

RFP: 90721 - Lead Arranger services provider for the issuance of the Blue Peace Bond for the Gambia River Basin Development Organization (OMVG)

**Questions and Answers
9 August 2022**

Question 1: Please confirm whether/if the bid security element may be furnished by any of the JV/Consortium partners, or must it be solely from the lead partner?

Answer 1: The bid security will be furnished by the lead partner.

Question 2: Under Section 4 – Evaluation Criteria – Minimum Eligibility Criteria. The RFP states “Eligibility and Qualification will be evaluated on Pass/Fail basis. Further under Qualification: Previous Experience it states: “Minimum of three contracts of similar value, nature and complexity implemented over the last 3 years” and see Form D – Qualification Form. Form D: Qualification Form states “Please list only previous similar assignments successfully completed in the last 3 years. *List only those assignments for which the Bidder was legally contracted or sub-contracted by the Client as a company or was one of the Consortium/JV partners. Assignments completed by the Bidder’s individual experts working privately or through other firms cannot be claimed as the relevant experience of the Bidder, or that of the Bidder’s partners or sub-consultants, but can be claimed by the Experts themselves in their CVs.*”

Given the above, the Consortium seeks clarity on whether UNCDF would accept experience that is: Similar in value, nature and complexity, (e.g. Corporate and Sovereign bond issuances) however, was not aligned with Climate Bond Standards/relevant sustainable financing principles?

Answer 2: Yes, experience that is similar in value will be accepted even if it was not aligned with Climate Bond Standards/relevant sustainable financing principles.

Question 3: Members of the Consortium possess relevant Climate/Green Bonds experience, however, not under their current organisations. Please indicate whether this would result in an automatic Pass/Fail as per the Qualification criteria?

Answer 3: No, this will not automatically result in failing the qualification criteria and previous experience relevant experience (even if not under the current organization) will also be appreciated.

Question 4: In light of the uncertainty of the above, and the bid security enquiry for which clarification is still pending – please may you provide clarification of the above question and also accommodate the consortium with a 2-week extension further to 19 Aug?

Answer 4: Prior questions have been addressed, please see answers above. Yes, the RFP will be extended for two more weeks, and the new deadline will be **2 September 2022**. The notice for the extension will be published soon.