

FAQ - Fund for Evaluation in Employment 2015

- **What kind of activities does the Fund finance?**

For this call for proposals, the Fund will mainly go to financing the improvement of M&E systems and impact research. For the improvement of M&E systems, funds will mainly be dedicated to engaging M&E technical experts, training for M&E staff and data collection. For impact research, funds will mainly be used for data collection and research management.

- **What is the main target group of interest?**

The main target group of this call is M&E Officers, researchers and academics who are interested in evaluating the labour market and gender equality effects of their programs.

- **Who can apply?**

(1) Public, non-governmental or multilateral institutions with projects or evaluations in one of the Middle East or North African (MENA) countries and implementing interventions with employment outcomes

(2) Non-profit research organizations based worldwide, but must be studying effects of employment interventions implemented in the MENA region

- **Can private research institutes also apply?**

Alliances and partnerships between public/non-profit and private institutions are possible, but the main applicant has to be a non-profit-oriented institution (see question “Who can apply?”).

- **What is the regional eligibility?**

Evaluated projects must be based in the MENA region. Applications can only be submitted in English or French. However, it should be noted that the application form and all technical assistance will be delivered in English.

- **Are organizations based outside the Middle East and North Africa eligible to apply and receive funding?**

Yes. The only condition is that the project that is proposed in the application must be an employment/enterprise development project based in the Middle East and North Africa.

- **How is the Fund implemented?**

The Fund is managed by the ILO in Geneva, Switzerland. Proposals chosen to receive financial support will be required to sign a grantee agreement with the ILO.

- **How many calls for tender and calls for proposal are expected to be issued this year? And when?**

Calls for proposals will be issued annually. Proposals that are not selected to receive funding are encouraged to apply in subsequent years. The next call for proposals will take place in 2016.

- **Can I get funding from the Fund for my new project?**

No - funding and support only go towards monitoring and evaluation (M&E) or impact evaluation costs and not to any project costs.

- **How much funding is available and how many projects will be selected?**

In the current call for proposals up to \$650,000 is available as seed funding for 3-5 impact evaluations. A separate amount of funding (to be determined) is available for project teams that want to improve their M&E system.

- **Am I required to participate in the Evaluation Clinic to be eligible for funding?**

No - although all applications that are shortlisted will be sponsored to participate in the Evaluation Clinic. A small number of shortlisted applicants will qualify to receive funding. Participation to the Clinic and receipt of funding are not necessarily linked. Each application will be individually assessed for financial and/or technical support.

- **How many participants from the applicants' organizations will be invited to evaluation clinics? How many applications are expected to receive funding?**

It is expected that 6-7 projects will be invited to participate in the Evaluation Clinic (expenses paid by the Fund)

- **I am part of an implementing institution and we are interested in evaluating the impact of our activities, but we don't have enough knowledge and experience to do this. Can I apply to the Fund for support?**

Yes. The Fund provides technical assistance and capacity building for practitioners to set-up results-oriented monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems. Furthermore, the Fund helps to match implementing organizations with experienced researchers to develop impact evaluations and bring them to a stage that is eligible for seed funding.

- **Based on what criteria will applications be selected for participation at the evaluation clinic?**

Priority will be given to applications that demonstrate the following characteristics (more details are provided in the Info Note):

- Innovativeness of project
- Policy relevance and scalability of the intervention
- Capacity and Investment in M&E
- Potential for knowledge generation and replication
- Quality of collaborating project/research team

- **Based on what criteria will applications be selected for funding?**

- All of the before mentioned (see former question) and additionally:
- Use of the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI)
- Integration of a cost-effectiveness analysis
- Participation of local researchers