

Horn of Africa call for grant applications Institutional Collaboration Projects OKP-EAR-10067

Joint proposal

Country	Horn of Africa: Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan Focus on Somalia (Sool and Sanaag)
Priority themes	Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) and Security and Rule of Law (SRoL)
Aim of the project	Capacity strengthening for food resilience in the Horn: Addressing root causes of instability, migration and hunger and promoting employment for youth, women and vulnerable groups in Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan Focus on Horticulture
Call number	OKP-EAR-10067
Maximum available funding for this call, excluding co-funding	EUR 1,000,000
Maximum funding per collaboration project, excluding co-funding	EUR 1,000,000
Minimum required co-funding	Encouraged
Final date project	The project should be finished before 31 March 2022

Time schedule

Call for grant applications	15 December 2020
Nuffic will answer questions about the call until	25 January 2021, 11.00 A.M. CET
Closing date for submission of grant applications	18 February 2021, 11.00 A.M. CET
Communication of results to the applicants	31 March 2021

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1. Introduction: The Orange Knowledge Programme

Nuffic's Orange Knowledge Programme is a 5 year global development programme, aimed at strengthening professionals and organisations through education and training. It contributes to the goals of the Netherlands' [development cooperation policy](#), in which education plays a significant role.

The programme offers funding in 54 countries for individual scholarships, tailor-made trainings and institutional partnerships between Dutch and foreign education institutions in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and higher education. It focuses on the priority themes of the Dutch government (Water, Food and nutrition security, Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights, and Security and Rule of Law) and aims throughout the programme for inclusion, employability and environmental sustainability.

Nuffic is programme manager, in close collaboration with the programme's funder, the Netherlands' Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Running from mid-2017 to mid-2022, it will offer at least 51,000 people the chance to change their future through education.

With its institutional collaboration projects (ICP) the Orange Knowledge Programme aims to support knowledge institutions in need of sustainable strengthening of higher and vocational education capacity, regarding local priority themes relevant to development cooperation. Support for vocational education and connection to the labour market are important principles. Institutional projects consist of various activities that contribute to institutional development of organisations in developing countries on three levels: individual, organisational and institutional.

More information about the Orange Knowledge Programme such as the basic principles and the policy framework can be found on the Nuffic website:

<https://www.nuffic.nl/en/subjects/orange-knowledge-programme/orange-knowledge-programme-overview>

The Orange Knowledge Grant Obligations and Conditions can be found among the downloads under the link to this call.

The Orange Knowledge Programme focuses on sustainable strengthening of higher and vocational education capacity within local priority themes relevant to Dutch development cooperation which are outlined in the Country Plans of Implementation (CPI). Click [here](#) for the CPIs per country. For this regional programme Nuffic developed a [context document](#) instead of a CPI. In all documents related to this call, when reference is made to 'CPI', the context document is meant. Also, where in this and related documents 'Country A' is mentioned, reference is made to the target countries Somalia, Sudan and/or South Sudan.

The Theory of Change (ToC) of the Orange Knowledge Programme describes the interlinkages between capacity building and sustainable inclusive development to which each approved initiative under the Orange Knowledge Programme contributes to. The ToC can be found [here](#).

This document describes the procedure for submitting an Orange Knowledge Programme grant application for institutional collaboration project – joint proposals.

In this document you find important details for this call. Where applicable, links are included to provide more information on grant obligations and conditions, guiding principles, procedures, and formats.

2. Information specific for this call

2.1 Long-term impact

The Theory of Change (ToC) of the Orange Knowledge Programme presents the expected medium and long-term impact and outcomes of the programme. Each impact and outcome is quantified by a number of indicators which are described in the Orange Knowledge Programme Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and relates to the M&E Framework of Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

All projects must contribute to achieving these impact and outcomes. In addition, it is expected that projects seek alignment with existing programmes, specifically existing OKP and Dutch government supported programmes, encourage alumni involvement and stimulate and facilitate south-south cooperation as much as possible. The grant application and, if the application is selected, subsequent reporting must give insight into how the project will contribute/contributes to achieving impact and outcomes.

The [context document](#) gives all the details about the impact, outcomes and indicators of the ToC of the Orange Knowledge Programme and of the contribution to the thematic ToC(s) specific to the region.

The proposed project must contribute to the following SDGs:

- Contribute to end hunger (SDG 2)
- Contribute to promoting just, peaceful and inclusive societies and achieving legitimate stability (SDG 16)

The proposed project must contribute to one or more of the following long-term impacts:

In the area of Food and Nutrition Security:

- Reduce malnutrition;
- Promote agricultural growth;
- Ecologically sustainable food systems.

In the area of Security and the Rule of Law:

- Human security;
- Rule of Law;
- Peace and governance;
- Social and economic reconstruction.

The following medium-term impact will contribute to this:

- Education system (TVET/HE) is of good quality, relevant and accessible (SDG 4);
- Partnerships between persons and organisations are inclusive and sustainable (SDG 17);
- Organisations key to (sectoral) inclusive development of partner countries are strengthened by inflow of enhanced workforce.

This will be achieved by the following outcome:

- TVET/HE organisations (in the selected partner countries and in NL) perform better their core tasks, firmly embedded in their environment (in line with country / regional specific labour market needs & aiming at inclusiveness).

In the Orange Knowledge Programme format for a grant application the consortium partners will be asked to select relevant indicators to measure the achievement during and after project implementation. Please refer to the Monitoring & Evaluation Framework on our [website](#).

2.2 Context of the call

The Orange Knowledge Regional Programme 'Capacity strengthening for resilience in the Horn' was launched in answer to the new focus in Minister Kaag's policy towards addressing root causes of instability, migration and hunger and promoting employment for youth, women and vulnerable groups. The programme consists of ICPs, Tailor-Made Training Plus projects (TMT+) and scholarships for Master and Short Courses. A first call for ICP and TMT+ projects resulted in a programme portfolio with 8 TMT+ and 2 ICP. Because the first call aimed at 3 ICP projects, a second call is now launched. Please refer to annex 1 for the project list.

This second ICP call falls within the same framework as the first call, but focuses on the gaps that remained after the projects had been selected (ICP and TMT+). In accordance with the context document, the Orange Knowledge regional programme should align with the Dutch funded FNS-REPRO project which builds on the 2018 Security Council's resolution on conflict and food security (UNSCR 2417). FNS-REPRO has three broad tracks: improving rural communities' access to and management of natural resources; generating enhanced and new livelihood opportunities along agricultural value chains; and enhancing people's capacity to explore and take advantage of those new opportunities. The Orange Knowledge regional programme specifically aims at strengthening institutional capacities for and in these value chains.

One of the objectives of the REPRO programme is to set examples of building food system resilience in protracted crisis. In the Horn, food systems and their food and nutrition security outcomes, are affected by conflict, environmental and economic shocks and stresses. By building food system resilience the ability of food systems to remain functional and recover from shocks and stressors is strengthened which will enable local communities to maintain or improve food and nutrition security in such contexts. One particular gap that remained after the first ICP call is food system resilience aimed at improved nutrition through nutrition sensitive horticulture for vulnerable groups. This is to be achieved in working with and strengthening the capacity of local educational and knowledge organisations to deliver practical training, knowledge products and ability to monitor impact and developing scaling strategies.

As the implementation time for this project will be approximately 1 year, it is important that applications build upon prior and/or ongoing cooperation in order to immediately be up to speed.

On COVID-19: all organisations working on OKP proposals are requested to explicitly take into account the possible consequences of COVID-19 on the project implementation.

On complementarity:

- One guiding principle of the Orange Knowledge Programme is complementarity: in the synergy with other Dutch centralised or decentralised development programmes and in the optimal integration of the available OKP instrument. Please take this guiding principle into account when developing your proposal and elaborate on it in question 1.1.7 of the joint proposal.
- In addition to the ICP and TMT+ projects, the Regional Programme provides extra scholarships for Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan. A budget of 2.8 million Euro will be reserved for scholarship applications in the coming rounds for Short courses and 1-year Masters. The Orange Knowledge programme explicitly aims at enhancing impact by integrating various modalities of the programme (Institutional Collaboration Projects, Tailor Made Trainings, Scholarships, alumni activities). This means that all organisations in the abovementioned countries participating in the regional programme are explicitly invited to take advantage of this opportunity to strengthen the effectiveness and impact of the individual projects through scholarships for staff of stakeholder organisations. These do not necessarily have to be the organisations already involved in the projects, but could also be collaborating organisations, such as government ministries, NGOs, private sector actors, organisations involved in REPRO or like-minded programmes. Please refer to [Individual scholarships - Orange Knowledge Programme | Nuffic](#).

The regional ICP projects aim at strengthening educational capacities in the Horn of Africa, specifically in Somalia (Somaliland). This is one of the most fragile regions in the world, where travel is not always safe and operational costs are often higher than in other OKP countries. Nuffic stresses that safety for people involved in this programme is an important issue and responsibility of the project implementers themselves. Applicants should consider realistic measures and/or strategies to cope with this situation and include them in the applications and corresponding budgets. Nuffic refers to the [travel safety](#) recommendations of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of the respective embassies.

Applications must include a partner from a [full programme country](#) as part of the Dutch consortium. This 'anchor organisation' should be located in one of the neighbouring countries: Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda or Egypt, capitalising on 15 years of institutional collaboration with the Netherlands towards capacity development. The role of an anchor organisation is providing stability and facilitating cooperation towards the other countries. The anchor organisation does not necessarily have to have participated in preceding Nuffic programmes, although this would be considered a plus in accordance with regular OKP assessment criteria.

Please note that for this regional programme, applications must be submitted by the Dutch lead partner. Partners from the target countries (Somalia, Sudan and/or South Sudan), or anchor organisations from Ethiopia or another full programme country cannot be applicant. The lead target organisation must be based in Somalia.

In the assessment of the applications, the following aspects, in addition to the regular assessment criteria, will be positively assessed:

- Inclusion of more target countries next to Somalia (Sudan and/or South Sudan);
- Thematic integration of FNS and SRoL: food and nutrition resilience, disaster risk management and mitigation;

- Addressing so far identified gaps in the 2 ICP and 8 TMT+ and subsequently reinforcing the regional programme;
- Integrated approach: ICPs reinforcing individual and group scholarships and vice versa;
- Focus on women's rights and gender equality;
- Strengthening employment oriented TVET.

Please note that these are priorities but not requirements.

2.3 Co-funding

Co-funding is one of the key principles underpinning the programme. It contributes to reciprocity and increases ownership of the collaboration. Co-funding may involve public, private and/or own funds.

Countries concerned in this regional programme are all classified Least Developed Country (LDC) by the [OECD](#). Proponents applying for Tailor Made Trainings and Institutional Collaboration Projects are encouraged but not obliged to include co-funding in their proposals. Integration of co-funding in the breakdown of budgets will be one of the assessment criteria in the selection of proposals.

A contribution from public funds is defined as: a contribution in cash or in kind to which is directly or indirectly paid for from state resources. State resources comprise all funds from the public sector, including funds from local levels of government (decentralised, federal, regional or other) and, in certain circumstances, funds from private bodies.

Public funds from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands (including embassies) do not count as co-funding, but can be added to the project.

Private funds are considered to be all funds – in cash or in kind – that are not state resources.

2.4 Questions about the call?

Nuffic will answer questions about this call until the date stated in the time schedule on the front page. If you have a question about this call you can send an e-mail in English to GDtenders@nuffic.nl. Mention in your email the call number.

Questions and Nuffic's answers will be published on the OKP website. The identity of the inquirers is kept private.

3. General information for applicants for institutional collaboration projects

Grants for OKP Institutional Collaboration Projects will be awarded to collaboration projects between knowledge institutions focusing on sustainable strengthening of higher and

vocational education capacity within local priority themes relevant to development cooperation. A grant application (proposal) may must be submitted by a Dutch institution for secondary vocational or higher vocational or academic education (grant applicant). The grant applicant must have sufficient organisational and financial capacity to lead an institutional collaboration project.

Please check the criteria in the legal policy framework on our website, and read the specific criteria in this call document.

The applying organisation will be the grant recipient, who will be responsible for the grant activities and for complying with the obligations and conditions connected to the grant.

3.1 Eligibility criteria

Grant applications and applicants have to meet the following minimum criteria to be eligible for a grant:

1. The grant application must be submitted by a [Dutch institution for secondary vocational or higher vocational or academic education](#). The project must be a collaboration between a Dutch and a country A partner, potentially on behalf of their consortia. All country A partners have to be based in the countries specified in the call. Only the Dutch lead partner has to be based in the Netherlands. Applications must include a partner from a [full programme country](#) as part of the Dutch consortium. This 'anchor organisation' should be located in one of the neighbouring countries: Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda or Egypt.
2. The grant applicant is in a position to provide adequate financial management and, due to its experience and expertise in relation to activities similar to those for which the grant is being requested, can guarantee the targeted and effective performance of the activities to achieve the impact and outcomes as defined in the application; the applicant must submit data in the form of a COCA to enable its capacities to be assessed.
3. The grant applicant can function and operate appropriately within the legislation passed by the government in the country or countries in question.
4. The project proposal has a minimum duration of one year and must be implemented and established by no later than 31 March 2022.
5. The grant applied for does not exceed the maximum amount specified in the call for grant applications.
6. Any required co-funding is guaranteed.
7. The grant application meets any specific financial requirements set out in the call.
8. The grant application must be in the compulsory format and meet all criteria and requirements stated in this document.
9. The grant applicant can only submit or be involved in one application for this call ('one applicant, one application'-rule). A consortium member (Country A or Dutch consortium) can participate in various proposals for the same call. The lead partner of the consortium that is not the applicant can also be involved in various applications for the same call.

After receiving an application Nuffic will check if the application is complete and meets the minimum criteria. If the application is not complete or does not meet all criteria Nuffic will inform the applicant. The applicant then has two working days to complete or correct his application under specific conditions. After the two working days it is not possible to make any more changes to the application. Applications that are still not complete or still do not meet the minimum criteria will be rejected.

3.2 Grant Obligations and Conditions

By submitting a grant application the applicant agrees with the Grant Obligations and Conditions (version 4.0). The applicant by submitting also agrees to endorse the objectives of the Orange Knowledge Programme.

3.3 Requirements

Applications have to be:

- submitted before the deadline, in the compulsory format;
- complete, including all required documents at the time of submission, in the English language;
- a maximum of 25 pages, excluding the compulsory annexes;
- in a font size not smaller than Century Gothic 10;
- submitted in a searchable PDF (including all the annexes) and a budget in excel via email by sending it to gdtenders@nuffic.nl.
- The email must at least carry the following information:
 - subject: grant application Orange Knowledge Programme: OKP-EAR-10067;
 - a description of the content: call number, country, attached documents;
 - the full name and contact details of the applicant.

All submitted annexes must follow the numbering and titles as indicated in the grant application form (checklist).

3.4 Eligibility check

After receipt of a grant application Nuffic will send the applicant a confirmation of receipt by email.

Nuffic will check if the application meets the eligibility criteria.

Grant applications that do not meet the minimum criteria will be rejected. The applicant will be informed of this decision by Nuffic via email.

3.5 Assessment and selection procedure

Step 1: Assessment of eligible applications

Nuffic assesses the quality of eligible applications.

The applications are assessed according to the following criteria:

- Quality of the partnership;
- Project relevance;
- Project approach and design;
- Project management;
- Technical quality of the application.

A specific score sheet and set of criteria are used for the quality evaluation of the application. These criteria are the basis to determine which application best answers the capacity gap expressed in the CPI. An explanation of the assessment specifying the assessment questions and their weighting is available on the website.

A grant application is given a score for each of these criteria. The application must obtain a minimum score for each of the five criteria. In case a minimum of co-funding is required, the application must also obtain a minimum score for co-funding. Only applications that have obtained the required minimum score on all items are taken into consideration in the selection of a winning application. Applications that have not obtained the minimum score will be rejected.

Step 2 Ranking of applications

After the assessment all applications will be ranked. The grant application(s) with the highest score(s) will be selected, within the available budget and taking into account a balanced geographic and/or thematic distribution.

After the selection Nuffic will inform the applicants with eligible applications by email of the outcome of the selection.

4. Checklist

Before submitting your application, please check that each of the following components is complete and complies with the criteria:

- The application concerns collaboration between a Dutch knowledge institution and a country A knowledge institution, potentially on behalf of their consortia;
- The application has been submitted before the deadline
- The correct application form has been used.
- The application is written in the required language.
- The budget is in the prescribed format (in excel and a signed PDF by the legal representative of the grant applicant), does not exceed the maximum available amount for the specific call and meets the co-financing requirement (if applicable).
- The e-mail has been drawn up according to the specifications in this document.
- The answers must not exceed the maximum number of words indicated per question.
- The 'one applicant, one application'-rule has been respected

An application needs the following documents to be complete:

- Filled-in application form using the mandatory application format
- Annex 1 Statement grant applicant (mandatory format)
- Annex 2 Letter of intent for a consortium agreement signed by all partners (Country A lead partner including consortium members and Dutch lead partner including consortium members) including organisational diagram of the project
- Annex 3 Project Logical framework including planning (mandatory format)
- Annex 4 Budget of the proposed project (mandatory format)
- Annex 5 Overview of relevant experience in capacity development of the Country A partner and the Dutch partner (mandatory format)
- Annex 6a CVs of the project management teams (both partners) and principal experts

- Annex 6b Statements of availability and expertise (mandatory format)
- Annex 7 Capacity analysis of the Country A partner(s) (mandatory format: organisational assessment plus 5c scoring visualisation)
- Annex 8 Proof of co-funding, duly signed by co-funder
- Annex 9 Bank Statement of the grant applicant no more than 6 months old
- Annex 10 Checklist Organisational Capacity Assessment (COCA) for Institutional Collaboration Projects of grant applicant (mandatory format) or if the applicant already has a valid COCA: the COCA registration number issued by Nuffic.

Incomplete applications will be rejected. Nuffic prefers the proposals for the Institutional Collaboration Projects calls to be submitted in separate documents (Proposal, CVs, statements, letters) and the budget also separately in Excel.

Annex 1: Orange Knowledge Regional Programme project portfolio

Institutional Collaboration Projects

OKP Project number	Country	Theme	Local partner	Dutch partner	Anchor	Subject
OKP-EAR-104672	Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan	Security and the rule of law	East Africa University, Somalia, Eastern College, Sudanese Organisation for Research and Development (SORD), Community Empowerment for Progress Organisation (CEPO)	Tilburg University, Kampala International University (KIU), Uganda, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia, Action Africa Help International (AAH-I), Kenya	Mekelle University	Improving resilience, access to employment and education, facilitated by e-learning and data sharing in the Horn of Africa
OKP-EAR-104673	Somalia, and South Sudan	Food and nutrition security	University of Hargeisa, Somalia; University of Juba, South-Sudan	Wageningen University (WUR/CDI); Van Hall Larenstein (VHL)	University of Bahir Dar, Institute for Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Studies (IDRMFNS), Ethiopia	Building Resilient Food Systems in Protracted Crisis Situations: Joint Regional Master Programme & Short Courses for Resilient Food and Nutrition Security Outcomes (MSC-ResFoNS)

Tailor Made Training +

OKP Project number	Country	Theme	Local partner	Dutch partner	Anchor	Subject
OKP-TMT+. 20/00034	Somalia, with possible outreach to South Sudan/Sudan	Food and nutrition security	University of Burao	Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences	University of Bahir Dar, Institute for Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Studies (IDRMFNS), Ethiopia	Building Resilient Food Systems in Protracted Crisis situations: Fodder systems and rangeland management in Somalia

OKP Project number	Country	Theme	Local partner	Dutch partner	Anchor	Subject
OKP-TMT+ .20/00022	Somalia	Food and nutrition security	Warsan Relief Organisation	Stichting Crosswise Works	Action Africa Help International (AAHI), Kenya	Entrepreneurship Training in Rural Somalia
OKP-TMT+ .20/00028	Somalia	Food and nutrition security	Red Sea University, faculty of Vet. Medicine Galkaio, Amoud University, Faculty of Agriculture Borama, Somaliland Livestock ministries of Federal Member States namely Puntland, Jubaland, South West, Galmudug and Hirshabele	Aeres Hogeschool	Jimma University, Ethiopia	Capacity Building to Improve Food Security and Livelihoods in Somalia
OKP-TMT+ .20/00023	South Sudan	Food and nutrition security	Juba University College of Natural Resources and Environmental Studies	MDF Training and Consultancy	Egerton University, Center of Excellence in Food Security, Kenya	New Horizons for food security & agro-education in South Sudan
OKP-TMT+ .20/00026	South Sudan, outreach to Somalia/Somaliland and Sudan	Food and nutrition security	Juba University, College of Natural Resources and Environmental Studies, Juba, South Sudan	Wageningen UR Centre for Development innovation (WCDI)	University of Bahir Dar, Institute for Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Studies (IDRMFNS), Ethiopia	Building Resilient Food Systems in Protracted Crisis Situations: Horticulture for Improved Nutrition and Income Generation
OKP-TMT+ .20/00027	South Sudan, outreach to Somalia/Somaliland and Sudan	Food and nutrition security	Juba University, College of Natural Resources and Environmental Studies, Juba, South Sudan	Wageningen UR Centre for Development innovation	University of Bahir Dar, Institute for Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Studies (IDRMFNS), Ethiopia	Building Resilient Food Systems in Protracted Crisis Situations: Climate Change, Seed Systems and Community Seed Banks

OKP Project number	Country	Theme	Local partner	Dutch partner	Anchor	Subject
OKP-TMT+.20/00020	Sudan and South Sudan	Food and nutrition security	Alzaiem Alazhri University, Faculty of Agriculture, Sudan	Royal Tropical Institute	Mekelle University, Ethiopia	From despair to hope - promoting women's and youth innovation for food and nutrition security and community resilience in Sudan and South Sudan
OKP-TMT+.20/00031	Sudan, Somalia and South Sudan	Security and the rule of law	Sudan Urban Development Think Tank (SUDT), Ministry of Labour and Social Development, Sudan	ITC, University of Twente, Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Belgium	African Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC), Kenya	Capacity strengthening for gender responsive and sustainable urban development: Integrated Deprivation Area Mapping System for Displacement Durable Solutions and socioeconomic reconstruction in Khartoum, Sudan