



Global Affairs  
Canada

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Canada

Canada

# Call for Proposal Process at Global Affairs

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# Agenda

- Global Affairs Canada and Canada's Feminist International Assistance Programming
- International Development Funding at Global Affairs Canada
- Case study: SMO Pilot Initiative
- Next steps



# Canada's International Development

**Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy** was launched June 9, 2017

- Result of an **extensive review** and **consultations** with over 15,000 people and organizations in more than 65 countries.
- Canada will advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls to contribute to global efforts to eradicate poverty around the world and support achievement of the SDGs.
- Canada focusses its international assistance through **six action areas**.



# Framework for Effective Delivery of International Assistance

Policy commitment to maximize the effectiveness of Canadian international assistance, including through:

- More effective partnerships
  - Diversify partnerships
  - Enhance engagement with civil society (Civil Society Partnerships Policy)
- Investing in innovation and research
  - Adopt more flexible, innovative and integrated approaches
- More responsive and accountable assistance
  - Streamline and accelerate funding and reporting procedures to reduce the administrative burden on our partners





# Partnerships for Development Innovation Mandate

- Contribute to poverty reduction in developing countries and the achievement of the SDGs by working in partnerships with **Canadian civil society organizations** (Canadian NGOs; private sector; colleges, universities, research entities; provincial and regional councils; and foundations)
- **Engages Canadians** as global citizens in international development.
- Promotes **innovative approaches** to international development.





# Securing Funds for International Development

There are two ways for civil society organizations (CSOs) to **initiate** an application to secure funding for an international development project:

- Apply through a [Call for Proposals](#)
- Submit an [Unsolicited Proposal](#)

Global Affairs can also choose to target a specific organization to achieve specific high-level development results. This is called a [Department-Initiated](#) application.



# Task force on Improving Effectiveness (Fall 2017)

- Steering Committee and Solution Teams comprised of representatives from Global Affairs Canada and partner organizations
- 6 Solution Teams to date on: Reporting, Calls for Proposals Process, Contribution Agreement Content, Contribution Agreement Negotiation Process, Ad-hoc Reporting, and Low-Dollar Value
- As of August 2018, the Solution Teams have proposed over 50 recommendations to Global Affairs Canada; 16 have been implemented and are fully complete, nine are in progress, and 30 are either under consideration or pending further consultation for implementation





# Calls for Proposals Process Solution Team

## Recommendations implemented:

- advance notice (8 weeks) of a call launch
- calls open for at least 6 weeks
- ensure that Q&As published at least one week before the end of the call
- indicate the publication date with Q&As so that applicants can easily tell which ones are new
- more information on status of calls (eligibility concluded, merit assessment results distributed, etc.)
- **Additional recommendations in progress and/or under consideration**







# Calls for Proposals in 2018

- 6 calls launched with over \$235M in funding
- 2 of these calls managed by Partnerships
  - **Small and Medium Organizations (SMO) :**
    - 196 applications, \$280M requested
    - Proposals for more than 10x the established funding envelope for this first call!
  - **Partnerships for Her Voice, Her Choice:**
    - 75 applications, \$485M requested
    - Proposals for more that 10x the established funding envelope





# SMO Pilot Initiative


- \$100 million, five-year pilot initiative
- Objectives:
  - enhance impacts of our international assistance
  - diversify Global Affairs Canada’s partnerships and
  - provide predictable opportunities to apply for funding to Canadian SMOs
- Three windows:
  - Development Impact (first call in 2017; second call early 2019)
  - Innovation (2019)
  - Capacity and Knowledge Building (2019)





# SMO 1: Proposal Assessment Process

1. Eligibility check
2. Merit assessment
  - A. Rationale for the initiative
  - B. Gender equality
  - C. Human Rights
  - D. Environmental sustainability
  - E. Managing for results
  - F. Responding to risks
  - G. Organization ability relevant to the initiative
3. Best fit analysis



Same for  
all Calls





# SMO 1: Lessons on Eligibility

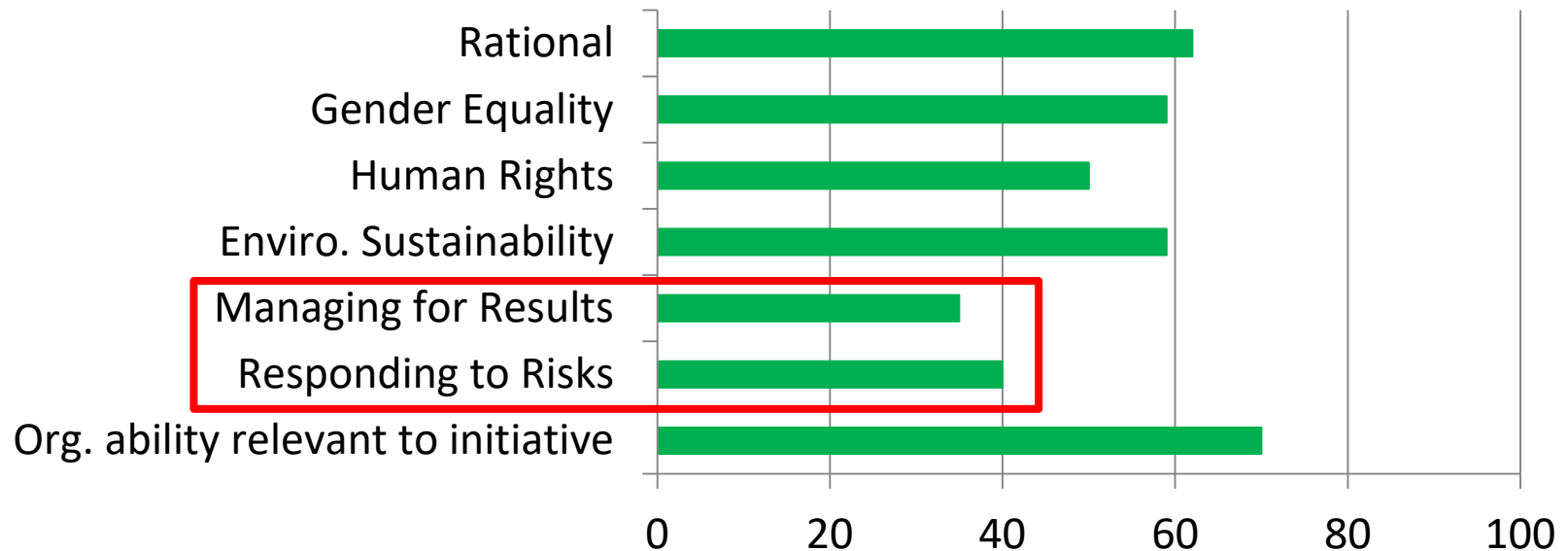
- Almost **30%** of SMO applicants ineligible
- Carefully review *organization eligibility* and *required project parameters* on the call page - mandatory requirements
- Ensure that you meet each requirement before applying
- Send any questions to call Q&A page before deadline
- Monitor call Q&A page on a regular basis and before submitting (answers posted up to 1-week before call close date)



# SMO 1: Lessons on Merit Assessment

## 2. Merit assessment

% Ratings: Acceptable and Strong





# Lessons: Managing for Results

## Managing for results:

- Project design should start with identifying desired results
- Proposals should demonstrate how lessons learned and best practices incorporated into project design
- Describe participation of intermediaries, beneficiaries' and other stakeholders' in project design
- Linkages between results should be clear, logical and compelling
- Clearly articulate strategies for ensuring sustainability of project results





# Lessons: Responding to Risks

## Responding to risks

- Many organizations omitted risks from their proposals
- Risks need to be explicitly addressed, applicants should not hesitate to mention risks - this is part of international assistance
- Global Affairs needs to see that applicants have a sound understanding of and a plan to mitigate the risks that could have the greatest impact on the achievement of development results





# Lessons: GE and Human Rights

## Gender Equality and Human Rights

- Provide compelling evidence that project is based in human rights analysis and gender equality analysis in the theory of change
- Describe how project will target/include the most vulnerable/marginalized groups in society (e.g. indigenous peoples, children)
- Demonstrate how beneficiaries and stakeholders were and will be consulted throughout project implementation





# Lessons: Environment

## Environment:

- Majority of applicants did well in this criterion
- However, many applications that stated no environmental impact and/or did not provide an environmental analysis, included descriptions of environmental activities in other parts of application
- Demonstrate how appropriate environmental measures have been incorporated into project design, or clearly articulate how the project has no no environmental impact



# Next Steps

## **SMO Initiative**

- Next call to be launched early 2019
- Innovation and capacity & knowledge building in 2019
- Lessons learned to be published

## **Other upcoming Partnerships Calls**

- Education for women and girls in fragile, conflict and crisis situations
- Volunteer Cooperation Program

[See website for announcements](#)



# Resources

- [Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy](#)
- [Results-based management](#) (incl. How-to Guide, tip sheets)
- [How we assess your proposal](#)
- [Small and medium organizations for impact and innovation](#)

