



## IKI Elements

# IKI Small Grants

## International Calls and Funding Institutions



### Strengthening climate and biodiversity action worldwide

The International Climate Initiative (IKI) is committed to strengthening climate and biodiversity action worldwide. The Federal Government uses the IKI to finance projects and programmes for climate change mitigation, adaptation, and the conservation of natural carbon stocks/REDD+ and biodiversity at an international level, so as to contribute to global agreements such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Since 2022, the IKI is implemented by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) in close cooperation with the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) and the Federal Foreign Office (AA).

### Local initiatives for tailored solutions

Achieving the global and national targets formulated in the Paris Agreement and the CBD requires the participation of all social groups worldwide. However, local organisations often lack access to international funding for climate and biodiversity action, and finance mechanisms are often not tailored to their specific needs.

With this in mind, in 2019, the IKI introduced the IKI Small Grants programme to extend its reach, which now also

includes smaller organisations and their central solutions. The Small Grants programme is aimed at organisations with experience in local project implementation who want to expand their range, scope and knowledge.

### Ambitious and sustainable

The IKI Small Grants programme is implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. GIZ works with the respective ministries to select projects and initiatives, applying a set of selection criteria as well as a comprehensive system of environmental and social safeguards. Principles such as relevance, quality, ambition, sustainability and replicability are decisive factors for the selection process. In particular, gender equality plays a key role.

### Two approaches – one goal

The IKI Small Grants programme provides funding within two components: 'International Calls' and 'Funding Institutions'. Both components fund non-profit projects and initiatives that address the four IKI support areas:

- Mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions
- Adaptation to the impacts of climate change
- Conservation of natural carbon sinks/REDD+
- Conservation of biodiversity

## ‘International Calls’

This component invites and selects project proposals via annual international calls. Sub-national, national and regional non-profit organisations in ODA-eligible countries can apply with ideas for projects. For-profit non-governmental organisations are also eligible as long as their proposal has not-for-profit objectives. Organisations who apply must have at least three years of relevant experience and an average annual revenue of between EUR 60,000 and EUR 500,000.

The annual calls for proposals are published on the IKI Small Grants website and via the IKI newsletter. Projects are identified in a single-stage selection procedure. It is planned that by 2025, ‘International Calls’ will have funded approximately 100 projects with a project volume of between EUR 20,000 and EUR 200,000. A total of EUR 11 million is available for international calls (2019–2025). Of the 96 projects selected so far, more than half have been completed or are being implemented, the rest are in preparation.

## ‘Funding Institutions’

The ‘Funding Institutions’ component strengthens the capabilities of larger national and regional institutions to implement their own funding programmes. Six national and regional institutions receive technical and financial support for implementing calls for proposals or providing funds at a local level. Funding of up to EUR 850,000 per institution is available, which covers the financing of the programme,



Women’s empowerment is an important factor in the selection of IKI Small Grants projects



Capacity building plays a vital role in each project

capacity building measures and technical support. A total of EUR 5 million is available for this component (2019–2025).

## Support from application to implementation

Projects and organisations selected in either component receive support from the IKI Small Grants team in Berlin as well as from GIZ country offices worldwide. GIZ supports the technical as well as the financial and administrative implementation of all projects and initiatives, and promotes networking with other projects and actors in the field. Capacity building, which seeks to strengthen organisations and enhance their potential, is an important and integral part of IKI Small Grants. Partner organisations identify individual capacity building measures, which range from acquiring specialist knowledge, skills and management expertise to optimising organisational processes. This approach aims to strengthen climate and biodiversity actors worldwide, and encourage these organisations to accelerate their role as agents of change.

### Contact

For further information please visit

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