Frequently Asked Questions

A. Geographic Scope

1. Which countries are eligible to receive funding?

Please refer to the list of eligible SIDS from the annexure of the '2nd Call for Proposals' document which can be [accessed here](#)

B. Criteria for Proposals

1. Will IRIS only fund technical studies through this call for proposal?

The IRIS Call for proposals aims to support interventions under the theme Climate Action, Mainstreaming Resilience and Strengthening Data for Resilient and Inclusive Infrastructure. Prospective applicants may propose interventions that support infrastructure resilience in SIDS across policy and regulatory frameworks, project preparation, resource mobilization, capacities for project management and implementation and strengthening data systems.

2. Are there any interventions that fall outside the scope of funding through IRIS 2nd Call for Proposals?

This call for proposals will not support construction, refurbishment and operations and maintenance of the physical infrastructure assets in SIDS. The funds from this call for proposal cannot be used for the procurement of goods and physical assets as a primary purpose.
The following examples demonstrate project proposals that will not qualify to be funded under this call:

- Procurement of equipment for emergency operating centres
- Improvement of emergency shelters for hurricane response
- Construction of hybrid seawalls
- Community awareness campaigns
- Procurement of Early Warning System equipment or its installation
- Disaster response/relief through direct cash transfer

3. Can this fund be used as part of a wider programme?

Applicants are encouraged to align and complement the proposed interventions with the past, ongoing and planned research, capacity building or infrastructure investment programmes and clearly indicate them in the proposal in the designated section.

4. **Will there be funds in the future to support the continuation for this work?**

    While there is no current commitment to funding for further continuation of this work, IRIS is expected to launch subsequent calls for proposals in future. Successful applicants can explore opportunities to secure potential funding sources through CDRI's member network.

5. **Can I apply with multi themes?**

    Yes, a proposal can cover multiple themes mentioned in the Call for Proposal document.

C. Application Process

1. **Will support will be provided for proposal formulation?**

    The IRIS second call for proposals is designed to support applicants in the proposal writing process. Applicants will have access to a pool of CDRI experts to define the outputs, duration and budget of their proposed action if needed (fixed number of days).

    For more information on proposal development support, please contact iris@cdri.world

2. **What are indirect/overhead costs that are allowed to be included in the budget, and what is the maximum allowable percentage for them in a project budget?**

    Indirect costs are general overhead and administration expenses that support the entire operations of the organization. Indirect/overhead cost (administrative fee) is set at a maximum of 7% of the total project budget. Additionally, in case the grant has sub-recipients, the total indirect costs incurred to a project cannot exceed 12% of the total project budget.

3. **Can my budget be more than the prescribed funding cap?**

    Proposal budgets must fit within the range specified in the Call for Proposals ($150,000 to $500,000 for single-country and up to $750,000 for multi-country proposals). Applicants seeking larger funding envelopes are encouraged to leverage IRIS' support to secure co-financing, reduce the scope or duration of their proposed project or design stand-alone implementation phases or pillars.

4. **Can I apply in my native language?**

    All information on the 2nd Call for Proposals is available in three languages: English, French and Spanish. While IRIS strives to provide information in multiple languages, the applications will be limited to English.

5. **Where can the additional information about the IRIS Second Call for Proposals be accessed?**

    All required information is available in the "Call for Proposals" document uploaded on the IRIS website. To attend to additional queries, the IRIS Programme Management Unit will organise information sessions between June and August 2024, ahead of the proposal submission due date.

Applicants will be kept informed of the webinars through social media posts and updates on the IRIS website. You can follow the updates here: CDRI LinkedIN, CDRI X You may also send specific questions to the IRIS Programme Management Unit (PMU) to the following email address: iris@cdri.world until 31 August 2024. The IRIS PMU will share clarifications with all applicants through the information sessions and an updated FAQ.

D. Who can apply?

1. **Which organisations are eligible to apply for funding under the IRIS Second Call for Proposals?**
   CDRI will accept proposals developed and submitted by participating organizations that are legally registered as local, national, regional or international organizations, including but not limited to:
   - Local and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs/ INGOs)
   - Intergovernmental organizations (IGOs)
   - Community-based organizations (CBOs)
   - Civil society organizations (CSOs)
   - Indigenous Peoples' organizations (IPOs)
   - Universities and other academic institutions
   - Research institutes and think tanks

   The participating organization should be a local organization or have presence in the country in which the activities are proposed to be implemented or have a duly registered local partner as part of the consortium applying for the funds.
   In addition to having an eligible Implementing partner, It is mandatory for every proposal to have endorsement from the relevant national government ministry or agency with a mandate in disaster/climate resilience and/or infrastructure planning, financing or implementation (one or more sectors).

2. **For regional proposals, is it mandatory to submit a letter of endorsement from every participating country?**

   Yes, for a multi-country/regional proposal it is mandatory to upload 'letters of endorsements' from each of the country participating in the proposal.

3. **Is there a list of partners that are affiliated or preferred by the CDRI that project developers should reach out to as implementing agencies?**

   CDRI does not have a preferred or empanelled list of participating organization agencies.

4. **Are there any additional eligibility criteria for Implementing Partners?**

A valid Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT) micro assessment and documented capacities for meeting standards on Prevention of Sexual Harassment and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse is required to be eligible to receive funds. If such assessment has not been undertaken in the past, the agency should confirm its readiness to undertake such assessment to be commissioned prior to award.

5. **How many organisations can be part of a proposal?**

IRIS places no limitations on the number of government bodies and participating organizationsper proposal as long as a lead agency is clearly identified in the Proposal. IRIS will liaise with the lead agency only, which will be liable for all aspects of their proposed action. Please note that the mandate and qualifications of implementing partners will form part of evaluation criteria. Applicants are invited to consider the consequences of having many participating organizations in terms of coordination and reporting efforts.

6. **Can parastatal organizations apply?**

Yes, this is possible. Please note that they will require the endorsement of their line ministry.

7. **Can a country submit multiple proposals under the IRIS Second Call for Proposals?**

Each country can submit more than one proposal. Please note that a maximum of one project per country will be selected for funding. This limitation does not apply to multi-country Proposals.

8. **Can applicants who have applied for previous IRIS call for proposals apply for the 2nd Call for Proposals?**

Yes, applicants who had previously applied for funding through the IRIS first call proposals can apply for funding through the 2nd Call for Proposals.

E. Award and Timeline

1. **When will the 2nd Call for Proposals Results be announced?**

The 2nd Call for Proposals results will be announced in November 2024 at COP 29.

F. Selection Criteria

1. What are the scoring criteria like for submitted proposals?

For the scoring criteria, please refer section 2.8: Selection Criteria in the 2nd Call for Proposals Document

2. How does the selection process work?

A Technical Evaluation Committee nominated by the IRIS Steering Committee (SC) will be constituted to evaluate the proposals. Based on the scoring, the proposals will be selected for funding as per the recommendation of the SC.

3. How many proposals are you selecting? What the total amount of funding available?

Although the exact number of proposals to be funded under the 2nd Call for Proposals is not fixed, a maximum of eight million US dollars (US$8,000,000) has been budgeted. The projects will be selected on a competitive basis.