



Colombia-UK PACT

2021 Call for Proposals: Terms of Reference for Full Proposal

Grant value: up to £500,000 per year per project

Project duration: up to 3 years

Deadline for submission of applications: 17 December 2021

Apply through Country Programmes Opportunities Portal: [here](#)

Why are we looking for fund more projects in Colombia?

Colombia is committed to a long-term process of promoting a more competitive, productive, inclusive, and low-carbon economy. This prospect could lead to the creation of substantial new investment opportunities, as well as the creation of more jobs and growth in strategic sectors, whilst demonstrating ambition on climate action, in line with Colombia's National Development Plan and existing policy and regulation on climate change and green growth.

This is particularly relevant as Colombia consolidates its efforts to promote a more resilient and sustainable economic recovery in response to the adverse effects of the coronavirus pandemic and secures a permanent legal and public policy framework towards 2030 NDC commitments and the 2050 long-term climate strategy.

In accordance with this process, the Government of Colombia (GoC) has updated the country's NDC in December 2020. This effort has been conducted within the framework of the National Policy on Climate Change and the 2018 Law on Climate Change under the National System for Climate Change (SISCLIMA), led by the Inter-sectoral Commission for Climate Change (CICC).

The National Department of Planning have been instrumental in the process of planning for all sectoral actions under the National Policy on Climate Change through a constant process of diagnosis, coordination and consultation led by the Directorate of Environment and Sustainable Development (DADS) in active partnership, amongst other Ministries and National institutions, with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS).

Colombia-UK PACT has engaged extensively with the above-mentioned counterparts within the Government of Colombia and the programme is now allocating funding to address priorities identified with Colombian Government counterparts across the following sectors:

- Bioeconomy.
- Improved sustainable urban planning, through:
 - Support to the Biodiverciudades programme,
 - Urban electric and low emission transportation



The application process

To submit an application at the full proposal stage you must submit: a Full Proposal template, a Budget and Workplan Template, and a Results Monitoring Template. These documents can be found on the [Country Programmes Application Portal](#).

We will be hosting an information event for all shortlisted applicants on Thursday, 25 November 2021. During this session we will summarise the terms of reference, giving you the opportunity to hear first-hand the type of interventions we're looking to fund. All shortlisted applicants are strongly encouraged to attend this session. Invitations will be shared after the shortlisting announcement.

The full proposal information should be submitted via the Country Programmes Opportunities Portal by 18.00 (COT), 17 December 2021. If you have clarification questions, please send these to colombia@ukpact.co.uk by 18.00 (COT), 26 November 2021.



Priority sector: Biodiversity

Besides a circular economy and a forest-based economy, the bioeconomy is one of the key pillars under the National Green Growth Policy, with an ambitious target of generating 10% of Colombia's GDP by 2030. In this sense, accelerating the bioeconomy in the domestic market, as a pathway for sustainable generation of goods and services, is an urgent priority. Recent available market studies indicate that in Bogotá and Medellín alone there are around 250 initiatives for bio-based solutions and products. This baseline offer requires an effective market acceleration system to thrive and match the growing national and global demand for responsible and conscientious consumption.

Under the ongoing Colombia-UK PACT project portfolio, technical assistance is being delivered to the Ministry of Science (MinCiencias) to set up an acceleration mechanism for bioeconomy businesses that have proven market potential with products and services adapted to local and national demand. To expand on these efforts, three key elements for success have been identified: i) Selecting and supporting businesses that already have a certain level of advancement in their design or implementation; ii) Prioritising private sector businesses and/or mixed capital companies; and iii) Integrating clearly with economic re-activation efforts to achieve swift implementation and market positioning.

Sector priorities and opportunities

Through further scoping consultations, the following complementary opportunities have been identified to secure continuous support for the bioeconomy market acceleration process:

- Supporting the implementation of a continuous support/acceleration window for large companies within iNNpulsa Colombia: a window designed for large companies to request support and small companies to bid on developing solutions for bioeconomy challenges (products, services, or applications). These solutions would be delivered to large companies through innovative small- and medium-sized bioeconomy businesses in exchange for tailored support and risk-sharing.
- Strengthening the capacity for the acceleration of bioeconomy businesses within iNNpulsa Colombia: consolidating institutional capacity for effective acceleration of bio-based business solutions and applications, and integrating other ongoing acceleration processes within the public sector such as the MAPBIO (Mecanismo de Aceleración de Proyectos de Bioeconomía) at Ministry of Science and Technology (MinCiencias).



Priority sector: Improved sustainable urban planning

Support to the Biodiverciudades programme

Cities play a key role in addressing the climate crisis. Currently, cities are not only home to more than 50% of the world's population and generate 80% of the global gross domestic product, but they are also responsible for producing 75% of global carbon dioxide emissions. Within this context, there is a pressing need to adopt new ways of relating to nature and biodiversity that create more economically and socially sustainable urban and peri-urban societies.

A nature-positive approach can bring benefits to different aspects of urban life. By increasing the greening of public spaces, efficient energy consumption and the integration of ecosystem services, quality of life can be improved. Additionally, by recognising the benefits of biodiversity, we can increase equity and social inclusion. Such approaches promote low-carbon urban development and strengthen climate resilience in communities at the same time.

Following the establishment of the national network of Biodivercities, encompassing 14 cities, Barranquilla, Leticia, Villavicencio, Medellín, Bucaramanga, Quibdó, San Andrés, Barrancabermeja, Manizales, Montería, Armenia, Pereira, Pasto and Yopal, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS) expects to produce a roadmap with commitments between the national and each local government to achieve goals and implement a specific portfolio of local projects in each of the following pillars:

Circular economy: aiming to promote both the reduction and more efficient use of resources, as well as the circular use of resources already generated. These can be addressed through i) Exchanging consumption of conventional energy sources for clean energy in transport and public lighting; ii) Comprehensive management of water resources; iii) Promotion of sustainable construction projects that incorporate clean energy and re-use of resources.

Sustainable mobility: integrating biodiversity with active mobility and introducing greater greenery and biodiversity into available and new infrastructure for non-motorised mobility. Projects should also incorporate analysis and decision-making based on technical aspects such as i) the promotion of active mobility to reduce emissions generated by motorised transportation; and ii) the advancement and replacement of technologies under a universal accessibility and social inclusion approach.

continues overleaf

Climate adaptation infrastructure: supporting cities to incorporate biodiversity in their urban infrastructure projects (e.g. habitat corridors or steppingstones, nature-based flood control areas, green roofs, permeable pavements, rain gardens, etc.).

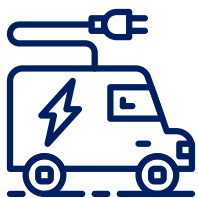
Air quality: improving city planning processes and better integrating nature-based solutions to reduce and absorb emissions, addressing negative impact not only on humans but other living species. This could be addressed by improving and strengthening tools used to calculate CO2 emissions generated by the use of polluting fuels that are currently an important part of the energy mix.

Environmental education: creating a monitoring network for urban biodiversity that promotes the involvement of local governments, academia, and social civil organisations through participatory science. Other potential initiatives could establish a national network of plant nurseries, while integrating biodiversity knowledge and ecosystems recovery.

Sector priorities and opportunities

Through further scoping consultations, specific opportunities to support the Biodiverciudades strategy have been identified, particularly at the strategic programming level and the local portfolio level:

- At the programme level: strengthening the capacity to produce and deliver the Biodiverciudades strategy roadmap and prioritise measures by improving the process of selecting and structuring projects. This includes: i) Drafting and implementing guidance for greenhouse gas (GHG) emission inventories in participant cities ii) Producing key studies in sub-sectors, such as a study on integration of biodiversity into local active mobility infrastructure.
- At the local portfolio level: providing support to a group of selected cities (within the 14) on the selection, structuring and piloting of key projects, as well as the promoting these cities as *Biodiverciudades* champions.



Priority sector: Improved sustainable urban planning

Urban electric and low-carbon transportation

Transport accounts for 12% of Colombian GHG emissions (CO₂, CH₄, N₂O), half of which corresponds to heavy trucks and buses. In this sense, the transformation of the transport sector is a significant contributor to Colombian decarbonisation goals stated either within the updated NDC or the 2050 strategy.

Colombia has only recently been developing strategies to promote low- and zero-emission mobility, in parallel with initiatives to secure access to alternative energy sources and the infrastructure development required (i.e. charging stations) particularly in urban areas.

Colombia's sub-national entities, especially cities, are increasingly making the case for the use of different modes of sustainable transportation, often with the participation of multiple stakeholders in planning processes. Still, more effective planning and capacity for implementation is needed.

Priorities lie in identifying and developing incentives and coordination (including adequate regulation), opportunities for infrastructure development, and public estimations of the quantitative advantages and disadvantages of low- and zero-emission technologies within the Colombian context. These complementary interventions would allow cities to estimate the incidence and contributions of the transport sector in public health and better understand trade-offs involved with technology adoption.

continues overleaf

Sector priorities and opportunities

Through further scoping consultations, specific opportunities to support electric and low-carbon transportation have been identified:

- **Institutional strengthening and capacity development at the territorial level to advance low- and zero-emission mobility:** including i) socialisation at the territorial level of current public policies for the promotion of low- and zero-emission mobility; ii) technical, legal and financial training on transportation planning for strategic actors (incl. project promoters and designers); iii) preparation of good practice guides for zero- and low-emission transport planning at urban and regional levels; iv) formulation of local zero- and low-emission mobility plans.
- **Raising awareness of the benefits related to the operation of electric transport systems in cities:** communicating and promoting the benefits of electric vehicles and their compatibility with public transport systems through a pilot fleet of local electric transport. This could include the technical, legal, social, and financial structuring of the electric fleet pilot for public transport systems in intermediate cities.
- **Technical strengthening for the calculation of Colombian fuel emission factors in different segments of the national automobile fleet:** designing and developing a suite of indicators that allow national and sub-national entities to measure the incidence and impact of emissions from the transport sector and sub-sectors on public health – using these as an input to prioritise investments from different public and private sources. This should include: i) definition of indicators; ii) calculation methodology iii); recommendations for monitoring and follow-up; iv) application guide.





Budget and funding availability

Applicants can apply to deliver projects based on the aforementioned sectoral priorities. Each proposal will be assessed independently. We will support projects with grants valued up to £500,000 per year per project. We are looking to fund projects of up to 3 years duration. A total budget of up to £4,500,000 for 3 years has been committed to deliver projects under the agreed scope of support.



Duration of projects

Applicants should propose projects of between 12 months and 3 years in duration. Projects do not have to be 3 years long but must be no shorter than 12 months long. All proposals must be able to demonstrate how they would achieve impact within one year (even those which could be continued for years 2 and 3).

For projects beyond 12 months, applicants should set out how they could build on the first year of their project, while remaining flexible and adaptive to ensure projects continue to respond to demand. This will be evaluated at the end of the first year and projects may be discontinued if there is no longer demand for them.

UK PACT reserves the right to ask clarification questions or to ask for amendments after the initial proposals have been reviewed. In some cases, UK PACT might also suggest that applicants work closely together or form consortia where projects are working to achieve similar objectives and/or where consolidation into a larger programme approach would be beneficial over a longer period, and applicants should be prepared to respond to and discuss these requests.



What is the timeline for selection?



What are the selection criteria?

Area	Heading	Criteria description	Weighting
Technical (65%)	Impact	The scale and value of the impact that could result from the project, if it were successful, is significant. Where relevant, there are good opportunities for replication/scaling of activities and results described.	20
	Project description, approach, and workplan	The applicant clearly articulates how the project responds to the terms of reference and one or more expected outputs (see Applicant Handbook for more details) and lays out a project plan which includes a description of a technically robust project, project logic and workplan, and stakeholder engagement plan. The applicant has a strong rationale for the ability of the project to deliver outcomes.	20
	Gender and social inclusion	The applicant clearly identifies how the project could - both positively and negatively – socially and economically benefit women and other under-represented groups. For example, prioritising urban planning interventions that have benefits to women and marginalised groups.	10
	Knowledge, skills, experience and team structure	<p>The proposed project team has the capabilities in place to deliver the project. This includes knowledge, skills and experience in the specific priority area the proposal responds to, as well as experience in technical assistance/capacity building, public sector project implementation. The core skills, experience and knowledge required to deliver all elements of the project that have been outlined are covered and the team is well structured.</p> <p>To ensure effective knowledge transfer and capacity building, applicants must demonstrate a strong understanding of Colombian priorities and delivery context, as well as bringing relevant expertise required.</p> <p>Additionally, the team structure and governance must reflect these priorities in particular how beneficiary engagement is secured throughout the project.</p>	15

Area	Heading	Criteria description	Weighting
Project management (25%)	Project management	The proposal outlines a clear plan for managing the project, to ensure activities stay on track and deliver project results. This must include collating and submitting evidence of activities and outputs and reporting project progress to UK PACT.	10
		The applicant has clearly outlined the key risks associated with delivery with clear plans for mitigating these and an understanding of the likelihood and impact of each. This includes risks associated with delivering during COVID, impacts on marginalised groups, and changing political and security contexts.	10
	Environmental sustainability	The applicant has outlined a robust approach to minimising any negative impacts on the environment due to this project. For example, through minimising travel, tracking emissions, carbon off-setting, environmental policies etc.	5
Financial (10%)	Budget	The budget is clearly linked to the activities and outputs outlined, with appropriate allocation of time and resources, and costs that appear reasonable for the activities proposed, including sufficient allocation for project management, reporting and data collection to allow for close coordination with UK PACT. This should also include sufficient time allocated to Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning as well as GESI.	5
	Value for Money	The application provides confidence that the project will represent good value for money, including the Four Es (economy, efficiency, effectiveness, and equity).	5



How do we score each criterion?

Score	
3	Excellent response, significant degree of confidence: Extremely clear response, explicitly addresses the requirements of the call for proposals.
2	Good response, good degree of confidence: Fairly strong response, addresses most of the requirements of the call for proposals.
1	Limited degree of confidence: Weak response, does not address requirements of the call for proposals.



Additional information

You will find additional information on UK PACT funding and how to prepare a strong application [on our website](#). This includes specific information for Country Programmes, the UK PACT Theory of Change, expected results, gender equality and social inclusion, the green recovery under UK PACT, application templates for the full proposal, draft grant agreements, and more. We recommend you refer to these documents and the Applicant Handbook in particular.

To learn more about UK PACT's requirements and expectations on gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) and how you can integrate GESI into projects, please see our GESI ambition statement and guidance [here](#).

Further questions on the scope of this call for proposals can be addressed to: colombia@ukpact.co.uk. Clarification questions will be accepted until 26 November 2021 and answers will be published on the Country Programmes Opportunities Portal.

If you have any technical issues with the Country Programmes Opportunities Portal, please contact: support@touchstonereview.com.