CEDIL Call for Proposals

Guidance for Teams Applying to go through the Matchmaking Process

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As noted in the CEDIL call overview document, one route to obtain funding from the CEDIL programme is through a matchmaking process where research and evaluation teams will be invited to work directly with DFID programme managers to design an innovative evaluation project for a current DFID programme.

1. DFID programmes included in the matchmaking process

CEDIL has identified several DFID programmes that would be suitable for matchmaking with research and evaluation teams. While we are not yet able to provide specifics of individual programmes, teams applying to participate in the matchmaking process should be interested in working in one or more of the following areas:

- Tackling modern slavery, including child labour
- Economic growth and social integration among refugee and host populations
- Improving governance and government systems to strengthen public service delivery
- Reducing corruption, building trust in public institutions, strengthening elections and political participation
- Use of technology in agriculture
- Market based interventions for food security and nutrition
- Peacebuilding, conflict prevention, reducing insecurity and violent extremism
- Economic development mainly in fragile states
- Humanitarian interventions for acute and protracted crisis, covering addressing basic needs, protection and resilience
- Reducing gender-based violence, improving education and economic prosperity for women and girls
- Tax reform

2. Who should apply through the matchmaking process?

The matchmaking process is intended for teams of researchers and evaluators who:

- Can propose innovative methods to evaluate complexity (PoW 1) or improve generalisability through the application of middle range theory (PoW 2);
- Have relevant expertise in one or more of the thematic areas listed above;
- Have not identified an appropriate intervention and/or established a relationship with the relevant implementing agency sufficient to submit a full proposal.
3. How to apply for the matchmaking process

As with all applications for CEDIL funding, the first step is for teams to register their intention to submit by 11 April 2019. In the project description text of the intention to submit form, applicants should indicate in which of the thematic areas above they are interested in working.

After this, teams should submit an Expression of Interest using the online application form for Call 1, Large Projects: Expressions of Interest Form for evaluations and secondary data projects. Under section 1, the form will give you an option to select ‘team proposal (matchmaking)’ as your application route. Please select this option.

See the application guidance for large projects for further details on how to structure your expression of interest.

4. What happens next?

Expressions of interest will be shortlisted by the CEDIL research directorate, according to the published selection criteria (see CEDIL website). Shortlisted teams will be invited to participate in one or more matchmaking workshops. We are currently working to set precise dates and locations for these workshops and will communicate these as soon as possible. Participation in these workshops will be funded by CEDIL. If shortlisted teams are unable to participate in the workshops, we will try to arrange alternative means for corresponding with the DFID programmes.

We expect some, but not all, of the teams participating in these workshops to identify a DFID programme to which they can apply their evaluation methods. Teams will have until 01 August 2019 to prepare and submit a full proposal. While DFID programme staff and any implementing agencies may be able to assist research and evaluation teams in developing these full proposals, primary responsibility for this lies with the research team.

Full proposals submitted through this route will then be entered into the same peer review process as those submitted through the project route (i.e. where proposals were submitted with projects already defined at the expression of interest stage). The outcomes of this review process will be announced at the end of September 2019, with projects to start no later than 31 January 2020.