: Health: Right to Health/Health Care/Determinants of Health

Poor health constitutes a significant barrier to the economic and social development for millions of people in growing economies. Access to quality health care is still a huge challenge both in rural areas and in many poor urban areas with a high population density.

We need more research on the political economy, sociological and environmental determinants of health, as well as a deeper understanding of the importance of health systems In general development processes.

Nepal:

- **Theme 1: Economic Development and Poverty Reduction/Green Growth**
- **Theme 2: Fragility, Stability and Rights**

Theme 1: Economic Development and Poverty Reduction/Green Growth

The notions of green growth and green economy are increasingly seen as answers to unsustainable and inefficient growth patterns. A “green economy” is often understood as one that is efficient in the use of natural resources, clean in that its activities minimize pollution and negative environmental impact and fair in socio economic distributional terms.

While the potential of a green economy is clear, it is not inherently inclusive and pro-poor. In a developing country context, there is urgent need to better understand the dynamics of green growth, how incentives play out, and how institutions and business models may be designed to promote a greening of economies that generates green and decent employment and is pro-poor, gender sensitive and inclusive.

Theme 2: Fragility, Stability and Rights

The focus of international development engagements in fragile contexts has over the past decade increasingly been linked to new international agendas such as the New Deal or ‘whole of government approaches’ where development engagements are combined with stabilization, state building; migration and displacement; transnational crime; humanitarian; or other policy goals.

We still need more research that asks in-depth questions on the complexities and drivers of conflict and fragility, drivers of stability, the development impact of conflicts, and conflict mitigation. Issues may include the interplay between state and citizen, gender roles in conflict dynamics, the role of religion, ethnicity and family, access to financial, productive and natural resources and access to services, and the role of international actors.

6.2. North-driven research projects

Denmark:

- **Theme 1: Conflict and fragility**
- **Theme 2: New development actors and changing partnerships**
- **Theme 3: ICT for development**

Theme 1: Conflict and fragility

The focus of international development engagements in fragile contexts has over the past decade increasingly been linked to new international agendas such as the New Deal or ‘whole of government approaches’ where development engagements are combined with stabilization, state building; migration and displacement; transnational crime; humanitarian; or other policy goals. We still need more research that asks in-depth questions on the complexities and drivers of conflict and fragility, drivers of stability, the development impact of conflicts, and conflict mitigation. Issues may include the interplay between state and citizen, gender roles in conflict dynamics, the role of religion, ethnicity and family, access to financial, productive and natural resources and access to services, and the role of international actors.

Theme 2: New development actors and changing partnerships

Development financing and interventions are being shaped by a growing and increasingly complex platform of actors and partnerships. ‘Traditional’ development actors – including i.e. OECD/DAC bilateral donors, international organizations and NGOs – are sometimes competing and other times operating in partnership with new development actors including emerging economy governments,

businesses, philanthropic organizations, diaspora groups, consumers, transnational social movements, and social entrepreneurs in working for better development outcomes. These new development actors and partnerships are changing the design of development interventions, the scope and role of traditional actors, and processes of policy making in developing countries. There is a need to better understand the complexities and dynamics introduced by these new actors and partnerships, and what impact they have on development outcomes.

Theme 3: ICT for development

A number of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) have emerged over the past decades, facilitating new ways of providing information; delivering services; supporting productive activities; engaging with clients, citizens and users; as well as offering support for business development. Conventional wisdom argues that such ICT platforms represent a resource that can easily transform and grow entire economies, lead to modern and more developed, inclusive and transparent forms of socio-economic and political organization, and thus contribute to improved living conditions and social change. Yet, past experience with transfer of technology to address developmental challenges is mixed; therefore, we need more research on the actual development impacts of ICT platforms, including issues related to access, and on what kinds of socio-economic and political change they facilitate.

In connection with the above mentioned themes for the North- and South-driven research applications, please note the following:

The applications will be assessed in terms of, among others, relevance of the project activities in relation to one of the research themes in the Call. That is why it is important that the application explicitly and comprehensively addresses one of the themes for the country.

The research application must bring innovative and novel perspectives to the research area. Compared to state-of-the-art, the application must pose either new research questions, bring new perspectives on existing research questions, or propose new solutions to existing problems. It should be clearly stated in the application where the innovative and novel perspectives appear in the research project compared to state-of-the-art.

The above research themes are formulated to allow and encourage interdisciplinary research. The aim of strategic research is to clarify or resolve prioritized challenges in society. Due to the complexity of these challenges, it will often be necessary to address the issues from many different disciplinary perspectives ranging from those of the natural, health and technological sciences to the social sciences and humanities. The societal challenges are often cross-cutting in nature and therefore they often require cross-cutting (interdisciplinary) research initiatives.

The MFA and the FFU wishes to promote interaction between research and innovation. Consequently, the involvement of stakeholders that may bring perspectives for innovation to the research project – including both public and private sector stakeholders – is encouraged.

7. Assessment Criteria

The FFU assesses the Phase 1 applications on the basis of three equally important criteria as described below: i) the scientific quality, ii) relevance, and iii) potential effect of the research. The assessment takes point of departure in the definitions by Innovation Fund Denmark⁴, and the three criteria will be applied as follows:

⁴ See the Innovation Fund Denmark memorandum “Strategic research – principles and instruments” of 1 January 2014. <http://fivu.dk/en/publications/strategic-research-principles-and-instruments-1-january-2014>

The scientific quality is evaluated on the basis of the application's originality and innovativeness, how it situates itself within, and contributes to advance, the relevant research field and the expected achievements from an international standard.

The relevance of an application is assessed in respect of the extent to the research topic is relevant to the priorities of the Danida priority country and to the key priorities of Danish development cooperation (human rights and democracy; green growth; social progress; and stability and protection). Furthermore, the relevance of the proposed research to the themes of the Call is evaluated.

The effect of the research is evaluated on the basis of the potential effect to the relevant public and private users, including how the research is expected to be communicated to the intended public and private users.

In addition to the three equally important criteria, the feasibility of the proposed research will also be assessed. This includes: i) the management structure for the research project, ii) the managerial competence and experience from research in developing countries possessed by the Main Applicant, as well as iii) the feasibility of the activities.

Explanation for the choice of partner country in the North-driven research project is absolutely necessary. Projects in which two or more countries are included for comparative analysis often represent a particular challenge in terms of establishing equal partnerships. If more than one partner country is chosen, the rationale for this, and the added-value and importance for the project, should be clearly argued. If the rationale is not clear, it is not considered an advantage in the evaluation of a research proposal that more than one country is included.

If, on the other hand, the methodological considerations clearly explain the rationale, it is welcomed that a project has a regional or global scope. Some of the themes for the North-driven projects invite approaches which are not based on in-depth empirical studies of selected countries but instead address issues or trends across several countries in a region or at global level.

As stated in the "General Conditions for Grants to Development Research Supported through Denmark's International Development Cooperation", MFA may make the processing of new applications by the project coordinator conditional on compliance with the terms and conditions of previous grants, including if the total time allocation for a researcher on several projects exceeds what is considered feasible.

8. Project Description

The project description must be structured according to the following headings and in the stated order. All headings must be used and none added. There are no requirements regarding the length of each section in the project description. However, the project description as a whole must not cover more than 5 pages.

In the application it is important not to be too ambitious, given resources available. It is also important to ensure that the application is clear, focused and stringent.

Heading	Content
1. State of the art and rationale	Background to project objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Based on a state of the art literature review and a broader development rationale, present how the proposal may assist in providing new knowledge in the field; ○ Highlight how the proposed project relates to previous and on-going projects; ○ Present a rationale for the selection of partner countries (only for North-driven applications); ○ If more than one partner country is chosen, the rationale for this and added-value and importance for the project should be clearly argued.
2. Objectives⁵	Objectives and possible research hypotheses must <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ be driven on the basis of the state of the art; ○ address clearly identified research issues; ○ be novel in providing new knowledge and innovative results; ○ include substantive elements of research capacity strengthening; ○ constitute a genuine research project rather than being a registration of data, commissioned research, a product development, demonstration project, technology transfer, consultancy or development project.
3. Project methodology	In the description of methodology, research design, and research capacity strengthening please consider <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ methods and design addressing the selected objectives; ○ approaches of how to strengthen research capacity; ○ ethical considerations (where relevant); ○ how the research adheres to requirements in Denmark and the relevant partner countries regarding research permissions, provision of information to relevant authorities, and others, if any.
4. Expected outcomes⁶ and outputs⁷	Clearly list the expected main scientific results of the project and the research capacity built, including expected effects on society and development.
5. Relevance	Detail the project's importance to the developmental policies and strategies of the involved country or countries, as well as to Danish development cooperation.

⁵ Objectives: What the project aims at reaching in the long run. Achieving the objectives constitutes impact.

⁶ Outcomes: What the project aims at achieving in the short-term and medium-term. Outcomes are the result of the project outputs but as such outside the direct control of the project. This may include change of policies and/or practices of stakeholders/users of the project outputs.

⁷ Outputs: What the project produces as a direct result of its activities, e.g. seminars, publications and PhD degrees.

6. Participants, organisation and management	Description of the participating parties' scientific and managerial competences, background and contributions, respectively, to research activities, capacity strengthening and to organization and management of the project, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the research and institutional capacity of the institution(s) in which the research capacity is to be strengthened; ○ the management, coordination and collaborative structures of the project; ○ coordination with other related research capacity strengthening activities at the institution; ○ joint fieldwork (should be indicated in some detail in both time allocations for researchers and in respective work packages).
7. Research capacity strengthening	Description of how the research capacity strengthening of the partner institutions increases the competitiveness and quality of participating research environments, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ research-based education, e.g. support to Ph.D. students; ○ facilitation of access to and use of scientific literature; ○ training of senior researchers and teams to design and manage research and produce, document and disseminate the research results; ○ support to establishing and managing research laboratories and other facilities; ○ South partners access to databases and libraries.
8. Project's international dimension	Describe how the project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ will draw on and cooperate with related international projects, and anticipated participation in international research conferences and networks; ○ contains possible perspectives for South-South cooperation.
9. New knowledge	Describe explicitly how the results of the project will generate new knowledge within the field.
10. Publication and dissemination strategy	Dissemination and usage of result by all relevant stakeholders. Outline a clear dissemination plan for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ research results and how research may influence policy and action; ○ joint publishing and knowledge sharing.
11. Main references	A list of principal publications etc. forming the background for the proposed activity.

9. Required Format of the Application and Appendices

The e-application system is accessible from DFC's website via the following link:

<http://dfcentre.com/research/calls-for-applications/>. The e-application form may contain information which is important in relation to the application albeit not covered in this Call.

The Phase 1 application must comprise the following:

- The e-application form
- Appendix A: CVs of all researchers named in Step 1A of the Application Form
- Appendix B: Signatures

All steps (including Step 1A) in the e-application form must be completed, and the application and appendices must be completed in English. Only the required appendices will be considered.

An appendix A and an appendix B must be attached to the e-application form (also described in the form). Both appendices must be in PDF-format.

The total volume of the appendices must not exceed 5 MB.

The appendices must be named “*Appendix (letter) - name of Main Applicant*”.

Appendix A - CVs: A front page of the appendix must be inserted, listing the CVs of the Main Applicant and all other researchers who are named in the application Step 1A, listed in the order in which they appear.

The CVs must specify the scientific qualifications, managerial skills, and experience from developing countries, and must include a list of key publications and patents. The length of the CVs must be no more than 2 pages per person.

The table of contents and all CVs must be compiled in a single PDF file in which each CV starts on a new page.

Appendix B – Signatures: This appendix must include scanned signatures of the Main Applicant and the Head of the Responsible Institution as per template.

10. Finances

For the purposes of a Phase 1 application, only a range of the estimated amount applied for must be indicated (DKK 5-6,9 million, DKK 7-8,9 million, or DKK 9-10 million). The total estimate budget must as far as possible estimate the costs of the full budget of the possible Phase 2 application, ensuring that sufficient resources are allocated to implementation of the project, as budget margins are not to be included, and it will not be possible to apply for supplementary grants within the project period.

The amount applied for in a possible Phase 2 application cannot exceed that of the Phase 1 application.

It is recommended that the Main Applicant, in the Phase 1 application, bears in mind the requirements for Phase 2 applications regarding finances, including paying particular attention to adding the correct overhead for each partner.

Eligible Costs

It will be possible to apply for funding for the following budget items:

- Salaries and emoluments;
- Taximeter/educational grants;
- Expenses for trips abroad and fieldwork;
- Project and research materials and equipment;
- Publication, dissemination and communication;
- Administration fees (overhead);
- Study stays in Denmark of PhD students from partner countries;
- External audit;

Overhead/Administration Fees

For certain types of institutions, the grant may be used to cover overhead, which covers costs not directly incurred from the research activity. Overhead is calculated as a fixed percentage of direct costs, cf. the rates given below in Table 1. Direct costs means costs incurred as a direct result of the research activity. The expenses incurred by DFC are not subject to any overhead.

Table 1: Maximum overhead rates

Institution/enterprise type	Overhead
Danish institutions (including universities and government research institutes) which are subject to the rules regarding grant-funded research activities in the Danish Ministry of Finance's budget guidelines, and which are authorised to carry out grant-funded research activities	44 %
Danish Authorised Technological Service Institutes (GTS-institutter)	20 %
Danish institutions meeting all the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Receive and are expected to continue receiving a fixed state subsidy of minimum 25 % (measured in relation to the total annual turnover) to cover operating costs- Are non-profit institutions which do not seek to generate profit, and where any profit may not be distributed among the owners- Carry out research as a central purpose	20 %
Public Danish hospitals	3.1 %
Danish state-recognised museums (cf. The Danish Museum Act)	3.1 %
All other Danish institutions and enterprises	0 %
South-based research institutions (depending on local conditions)	12 %

The percentage of the budget to Danish and South-based research institutions must reflect the importance given to the research capacity strengthening of the South-based partners, e.g. by providing around 60% of the budget to South-based research institutions and 40% of the budget to Danish partners.

For international research institutions and partners in countries outside the Danida priority countries, the budget can only include salaries and travel expenses covering their direct services to the project activities, and no administration fees can be covered.

Co-Funding

Please note that in the North-driven development research projects, co-funding from participating public and private-sector partners in Denmark and abroad is expected, whereas in the South-driven development research projects such co-funding is encouraged. Co-funding may be provided in the form of monetary contributions or as payment 'in kind', *i.e.* by making equipment, staff, etc. available. While a large co-funding from various sources is encouraged, co-funding from Danish Government research institutions should preferably be about, and not exceed, 10 per cent of the total activity budget for the research project (not measured against the individual budget items).

11. The Overall Application Process

Information meetings for new applicants concerning the Call Phase 1, 2016 are held in Denmark and Nepal in March, in Tanzania in April, and in Ghana in May.

Research partners must be identified and the Phase 1 application must be prepared with active involvement of partners in priority countries or Denmark.

Submission of the Phase 1 applications: Submission of a Phase 1 application must be done via DFC's e-application system and must be completed by the deadline specified on the front page of the Call. Shortly

after submitting the application, the applicant will receive an e-mail acknowledging receipt. If the acknowledgement is not received within 24 hours, the applicant should send an e-mail to research@dfcentre.dk to ensure that the application has indeed been received before the deadline.

Reviews of the applications: The North-driven Phase 1 applications will be submitted to the relevant Danish embassies for reviewing. Simultaneously, the South-driven Phase 1 applications will be assessed by National Screening Committees in Ghana, Tanzania, and Nepal respectively. A limited number of applications in each of the three countries will be prequalified during the national screening, and only these prequalified applications will be subjected to the subsequent FFU assessment process.

Consultation procedure: The consultation procedure of the reviews from embassies and the national screening is expected to take place in early November 2015.

Prequalification: The applications are assessed by the FFU during November 2015. The reviews from the embassies and the national screening, as well as any hearing responses, all form part of the overall basis for the assessment. Based on the recommendations of the FFU, the Danish MFA decides which applicants will be invited to submit a final application in the subsequent Phase 2.

Responses to Phase 1 applications: Applicants will be informed of MFA'/FFU' decision by the end of December 2015 at the latest, and the Phase 2 Call 2016 will be announced shortly thereafter at DFC's website. Applicants who are invited to submit a Phase 2 application will receive specific recommendations or requirements regarding its content.

Submission of Phase 2 applications: The deadline for submission of final applications will be in March, 2016.

Peer review: All Phase 2 applications will be submitted for external peer review to - usually - at least two internationally recognised researchers. DFC appoints the external reviewers, and applicants will have the opportunity to comment on these external opinions in a consultation procedure. The recommendation on a possible grant is made by the FFU, and the external assessments and any hearing responses form part of the overall basis for the assessment.

Consultation procedure: The consultation procedure concerning the external peer reviews is expected to take place in April/May 2016.

Final Selection: The Phase 2 applications are assessed by the FFU in June 2016. In the prioritization, which will take place in the beginning of June 2016, only a limited number of the Phase 2 applications will be recommended for approval.

Responses to Phase 2 applications: Notice on the outcome of the assessments of the Phase 2 applications is expected to be sent out in late June 2016.

Notice of funding: All Phase 2 applicants can expect to be informed about the outcome of their application within the third quarter of 2016, and the approved projects can expect to start in 2017.

12. Obligations

Applicants should familiarize themselves with the following before using the e-application system and submitting an application.

The Main Applicant' responsibility

The Main Applicant is responsible for ensuring that all information in the e-application is correct, that the required appendices are uploaded with the e-application, that the contents of the appendices are correct and that the e-application has been submitted before the Call deadline.

In the event of any subsequent material changes affecting the information submitted, the Main Applicant must immediately notify the Research Unit at DFC at research@dfcentre.dk.

The application must reflect ethical considerations and adhere to requirements in Denmark and in the relevant partner countries regarding research permissions, provision of information to relevant authorities, etc.

Storage of information

When the e-application system is used, the system will automatically register the applicant' identity, IP address, and the time at which the application was created or edited will be registered.

Technical disclaimer

The Danida Fellowship Centre is obliged to inform prospectively applicants of any system errors that make the e-application system unavailable, affecting the applicant's possibility of submitting e-applications within any deadlines. Information regarding such unavailability, and other unforeseen events, will be posted on the DFC website <http://dfcentre.com/research/>.

The Danida Fellowship Centre accepts no liability for incorrect information due to software errors, calculation errors, transmission errors and similar errors, or for any claims for damages due to incorrect use of the e-application system.

Data Protection Act

Danish privacy law (Danish Act on Processing of Personal Data, *Lov om persondata*, no. 429 of 31 May 2000 with subsequent amendments) accords the applicant certain rights when information concerning the applicant is processed electronically. Please note that the applicant has the right at his or her request, to inspect and verify personal data if such data are processed electronically.

It is not possible to make corrections to an e-application after it has been submitted, except for corrections related to the personal information.

Rejection of applications without substantive consideration

According to Section 4 of the Executive order on the granting function etc. under the Danish Council for Independent Research and the Danish Council for Strategic Research (Executive Order no. 1620 of 15 December 2010), an application may be rejected without substantive consideration if the formal requirements or deadlines set out in the Call for applications are not met.

If the following rules set out in the Call are not complied with, the application may be rejected without substantive consideration.

- The application must be submitted by the deadline specified at the front page of the Call.
- The application must be made on the correct e-application form (i.e. a form on which the correct Call title is stated) and the form must contain all the required information – please follow the instructions on the form.
- The application must be submitted as an e-application via the DFC's e-application system.
- The application (e-application form and appendices) must be written in English.

- The amount applied for must correspond with the amounts specified in Section 1 of this Call.
- The project description must comply with the requirements in Section 8 of this Call.
- The e-application form must be submitted with attachment of all the appendices specified in Section 9 of this Call.
- Appendix A must contain CVs for all named researchers (co-applicants).
- The appendices must be submitted as pdf files, with a total volume not exceeding 5 MB.

Other data which may be obtained by official bodies

The MFA and the FFU reserve the right to obtain information about any previous and current applications an applicant may have submitted to the FFU, and this information may be included in processing of the e-application.

In the event that project funding has been or will be applied for from elsewhere, the MFA and FFU reserve the right to obtain information as to whether the amount has been granted.

Use of funding for other purposes

The MFA may, at its discretion, decide that a proportion of the funding available is to be used for other research cooperation.

Announcement

Once the submitted Phase 1 applications have been processed, an announcement will be made on the http://www.dfcentre.com/?Research_Projects as to who have been invited to submit a Phase 2 application. In support of that announcement, the following information may be published on the internet: applicant' name, title, workplace, title of application and expected application amount. The purpose of this is to enable applicants to apprise themselves of other prospective programme applicants and research activities and possibly form their own networks with a view to submitting joint applications.

Information about applicants who are not invited to submit a Phase 2 application may be disclosed in the event that access is applied for according to the Danish Public Records Act (Offentlighedsloven). Access to such information may be granted in the form of lists of who has applied and for what purpose (applicant names and application titles). Applicants should, therefore, take care that their application title does not reveal information about the activity which they wish to keep out of the public domain.

13. E-application Information

The Call and e-application system is accessible from DFC's website via the following link: <http://dfcentre.com/research/calls-for-applications/>.

- Before you can use the system, you will need to register yourself as a user via the link "If you have *not* previously used Danida Fellowship Centre's electronic application system click here". If you have several e-mail addresses, please note that acknowledgement of receipt of the application will be sent to the e-mail address used as your user name in the system. Shortly after registration, you will receive an e-mail containing the password needed to access the system.
- To start a new application, you must select the relevant application form "Development Research Projects 2016, Phase 1".
- Once you have started an application form, you can save and break off from it and resume work at any time by accessing "Edit", at the right of the page.

- If you have forgotten your password, please type any password in the box, and by doing this, an e-mail with your correct password will be sent to your e-mail address. Your partners can access the application by using the same e-mail address and password.

Contact

For questions concerning the application procedures and in general relating to this Call for applications, please contact the Research Unit at Danida Fellowship Centre at research@dfcentre.dk.