



Call for Proposals

Think AAAA : Translating the Addis Agenda into Practice

In brief

On behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH invites submissions for research projects that propose policy recommendations for the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA). Recognising the importance of a global partnership for translating the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development into concrete national policies, we invite joint proposals by at least two partner institutions from different countries, of which at least one should be from an emerging economy or a developing country. Successful research proposals will be awarded up to EUR 40,000 for their implementation.

Context

Following the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration, the Addis Agenda is an important milestone in the Financing for Development process. It provides a new global framework for financing sustainable development and shapes the architecture of financial and non-financial means to implement the 2030 Agenda, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Successful implementation of the Addis Agenda will depend on the engagement of all relevant stakeholders in a renewed global partnership. Governments have the responsibility to take on visionary ownership for the implementation of the Addis Agenda domestically as well as on an international level. Think tanks and research institutions play an important role in supporting the development of effective policy options through evidence-based analyses.

In this context, GIZ on behalf of BMZ invites think tanks and research institutions to actively engage in developing joint policy proposals that contribute to implementing the Addis Agenda.

Research topics

Proposals should describe a high quality research project that leads to practical policy options and recommendations for implementing the Addis Agenda for one of the following themes:

A. Mobilisation of private capital

Achieving the 2030 Agenda requires substantive investments that cannot be covered by Official Development Assistance (ODA) alone. Although public resources will continue to play a central role, they need to be complemented by a substantial increase in private resources and investments. The Addis Agenda thus calls for a stronger involvement of the national and international private sector. The mobilisation of private capital in line with national priorities for sustainable development is a major challenge in many countries. Governments need to develop appropriate approaches and instruments to incentivise private investments while ensuring that these will also safeguard or promote social, environmental and good governance principles.

Proposals for this topic are expected to provide practical recommendations for policymakers to mobilise private contributions and investments for sustainable development. Research proposals could focus on developing recommendations for incentive frameworks and specific financing products and services at the national or international level, effective ways of cooperation between stakeholders or approaches for the development of bankable and sustainable project.

Proposals could be designed to provide answers to the following driving questions:

- How could financial products and services be designed to ensure investments are geared toward sustainable development?
- What are promising instruments in bridging the global development and climate agenda?
- What tools and techniques exist to improve strategic investment decision-making and building up a pipeline of sustainable investment projects? How can measurement methodologies for the Sustainable Return on Investment be enhanced and applied more broadly?

B. Enhancing innovation capacities and technology transfer

Innovations and technologies play an important role in fostering sustainable growth and development, e.g. through more resource efficient production, reduced emissions or improved healthcare services. However, technologies and know-how often are not easily accessible. In Addis Ababa, countries agreed to improve the exchange of technologies while taking into account factors such as intellectual property rights. The challenge will be to operationalise technology transfer and knowledge-sharing in an efficient and effective manner.

Proposals for this topic are expected to provide practical policy recommendations and showcase best practices for successful transfer mechanisms. Research proposals could focus on developing proposals for regulatory or legal frameworks to facilitate the development of knowledge-based capital, mechanisms for knowledge-sharing and technology transfer on an international or regional level, as well as incentives for strengthening innovation and research capacities.

Proposals could be designed to provide answers to the following driving questions:

- How can technology transfer enhance regional integration? In what way could emerging markets and developing countries in one region exchange knowledge and technology? What kind of framework would help incentivise the development of regional value chains that capitalise on regional capabilities?
- How could technology transfer mechanisms (instruments, institutions, etc.) be designed to support sustainable economic development and green growth in emerging markets and developing countries?
- What kind of knowledge-sharing platforms would serve as effective markets and benchmarking tools for innovation policies?

C. Stepping up sustainable infrastructure development

The Addis Agenda highlights insufficient infrastructure as a key impediment for sustainable economic development and prosperity in many countries. With the establishment of the Global Infrastructure Forum, the Addis Agenda seeks to improve international cooperation on identifying investment and capacity gaps, calling at the same time for governments to integrate infrastructure plans into the national development plans. A particular focus is to be put on sustainable and climate-resilient infrastructure. As sustainability standards have not yet permeated policy, investment and business practice, governments need to come up with effective approaches for green public procurement schemes, on strategies of reducing and sharing the risks associated with infrastructure projects, or on effective ways of cooperation on implementing and monitoring infrastructure sustainability standards across national borders.

Proposals for this topic are expected to provide practical recommendations for policy makers on how to create an effective incentives framework for developing and financing sustainable infrastructure. This could include approaches to improve technical capacities of relevant bodies on the national, regional, international and subnational levels in building up a pipeline of infrastructure projects or to setting up structures that help to align public and private requirements and processes.

Proposals could be designed to provide answers to the following driving questions:

- What best practices exist for development-oriented public infrastructure procurement mechanisms that guarantee a fair sharing of risks and gains between the public and the private sector?
- What case studies of successful blended financing for sustainable infrastructure investments could serve as model for other countries and regions?
- How can established and new development finance institutions effectively cooperate to assist national governments in developing a viable project pipeline, building capacities and implementing sustainability standards?

Why apply

Selected proposals of think tank and research institute consortia (further details below) will receive funding of up to EUR 40,000 for conducting a research project of up to six months. Research outputs and outcomes will be presented during at least one major conference relevant to the Financing for Development process, e.g. the Financing for Development Forum 2017.

The grant may cover expenses for collaboration and outreach of up to 60%, for research staff of up to 50%, and for administrative costs of up to 10%.

How to apply

We invite think tanks / research institutions to submit proposals that do not exceed five single-spaced pages in length. Proposals are to include:

- Brief summary
- Topic and working approach
- Roles and collaboration model of participating think tanks / research institutions
- Expected outputs and outcomes
- Dissemination strategy for research results
- Profiles of submitting organisations

In the annex, the following documents should be included:

- CVs of lead staff from each participating think tank and research institution
- Detailed budget proposal indicating budget share for each participating organisation (in Euro)
- Timeline for implementation including major milestones
- Contact person and contact details (mail address, email, phone) for each participating think tank / research institution

Funding decisions will be made on a competitive basis by a committee consisting of the grant providers and independent experts, based on quality, relevance and policy orientation of the research proposal. Final funding decisions will be announced by August 15, 2016.

Eligibility criteria

- ✓ Proposals are to be submitted jointly from at least two think tanks / research institutions from different countries, of which at least one from an emerging economy or a developing economy; one think tank / research institution is to be indicated as lead organisation (recipient and coordinator of grant).
- ✓ All partners should be involved in the project development. Written commitments from all partner organisations involved must be submitted with the application.
- ✓ Eligible are non-profit independent think tanks / research institutions with a strong focus on policy analysis and advisory services.
- ✓ Proposals should include at least two collaborative activities or outreach events. During the research phase, participating organisations should meet at least once, also with additional stakeholders and experts relevant to the topic.
- ✓ A dissemination strategy to present findings and recommendations to policymakers and the public should be laid out in the proposal.
- ✗ Not eligible are public institutions and policy units affiliated with political parties.

Particularly welcome are:

- Ideas of innovative ways of collaboration between the partners during the research project time and possibly beyond.
- Approaches integrating a number of stakeholder views to develop policy recommendations.

Time schedule

31 July 2016	Deadline for entry of proposals
15 August 2016	Announcement of funding decisions
September 2016	Award of grant
31 January 2017	Completion of studies / policy reports
28 February 2017	Peer review process and preparation for publication
31 March 2017	Publication of final report and dissemination among policy stakeholders

Submissions will be open until midnight (CET) July 31, 2016. All proposals must be submitted via email to: think.AAAA@giz.de

Partners

The challenge “Think AAAA: Translating the Addis Agenda into Practice” is funded by the [German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development \(BMZ\)](#) and implemented by the GIZ program “Financing for Sustainable Development” in cooperation with the GIZ program “[Emerging Market Sustainability Dialogues](#)”.