



# Global Forum on Illicit Financial Flows and Sustainable Development

*Call for Ideas*  
2023



**GLOBAL FORUM**  
on Illicit Financial Flows and  
Sustainable Development



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## Call for Ideas

### Deadline for submission: 16 March 2023

The Call for Ideas is part of the *Global Forum on Illicit Financial Flows and Sustainable Development* (Global Forum), which seeks to strengthen the sustainable development policy perspective in the international system for combating illicit financial flows (IFFs). Commissioned by the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), and co-financed by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Global Forum is implemented by GIZ under the umbrella of the [Global Program Combating Illicit Financial Flows](#).

Designed to establish a robust link between necessary strategic and technical exchanges and effective implementation, the Global Forum builds on two mutually reinforcing pillars:

- **Exchange** (Pillar 1): Fostering the dialogue on current and future trends, approaches, risks, and challenges in the fight against IFFs between different stakeholder groups and regions through the biennial Global Forum Symposium (the Symposium). The Symposium's second edition on *Combating Illicit Financial Flows: Implementing International Standards Effectively, Coherently, and in a Development-Oriented Manner* was held in September 2022.
- **Action** (Pillar 2): Providing financial support to innovative project proposals selected through a public Call for Ideas (the Call) to carry out collaborative ideas in a relevant action field. The call's objective is to translate the results, recommendations, guidance and findings of Pillar 1 into action.

### What we are looking for

Through the Call, the Global Forum is looking to finance up to five projects that connect the fight against IFFs with the [Sustainable Development Agenda](#). Thus, we want to incubate innovative project ideas and scalable approaches in this field. Winning projects will be awarded funding of EUR 50,000 - 125,000 and will be given a total implementation timeframe of 12 months to complete their projects. To use the financial resources most impactful, project proposals should avoid any duplication of existing and/or planned projects, initiatives, and/or activities in the respective area of implementation and target region.

Up to five projects  
will be selected

Grants of  
50,000-125,000€

Execution period of  
12 months

### Areas of implementation

The Call is open to various ideas, formats, and conceptual approaches. The Global Forum expects proposals to be very concrete with respect to their outputs and deliverables, which must be beneficial to the stakeholder's/target group's core operations, the Sustainability Agenda, and the fight against IFFs. A successful application must clearly elaborate on the direct contribution to each aspect.



Project proposals should seek to create impact in one or several of the following areas identified during the Symposium:



Please note that “digital transformation” is understood as a cross-cutting area of implementation that may be operationalized and relevant in connection to each and every other area listed above. Furthermore, we are particularly interested in funding proposals that either advance existing efforts in the fields of prevention, financial investigation and/or asset recovery, or that address new challenges and explore new promising avenues.

### **Geographical scope**

Given the global pervasiveness of IFFs, responses are needed at all levels to effectively combat and prevent them. This Call has therefore no particular geographical focus. Proposals with an international, regional, as well as national and local focus are all welcome. In line with the need to collaborate across regions and sectors to successfully combat IFFs, proposals that are relevant for more than one country and that include the perspective of at least two disciplines have an advantage. Applicants who work closely with(in) communities severely affected by IFFs, or are from countries disproportionately affected by IFFs, are particularly encouraged to apply.

### **Eligibility criteria**

Applicants should have a proven track record, profound expertise and/or background in anti-money laundering and/or combating the financing of terrorism, ideally from one of the following sectors:

- Think tanks/research institutes/academia
- International organizations
- Civil society organizations
- Government authorities/policy makers
- Law enforcement agencies
- Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs)



- Private sector enterprises and initiatives
- Financial institutions and regulators

Applicants from other sectors or disciplines will be considered if their work is relevant to the Call's objectives and the areas of implementation. Proposals submitted by a team of applicants will have an advantage. Please note that a maximum of two applicant entities are permitted to submit a joint proposal.

### **Selection criteria**

The Global Forum adheres to five guiding principles which it seeks to embed in all projects and activities implemented and/or funded by it. These guiding principles should be reflected individually and collectively in the project proposals:

- **Multi-Stakeholder:** Strengthening collaboration and exchange between relevant stakeholder groups for combating IFFs;
- **Development-orientation:** Combating IFFs through measures and standards that avoid unintended consequences, foster South-South dialogues and cooperation as well as South-North dialogues and collaboration;
- **Coherence and Continuity:** Consolidating a long-term alignment between policy guidance and technical implementation;
- **Practice-orientation:** Ensuring that topics and formats are relevant for practical implementation and feasible;
- **Connection to Global Standards/Agendas:** Linking existing efforts to global standards and agendas to combat IFFs.

Apart from aforementioned preferences, applicants will furthermore be selected based on, inter alia, the quality of proposed impact, innovative character of their proposal, methodological approach and their ideas for outreach/dissemination/result exploitation.

### **Selection process & timeline**

The application and selection process will be conducted in three steps:

1. **Open call:** All applicants that fulfill the eligibility criteria are invited to submit a proposal;
2. **Review:** All proposals will be evaluated and shortlisted by the Global Forum team;
3. **Selection:** Shortlisted proposals will be submitted to a high-level Advisory Group which will select up to five winning projects.

The Global Forum Advisory Group is composed of leading experts in the field of combating IFFs, including Mr. Mu'azu Umaru from the Inter-Governmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa (GIABA), Ms. Slagjana Taseva from Transparency International (North-Macedonia), Mr. Louis de Koker from La Trobe University (academia), Alan Ketley (ad personam, private sector), Mr. Daniel Alker from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Mr. Daniel Gímenez from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs.





## Grant information

Project funding range EUR 50,000 - 125,000. Proposal submitted that are less than EUR 50,000 or exceed EUR 125,000 will not be considered.

The Call is designed as a stand-alone grant to implement projects. Please note that applicants need to comply with “GIZ’s administrative and legal requirements” (see Annex C).

The submission of a proposal does not lead to a legal entitlement to receive any funding. Any possible funding through Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH within the framework of this call for ideas will be granted following and in accordance with an appropriate legal and commercial review, in particular with regard to the public benefit purpose of each project and the non-violation of EU state-aid law. The legal compliance may also require adjustments in respect of the concept of the project proposal submitted as well as the inclusion of corresponding provisions into the contracts governing the use of funding. Successful proposals will receive the allocated funding in form of a grant agreement for non-German recipients or in form of a subsidy agreement for German recipients, signed by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

## Corporate seat of applicants

- **Corporate seat inside Germany:** It is possible to conclude a financing arrangement with a recipient based in Germany only if the recipient is a legal entity under public law or if the recipient is recognized as a public-benefit organization. Therefore, it is not possible within the public-benefit business area of GIZ to provide financing to a commercial entity based in Germany.
- **Corporate seat outside Germany:** A financing arrangement with a commercial institution based outside Germany, which has no limited tax liability in Germany, is possible under non-profit law. For such financing, however, it is particularly important to assure that the measure being funded does count as for public benefit.

## How to apply

Interested parties should submit their project proposal by e-mail in pdf format to the Global Forum (see below). Please make sure that project descriptions:

- Are complete and include all the required documentation as set out below;
- Are exclusively written in English;
- Are clear, succinct and compliant with the format requirements;
- Are demonstrably not-for-profit and in compliance with rules and regulations set out by the GIZ/BMZ ([www.giz.de/financing](http://www.giz.de/financing));
- Clearly disclose all previous, ongoing or planned relationships/collaboration (including your sub-recipient’s) with members of the Global Forum Advisory Group and/or institutions and divisions represented.



Proposals need to include the following documents:

- A completed *Application Form* (see Annex A);
- A completed “*Global Forum Call for Ideas Budget Form*”, stating how the funds will be used. The current budget template can be found here: [Financing: Contract management and contract processing \(giz.de\)](#)  
Please follow the “guidelines for budgetary procedures” (see Annex B);
- All required documentation as specified in the document “*GIZ administrative and legal requirements*” (see Annex C).

**Applications will only be accepted by e-mail to [GlobalForumIFF@giz.de](mailto:GlobalForumIFF@giz.de)**

Please make sure that you have included all relevant information in your e-mail. Applicants will receive confirmation of their submission by the next working day. If you have technical issues or if you have any questions, please contact Mr. Yannick Motz or Ms. Camila Sanchez Nunez at [GlobalForumIFF@giz.de](mailto:GlobalForumIFF@giz.de).



## Annex A – Call for Ideas Application Form

The Global Forum on Illicit Financial Flows and Sustainable Development only accepts proposals that follow the guidelines and format set out below.

**Format:**

- **No. of pages:** max. 8 pages (excluding cover page, general information & annexes)
- **Font:** Arial
- **Font Size:** 11
- **Line spacing:** Single

### General Information

**1. Name of the applicant**

Please enter here

**2. Name of the applicant's organization**

Please enter here

**2a. Name of the sub-recipient's organization, if applicable**

Please enter here

**3. Short title of the project/grant purpose (one sentence)**

Please enter here

**4. Which region(s) does the project address?**

Please enter here

**5. Contact information of grant recipient:**

- **Address of applicant's organization:**

Please enter here

- **Phone number:**

Please enter here

- **Email:**

Please enter here

**5a. Contact information of sub-recipient's organization, if applicable:**

- **Address of applicant's organization:**

Please enter here

- **Phone number:**

Please enter here

- **Email:**

Please enter here





## Project Proposal Outline

**6. Brief description of the proposal, incl. area of implementation, identified problem, solution, rationale, etc. (max. 500 words).**

Click here to enter text

**7. Please describe the technical approach and methodology (max. 400 words).**

Click here to enter text

**8. Please describe the innovative character of your proposal and its complementarity to already existing regional and/or sectoral efforts (max. 450 words).**

Click here to enter text

**9. Please provide a preliminary timeline for project implementation (including presentation of interim results) and respective resources allocated. Visual displays are encouraged (max. 250 words).**

Click here to enter text

**10. Please describe your mitigation and contingency plans (max. 200 words).**

Click here to enter text

**11. What are the intended outcomes for the end of the project implementation? (max. 300 words).**

Click here to enter text



**12. Please describe your ideas for outreach, dissemination and when applicable, scalability. Please also specify your target groups and beneficiaries (max. 400 words).**

Click here to enter text

**13. Please describe the impact / added value to specific [SDGs](#) that the project intends to create (and how the proposed activities will contribute to this). When applicable, please include the cross-regional or cross-sectoral relevance. For more information, please see the [UN Sustainability Agenda](#) (max. 500 words).**

Click here to enter text

**14. Please provide a brief description of each organization and team members' respective roles during the project's implementation period and short bios with the names (please note that the CVs should be attached to the application, in English language) (max. 200 words per (organization) profile).**

Click here to enter text

**15. Please demonstrate how your proposal is not-for-profit and in compliance with rules and regulations set out in the GIZ/BMZ ([www.giz.de/financing](http://www.giz.de/financing)) (max. 200 words).**

Click here to enter text

**16. Please disclose any (including your sub-recipient's) former, ongoing or planned relationship and collaboration with members of the Global Forum Advisory Group and/or the institutions and divisions represented, if applicable (max. 200 words).**

Click here to enter text



## Annex B - Guidelines on budgetary procedures

For more details, please follow the link: [Financing: Contract management and contract processing \(giz.de\)](https://www.giz.de/financing) where you can find all rules and information about contract management and contract processing for German and non-German recipients.

### Consortia applications

Please be informed that in case of consortia applications, GIZ signs contracts only with the lead applicant. The lead applicant is the grant recipient and is responsible for compliance with all rules that are part of grant agreements and the implementation of the co-applicants' activities. The co-applicants shall have a different profile and therefore complement the lead applicant with their specific skills. The lead applicant's budget must include the budget of the lead applicant themselves plus the budgets of all co-applicants to show the total budget.

The budget template must be designed and adapted as following: one excel file with one sheet for the total budget (lead applicant = grant recipient) and one additional sheet per co-applicant (please observe the GIZ standard template).

The budget line forwarding of funds in the lead applicant's budget = total budget is used for reflecting co-applicants' budgets = the lead applicant is responsible for forwarding the respective funds to the co-applicants.

### Explanatory notes on budget categories

Regarding the financial management of the grant, the recipient shall always comply with the requirements as stipulated in the Financial Guidelines for the applicable contract which are stated in Annex 3 of the contract and are available under: [www.giz.de/financing](http://www.giz.de/financing)

1. Staff	<p>Staff - prime cost for employees of the recipient (job title) Only staff from your organization; the evidence for this budget line must be provided in the form of payslips or, in the case of partial financing, in the form of payslips and time sheets.</p> <p>Only direct costs for staff (gross cost for the employer) may be settled. Add-ons such as staff overheads that are calculated pro-rata for staff are not eligible for support.</p>
2. External experts (External services)	<p>Individuals who do not have an employment relationship with the recipient that is subject to social security contributions. These individuals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• are self-employed or employed by a service provider who is not the recipient.</li> <li>• do not receive a salary from the recipient, nor does the recipient pay social security contributions for the experts.</li> <li>• may only be commissioned in compliance with the procurement rules of the agreement <a href="#">Anlage 4a Procurement Guidelines.pdf (giz.de)</a></li> </ul>
3. Transportation/ Travel	<p>Travel expenditures, accommodation and per diems are eligible for financing but they must be directly attributable to the project. Please list all travel expenditure in this budget category, e.g., for travel of your own staff and travel expenditure of external persons participating in conferences and workshop.</p> <p>Costs are settled based on invoices and/or the recipient's travel expense guidelines and/or statutory provisions, such as the Federal</p>



	<p>Travel Expenses Act (BRKG). You should not break down the different costs into groups of people.</p>
4. Procurement of materials and equipment	<p>Expenditure for materials, equipment or miscellaneous purchases can be listed in this category. Please name budgeted expenditures precisely and show clearly how they have been calculated. It is imperative that the procurement guidelines (Annex 4 of the Agreement) are observed, and compliance with these guidelines must be documented: <a href="#">Anlage 4a Procurement Guidelines.pdf (giz.de)</a></p>
5. Other costs/ Consumables	<p>Other expenditure for the project, such as publications, translations and IT services can be listed in this category. Please name budgeted expenditure precisely and show clearly how they have been calculated. Requirements for the award of contracts for goods and services: It is imperative that the procurement guidelines (Annex 4 of the Agreement) are observed, and compliance with these guidelines must be documented: <a href="#">Anlage 4a Procurement Guidelines.pdf (giz.de)</a></p>
6. Funds for direct support of third-party beneficiaries	<p>This budget line should preferably cover in-kind contributions, i.e. contribution of materials and equipment, to third-party beneficiaries. In the case of financial contributions, proof of payment has to be regulated. The selection process for the third-party beneficiaries has to be described in the project description.</p>
7. Pro-rata local project costs (e.g. IT, research)	<p>Pro-rata local project costs are only eligible if an auditor - contracted by the recipient - provides evidence of these costs before the contract is concluded. In this case, the settlement is made on a percentage or flat rate basis according to the audit document. If an audit report is not available before conclusion of the contract, local project costs must be substantiated as direct costs with individual receipts</p>
8. Administration costs	<p>The administration costs should be 0% and are normally covered by the recipient's own contribution. GIZ can cover a small portion of such costs in cases where the recipient is unable to do so. The type and amount of these costs may be examined by an auditor. The contract management section must be informed if the administration costs do not pertain to all budget lines 1-7.</p>
9. Forwarding of Funds	<p>Funds may be forwarded to third-party recipients only if this is contractually agreed and the funds are budgeted in the budget line 'Funds for direct support to third-party recipients.' In this category (in the recipient's budget) the sums of all grants that will be forwarded to implementing partners (sub grants to final recipients) will be calculated by an automated function of the budget template. The recipient shall ensure that the terms and conditions of the agreement are applied equally to the contractual relationship between the recipient and the final recipients.</p>



## Annex C - GIZ administrative and legal requirements

The direct beneficiary of the grant must be a corporation (legal entity/juridical person), i.e. it must have an independent and verifiable legal personality. This can be assumed if the recipient is legally independent and has legal competence and capacity. Having rights and obligations means that the recipient has the legal capacity to conclude contracts in its own name. Therefore, natural persons (although these also have their own legal personality) and partnerships or associations that do not have legal capacity cannot be taken into consideration as direct recipients of financing, even if they sometimes act as executing agencies for public benefit projects.

In order to check the legal and commercial eligibility of the applicant we ask you to provide the following documents:

- **Registration documents**  
Extracts from the appropriate register/formation documents showing the location of the institution's/organization's registered office and the year it was established.
- **Statute of the organization**
- **Public benefit status**  
Please explain how the intended use of funds within the project context according to the project proposal is for public benefit in at least one developing country.
- Documents that provide information on procedures **for bookkeeping and accounting** and proof of usage of electronic bookkeeping system within the organization.
- Confirmation of a working **time recording system** for employees (if it does not exist, a statement for setting up a manual recording system, i.e., timesheets, etc.).
- **Contract award and procurement procedures** applied by the organization (a document explaining the regulations you have in place and if this is according to state rules)
- For grants >100.000 EUR it must be established whether **internal and external controls** are in place within the organization of the potential recipient. A brief description of the following principles should be added
  - The principle of transparency
  - The cross-check principle
  - The principle of separation of functions
  - The need-to-know principle
  - For grants <100.000 EUR the principle of transparency and the cross-check principle must be observed.
- **External audit reports** for the last three years





- A declaration if you had **earlier experience** with GIZ. If yes, please provide the contract number and financing volume of the received grants. If no, please state the name of other donors and the financing volume of the received grants.
- **A self-declaration on legal compliance and anti-corruption. Please use the following text:**
  - *“I hereby confirm that no allegations have been made or investigations carried out in the last five years in relation to the organization, members of its executive bodies or executive managers concerning breaches of the law, corruption, or other offences (e.g., fraud, misappropriation, breach of trust). In addition, we confirm that an effective system for preventing and combating corruption is established and consistently implemented.”*
- **If sub-grantees are involved, please provide**
  - Registration documents (extracts from the appropriate register/formation documents showing the location of the institution’s/organization’s registered office and the year it was established.
  - An explanation on the project’s public benefit status – i.e. how the intended use of fund within the project context according to the project proposal is for public benefit.