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## • Implementation of the JCol on Energy and Green Hydrogen between Namibia and Germany •

### FAQ ON THE FUNDING CALL ESTABLISHING A GERMAN-NAMIBIAN HYDROGEN PARTNERSHIP

#### General questions on project proposals (pilot projects and R&D projects)

- 1. Where do I submit my project idea? Does the coordinator of a consortium submit the proposal or do all project partners have to submit?**
  - The coordinator of a consortium (for pilot projects, a company is expected to be the coordinator) submits the proposal. The necessary information on the individual partners must be included in the outline.
  - The submission of proposals for collaborative projects takes place exclusively via the coordinating institution SASSCAL in Namibia: <https://jcoinamger.sasscal.org/pilot-projects/>.
- 2. As a German partner, do I also have to send the proposal to PtJ? Do I have to upload anything in easy-online?**
  - No. An additional submission to PtJ for information is not necessary.
- 3. What should the proposal look like? Is there a form we should use? How long should the proposal be? In German or English?**
  - All submissions must be in English. All submissions should not be more than 10 pages long. Proposals can take the form of a general business plan proposal with a technical and a financial offer, clearly stating the amount of funding needed. CVs of the key staff members can be added but are not required.
- 4. In the call it says “Module 2 projects must either be part of a Module 1 project proposal or will be assigned to a selected Module 1 project after evaluation.” Does this mean I can hand in a project 2 Module and it will be integrated later?”**
  - Applicants are encouraged as far as possible to already pair their Module 2 project to a Module 1 pilot project. However, stand alone Module 2 projects will be accepted - but their qualification will depend on availability and suitability with a selected stand alone Module 1 project.

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### Questions and answers about the consortium, the funding amount and the duration of the project

#### 1. Who can receive funding?

- Only a consortium that is made up of at least one Namibian and at least one German company or institution qualifies for funding.

##### **Applications may be submitted by:**

- legally registered private sector entities of the partner countries
  - universities (of applied sciences) and research institutions
  - Non-governmental organizations
- Grants will be awarded to consortiums based in Namibia guided by the following broad legislative and policy framework.
    - Namibia Energy Policy
    - Namibia Integrated National Energy Masterplan
    - Namibia Renewable Energy Legislation
    - Namibia Funding guidelines and regulations for Renewable Energy Projects
    - Electricity Act
    - National Independent Power Producer Policy
    - Modified Single Buyer Model
    - Namibia Energy Regulatory Authority Bill
    - Namibia Water Act
    - Public Private Partnership Act
    - Public Procurement Act
    - Development Partnership Coordination
    - Namibia Funding guidelines and regulations for Research and Innovation
    - Road Traffic and Transportation Act 22 of 1999 and its Regulations

#### 2. How are Namibian and German partners funded?

- The funding for any Namibian based entity will be disbursed by The Southern African Science Service Centre for Climate Change and Adaptive Land Management (SASSCAL).
- The funding for any Germany based entity will be provided directly by the German Federal

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Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) according to the regulations stated in the “call for the funding of grants within the framework of the 7<sup>th</sup> Energy Research Programme of the Federal Government “Innovations for the energy transition” by BMBF of 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

- Specific information for German partners can be found here: <https://www.ptj.de/projektfoerderung/anwendungsorientierte-grundlagenforschung-energie/deutsch-namibische-wasserstoff-partnerschaft>

### **3. What sort of partners have to work together: Should they all be companies? Can universities or research centers or NGOs be involved?**

- For pilot projects companies are expected to be in the lead. Accompanying F&E projects can be done by scientific partners and/or partners from social society.

### **4. How many partners do you expect? Are there any requirements regarding the size or composition of the consortium?**

- There are no expectations or restrictions. The partners should cover all necessary expertise. For pilot projects, at least one company (on the German or Namibian side) must be involved. It should be noted that preference will be given to small and medium-sized enterprises.
- Purely academic consortia are permitted for accompanying R&D projects. These are encouraged to already be integrated into the Module 1 pilot project. Stand alone projects will however still be accepted.

### **5. Can partners without funding also be involved in the project?**

- Additional partners without funding (so-called associated partners) can be involved in principle. The proposal should clearly indicate the participation in terms of content.

### **6. We would like to involve a partner from a third country. Is this possible?**

- This funding is restricted to Namibian and German institutions.

### **7. What is the minimum/maximum funding amount that a consortium can apply for?**

- A minimum funding amount per project is not specified. The maximum amount to be allocated per project that includes both module 1 and 2 is €15 million.

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### 8. Does a collaborative funding quota have to be adhered to? Are there any other regulations for the distribution of funding between the partners?

- The funding will be awarded to a German/Namibian consortium that will be setup in Namibia. A funding quota for collaborative projects is not specified. The parties or partners in any consortium can share and or divide the responsibility between themselves as strategically desired.
- However, it is expected that the majority of the funding will benefit Namibia, either through direct funding to Namibian partners or some form of added value on Namibian ground.

### 9. How long is the project duration as a rule? Can it be shorter or longer?

- There is no limit on the duration of the project. The objective of this programme is to provide funding that propels the Namibian/German consortium into the Namibian Green Hydrogen economy. As a pilot project that results in the development of a commercialized company.
- This pilot programme will work closely with awarded consortiums for up to 5 years.

## Questions and answers about the process and timetable

### 1. What start date should I set for my project?

- Projects should be in a position to start by the 3rd quarter of the 2022 calendar year at the latest.

### 2. What are general eligibility criteria for the applying consortia?

To be considered in the selection process, a consortium must:

- Submit the project proposal to the Namibian side (SASSCAL) only. Proposals sent to the German side (BMBF/PtJ) will not be considered.
- Be made up of at least one Namibian and one German partner (1+1) but more partners on either side are possible
- Must contain at least one German or Namibian company in case of a pilot project proposal
- Plan for respective EI(S)A as part of the project work in case of a pilot project proposal

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### 3. How will the proposals be evaluated? What are the evaluation Criteria?

All proposals will be evaluated by German and Namibian experts from the Technical Working Group, which was established within the framework of the JCol, according to the criteria defined.

The objectives of the grant funding programme are:

- To provide support for the necessary market ramp-up for Green hydrogen industry;
- To facilitate the creation of an international market for Namibian Green hydrogen products through international partnerships;
- To promote the research and development of the Green Hydrogen industry; and
- To facilitate the creation of local employment in the Green Hydrogen industry.

As such, applications should speak to the above objectives as these will be used during the selection process.

Further evaluation criteria are:

- Scientific and technical quality, innovativeness, and knowledge on the Green Hydrogen economy
- Methodology and quality of project construction, feasibility, and appropriateness of the project
- Quality, competence, and complementarity of the consortia to address the objectives of the project including the active involvement and commitment of the respective Namibian and German companies/institutions.
- Added value of the bilateral cooperation and expected benefit for both the Namibian and the German side and the balance of the cooperation.
- Overall impact of the project, including scientific, technological, economic, & social aspects
- Appropriateness of resources and funding requested
- Inclusion of a clear R&D component in the consortia's pilot project

## Questions and answers on funding modalities, costs and expenses

### 1. What costs or expenses are excluded from funding?

None are stipulated. The selection committee will take a holistic approach when assessing applications to determine the best use of the allocated funding.

For German partners, the restrictions listed in the BMBF call for the 7<sup>th</sup> Energy Research Programme apply: [https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shareddocs/bekanntmachungen/de/2019/02/2337\\_bekanntmachung.html](https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shareddocs/bekanntmachungen/de/2019/02/2337_bekanntmachung.html)

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