

OFID-REEEP Programme Cycle: Call for Proposals

September 2011



renewable energy & energy efficiency partnership



Against the backdrop of the United Nations declaration of 2012 as the International Year for Sustainable Energy for All, we are pleased to announce a new programme cycle to support up to three projects to enhance energy access for the poor through the deployment low-carbon energy technologies. This document provides an overview of the key features of the OFID-REEEP programme cycle.

Background

REEEP is a voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership established at the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002 with the objective of working to expand the global market for renewable energy and energy efficiency, contributing to the implementation of agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPoI). REEEP now has 350 partners, including 45 governments, and achieves this objective through activities which include a programme of capacity building projects in developing countries.

OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) is a multilateral development institution that was established following the First OPEC (Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) Heads of State Summit in Algiers, Algeria in 1975, with the purpose of channelling OPEC aid to developing countries in the spirit of South-South Cooperation. OFID's support has reached more than 120 countries since its inception, and has different financing mechanisms such as public sector loans, private sector loans, trade finance facilitation, and grants. Since 2007, OFID has increased its emphasis on supporting Energy Projects for the Poor, and have recently established an energy grant account to support these projects in developing countries. Further information is provided on the OFID website www.ofid.org

Under its programme, REEEP extends financial support to high-quality renewable energy and energy efficiency projects that target business, financing, policy and regulatory issues in developing countries. The REEEP Programme has so far offered support to 150 projects in over 60 countries, funded by the Governments of United Kingdom, Norway, Ireland, Australia, Italy and New Zealand. More information about the current projects supported by REEEP is available at http://www.reeep.org/2518/ongoing-projects.htm

Key requirements

Proposals contributing to increasing energy access through lowcarbon energy technologies will be considered from organisations active in developing countries. The key requirements for proposals under the OFID-REEEP programme cycle are:

- Project proposals should be structured according to REEEP Bidding Form Version 4, and the filled in forms should be submitted by e-mail to **ofidcall@reeep.org** by 21 October, 2011. The selection of the projects will be done jointly by OFID and REEEP.
- The level of OFID-REEEP financing will be a maximum of up to US\$ 150,000 per project. Funded projects will be implemented over a 12-month period from February 2012. (Longer-term projects of 24 months' duration are also possible in exceptional cases.) Proposals should leverage a minimum of 50% co-financing.
- OFID and REEEP plan to support up to three proposals that propose innovative approaches to addressing the finance and business challenges of energy access by the poor. Proposals that address thermal and mechanical energy requirements in addition to electricity may be preferred. All proposals must be self-sustaining beyond the OFID-REEEP funding period.
- Project proposals should address the OFID priorities on energy poverty given at Annex A.
- REEEP will provide partial support for costs of energy access hardware or infrastructure; co-financing from other donors or own resources can be used to support the remaining costs for hardware or infrastructure.
- The proposals may be from governments, regulators, financiers, industry or NGOs and should address energy

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access for the poor and may inter alia address issues such as:

- establishment of new and innovative sustainable enterprise and institutional models and processes for energy access by the poor;
- use of information and communication technologies (such as mobile money, smartcards) in managing the financial and business processes of energy access efforts;
- innovative ways to manage and mitigate the risks of scaling up energy access programmes for the poor;
- application of social enterprise and social merchant bank models with a central role for women in delivering sustainable energy access for the poor;
- establishment of long-term, low-cost finance facilities at national or provincial/regional levels for sustainable financing energy access initiatives, enterprises and supply chains;
- innovative and scalable initiatives for energy access by the poor in combination with commercial/industrial activity and income generation; and
- establishment of innovative regulatory and incentive frameworks at federal and state/provincial levels for enhancing rural energy access.
- It should be noted that the following types of proposals are unlikely to be supported:
 - REEEP will not support projects where the majority of the resources are requested for workshops, seminars, study-tours or conferences and awareness creation/information dissemination. These events and efforts may form part of a project proposal only if they are an integral part of a larger process and only consume a limited share (less than 10%) of the project resources.
 - REEEP will not support stand-alone analysis and research efforts which will primarily result in publications and reports as the outputs.

Important dates

The timetable for the OFID-REEEP programme cycle is given in the table in the next column. Selected projects will be announced at the end of January 2012.

TIMETABLE		
	Milestone	Date
Т	Submission of full proposals	21st October 2011
2	Publication of final results	31st January 2012
5	Project implementation begins	Ist February 2012

Selection process

The bidding will follow a single-stage process. Proposals should be submitted using REEEP Bidding Form Version 4 and sent to **ofidcall@reeep.org**. Detailed guidance on the process, sample bidding formats and guidance on filling in the forms, as well as a full list of the types of proposals that will be rejected outright, can be found in the REEEP Project Line Version 5.4 (offline version). REEEP reserves the right not to select any of the submitted proposals if they do not meet the required quality standards. All incomplete proposals, proposals that do not target the priorities, and proposals that do not fulfil the key requirements will be automatically rejected.

Annex A

OFID PRIORITIES

The donor of the current REEEP programme cycle is OFID. OFID will support projects that accelerate development through energy access for the poor in one or more of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

Target Countries

All projects should be implemented in Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

Co-financing

All projects should have a minimum of 50% co-financing to be eligible for support.

Key Requirements

All OFID-supported projects are preferred to be income generating and sustainable after completion.





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Photo top centre: Thomas Kelly