

**Climate Finance for Development Accelerator (CFDA)
Request for Concept Proposals (RFCP) No. 1
for Potential Grant and Subcontract Awards**

Original Issuance Date: April 13, 2023

Amendment Date: May 4, 2023

Dear Applicant:

The Climate Finance for Development Accelerator (referred to herein as CFDA) project implemented by Chemonics International, is seeking concept proposals from potential investment partners to support the Blended Finance for the Energy Transition (BFET) platform. BFET is an innovative new initiative jointly spearheaded by USAID and the Department of State, in collaboration with the Office of the U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate (SPEC), to help mobilize \$1 billion or more of capital to accelerate emerging markets' energy transition efforts.

Chemonics seeks concept proposals that include activities designed to increase the supply of finance and access to institutional capital and help lower the cost of capital for the energy transition in high-emitting emerging markets, with the intention of accelerating the deployment of equitable, affordable, and reliable clean energy.

Chemonics may award in accordance with the terms of this RFCP one or two grants under contract (GUC) or subcontracts, depending on the nature of the work proposed by applicants, the overarching goals of their concepts, and other factors. Any grants or subcontracts will be awarded and implemented in accordance with USAID and U.S. Government regulations governing grants under contracts or subcontracts and Chemonics' internal grants or subcontract management policies.

The intent of the request is to solicit innovative concepts in a manner that allows greater efficiency in time and resources for new and underutilized partners that may have limited or no experience working with USAID. Interested Parties are invited to submit their concept proposal in accordance with **Section IVB** (Application and Submission Information). A submittal of a concept proposal serves as notice to Chemonics International of the Party's general interest in a potential partnership with CFDA. Concept proposals will be used to confirm eligibility for next steps including published Request for Proposals or Request for Applications. However, a submittal of a concept proposal does not guarantee that the Interested Party will be contacted to submit additional information or perform any services. All funding associated with this opportunity is contingent on internal US government clearance and approval processes.

The project held a virtual bidders conference on **Thursday April 20, 2023 from 8 – 9 am EDT**. This event covered questions about the RFCP and guidance on how to submit a concept proposal. Access the recording here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xoqC_gliId56KKJcIkfJaciUoj0KT0lh/view

Timeline for Actions

Stage 1

April 13	Stage 1: Request for Concept Proposal release
April 20	Bidders Conference
April 26	Deadline for written questions to be submitted
May 4	Answers to Questions and any updates to RFCP provided
May 24	Stage 1: Concept Proposals due

O/A June 12 Review of Concept Proposals and determination of agreement type

Stage 2

O/A June 12 Notification to successful Parties for Stage 2
O/A June 15 Stage 2: Request for Applications (GUC) or Proposals (Subcontracts)
O/A July 6 Stage 2: Applications or Proposals **due**
O/A Sept 1 Award of GUC and Subcontracts

The following Annexes are included with this RFCP:

- **Annex A** Cover Letter Template
- **Annex B** Concept Proposal Instructions

******* ETHICAL AND BUSINESS CONDUCT REQUIREMENTS *******

Chemonics is committed to integrity in procurement, and only selects suppliers based on objective business criteria such as price and technical merit. Chemonics expects suppliers to comply with our Standards of Business Conduct, available at <https://www.chemonics.com/our-approach/standards-business-conduct/>.

Chemonics does not tolerate fraud, collusion among Parties, falsified proposals/bids, bribery, or kickbacks. Any firm or individual violating these standards will be disqualified from this procurement, barred from future procurement opportunities, and may be reported to both USAID and the Office of the Inspector General.

Employees and agents of Chemonics are strictly prohibited from asking for or accepting any money, fee, commission, credit, gift, gratuity, object of value or compensation from current or potential vendors or suppliers in exchange for or as a reward for business. Employees and agents engaging in this conduct are subject to termination and will be reported to USAID and the Office of the Inspector General. In addition, Chemonics will inform USAID and the Office of the Inspector General of any supplier offers of money, fee, commission, credit, gift, gratuity, object of value or compensation to obtain business.

Parties responding to this RFCP must include the following as part of the proposal submission:

- Disclose any close, familial, or financial relationships with Chemonics or project staff. For example, if a Party's cousin is employed by the project, the Party must state this.
- Disclose any family or financial relationship with other Parties submitting proposals. For example, if the Party's father owns a company that is submitting another proposal, the Party must state this.
- Disclose any close, familial or financial relationships with any organizations sitting on the Technical Evaluation Committee either as voting or non-voting members (i.e., USAID, Department of State, and U.S. International Development Finance Corporation).
- Certify that the prices in the offer have been arrived at independently, without any consultation, communication, or agreement with any other Party or competitor for the purpose of restricting competition.
- Certify that all information in the proposal and all supporting documentation are authentic and accurate.
- Certify understanding and agreement to Chemonics' prohibitions against fraud, bribery and kickbacks.

Please contact info@CFDAccelerator.com with any questions or concerns regarding the above information or to report any potential violations. Potential violations may also be reported directly to Chemonics at BusinessConduct@chemonics.com or by phone/Skype at 888.955.6881.

SECTION I. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

IA. OVERVIEW OF THE CLIMATE FINANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT ACCELERATOR

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Climate Finance for Development Accelerator (CFDA), also known as “the Accelerator,” is a \$250 million initiative designed to mobilize \$2.5 billion in public and private climate investments by 2030. These investments will fund a range of climate change mitigation and adaptation activities focused on scaling up the transition to an equitable and resilient net-zero economy. The Accelerator is a platform designed to help countries meet their national

commitments in alignment with the Paris Agreement through evidence-based solutions that respond to national contexts and address gaps in global, regional, and national climate finance ecosystems.

IB. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Background

Emerging market and developing economies account for over 95% of the increase in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions during the past decade, a figure only expected to rise with their growing population share and mounting energy demand. Reducing carbon emissions while addressing greater energy needs will require massive investment (the International Energy Agency estimates over \$2 trillion annually by 2030). Accordingly, scaling private investment is a crucial component for leading the energy transition in emerging and developing economies, but one that is currently lagging in both speed and volume. In this context, the Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETPs) were conceived as country-led long-term partnerships to help countries pursue an accelerated and ambitious just energy transition through investments, financing, and technical assistance. In recent years, the energy transition in emerging markets has succeeded in attracting private investment, but such investments have not reached all market segments and at the necessary scale. Constraints include high transaction costs and a limited pipeline of bankable investment opportunities. The Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ – a coalition of financial institutions committed to a net-zero economy) has stressed that to increase private sector investment in renewable energy and other climate change initiatives at scale, we need to strengthen global efforts, build stronger partnerships, and support the development of public sector risk-sharing mechanisms for blended finance. A coordinated, programmatic approach is thus critical to effectively pool upfront catalytic funding from different donors, philanthropies, and other concessional finance providers to de-risk and unleash private capital towards high-impact projects which in turn will contribute to just and resilient energy transition in the targeted countries and other emerging economies.

Implementation Objective

With catalytic co-funding from the U.S. government and other donors, the goal of BFET is to mobilize \$1 billion or more of capital to accelerate emerging markets' energy transition efforts and limit global average temperature rise to 1.5°C. BFET is specifically looking to unlock new and deep pockets of institutional capital, including but not limited to pension funds and insurance companies that have typically been too risk averse to deploy capital into the energy transition in these geographies. BFET thereby aims to increase the supply of institutional capital and lower the cost of capital and seeks to partner with one or two fund managers or other capital deployers that are either currently active or plan to be active in this space. While the ultimate objective of BFET is to mobilize at least \$1 billion of capital into the energy transition, CFDA seeks to do so in a manner that maximizes the impact and additionality of awarded BFET funding by seeking partners with concepts that align with the parameters outlined below to the maximum extent possible:

- **Financing for supply side solutions to the energy transition.** CFDA seeks investment partners with concepts for deploying catalytic funding into a portfolio of emerging market-based companies and/or real assets that advance the energy transition in this decade by developing or expanding supply side solutions. This includes renewable energy generation, smart grid, transmission and distribution technology and infrastructure; energy storage and efficiency solutions; clean hydrogen technology and infrastructure, among others. A **majority** (at least 51 percent) of investment will be focused on supply-side solutions, with the remaining capital mobilized focusing on other energy transition-relevant sectors, such as demand-side technology and infrastructure (e.g., industry decarbonization and e-mobility).

- **Maximize private sector capital mobilization.** CFDA seeks investment concepts that maximize private sector capital, ideally meeting or exceeding a 1 to 10 leverage ratio, where awardees would raise at least \$10 of additional private capital for every non-repayable catalytic dollar awarded through BFET.
- **Minimum fund size:** CFDA seeks investment funds achieving a target of \$500 million to \$1 billion or more. The minimum eligible fund size will be \$250M.
- **Development stage of target investments.** CFDA seeks investments to be focused on companies or projects spanning from early or development stage to refinancing. Investments must **not** be focused on companies and projects at the pre-seed and early project preparation stages.
- **Innovative approaches.** CFDA seeks funds, instruments, or other investment concepts that demonstrate innovation in the vehicle structure, capital raising approach, and/or capital deployment mechanisms. Investment models with the potential for replication are preferred.
- **Crowding in institutional capital.** CFDA seeks to use its catalytic funding to crowd in outside investment, particularly investors that are new to investing in the target sectors and geographies outlined. Participation of institutional investors such as pension funds and other potential limited partners (LPs) with access to large pools of private capital is preferred.
- **Strong additionality.** CFDA seeks concepts that have a clear rationale for the contribution of US government catalytic financing and clear elaboration of the impact / additionality that the catalytic financing will have.
- **Climate and social benefits.** CFDA seeks partners that can clearly demonstrate climate benefits, energy system benefits, and social benefits and impacts stemming from investment mobilized with US government support.
- **Personnel capacity.** CFDA seeks investment partners with a qualified professional investment team with a strong track record in place, to implement the strategy immediately upon proposal selection.

Concept proposals must respond to the detailed information set out in **Section V** of this RFCP, which provides the **evaluation criteria**. Any award resulting from the two-stage Application process (per **Sections IVB** and **V** below) will be held to and governed by the following regulations, as applicable.

Period of Performance

The anticipated period of performance for the activities outlined above is **three years** from the date of grant/subcontract award. The estimated start date of grants and subcontracts awarded under this solicitation is September 1, 2023. While offerors should propose a timeline commensurate with their technical approach, the goal is to publicly announce the partnership by COP 28 in December. **First close will be required one year from the date of award (on/around September 2024). Final close will be required by the end of the award's period of performance (on/around September 2026).**

Geographic Focus

Successful offerors will propose concepts that must mobilize a **majority** (at least 51 percent) of capital towards **India, Indonesia, South Africa** and/or **Vietnam**, with the remaining directed towards other emerging markets. Investments into developed countries and People's Republic of China (PRC)-based or -backed projects and/or companies are not allowed under this opportunity.

Role of the Climate Finance for Development Accelerator (CFDA)

Upon selection and award, Chemonics will work closely with the awardee(s) to determine the grant/subcontract structure including final timelines, deliverables, deal structure, and the terms of catalytic

capital. Additionally, Chemonics will work closely with the awardee(s) to understand how to comply with USAID regulations and fulfill requirements in terms of reporting, communications, and other general project management activities. The awardee(s) will be expected to provide inputs to the CFDA Learning Agenda with the goal of helping USAID and others actors in the climate finance ecosystem more effectively deploy capital at scale for climate mitigation and adaptation.

IC. AUTHORITY/GOVERNING REGULATIONS

Grants

CFDA grant awards are made under the authority of the U.S. Foreign Affairs Act and USAID's Automated Directive System (ADS) 302.3.5.6, "Grants Under Contracts." Awards will adhere to guidance provided under [ADS Chapter 303](#), "Grants and Cooperative Agreements to Non-Governmental Organizations" and will be within the terms of the USAID Standard Provisions as linked in the annexes, as well as CFDA's grants procedures.

ADS 303 references two additional regulatory documents issued by the U.S. Government's Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the U.S. Agency for International Development:

- 2 CFR 200 [Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, Subpart E](#) (U.S. applicants are subject to 2 CFR 200 in its entirety)
- 2 CFR 700, USAID's [Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards](#) (only applicable to U.S. Applicants)

Full text of 2 CFR 200 can be found at http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2cfr200_main_02.tpl and 2 CFR 700 at <http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=531ffcc47b660d86ca8bbc5a64eed128&mc=true&node=pt2.1.700&rgn=div5>. CFDA is required to ensure that all organizations receiving USAID grant funds comply with the guidance found in these circulars, as applicable to the respective terms and conditions of their grant awards.

Subcontracts

CFDA subcontract awards are made under the authority of the Federal Acquisition Regulation. Subcontracts will adhere to guidance provided under FAR [52.244-2 Subcontracts](#) as well as CFDA subcontract procedures. Any subcontract resulting from this RFCP will be financed by USAID funding and will be subject to U.S. Government and USAID regulations, including the Federal Acquisition Regulations and the United States Agency for International Development Acquisition Regulations, among others. All goods and services offered in response to this RFCP or supplied under any resulting award must meet USAID Geographic Code 935 in accordance with the United States Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), 22 CFR §228, available at: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2012-title22-vol1/pdf/CFR-2012-title22-vol1-part228.pdf>.

USAID retains the right at all times to terminate, in whole or in part, CFDA grant-making and subcontracting authorities. This RFCP does not obligate Chemonics to execute a subcontract or grant nor does it commit Chemonics to pay any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of the proposals. Furthermore, Chemonics reserves the right to reject any and all offers, if such action is considered to be in the best interest of Chemonics.

SECTION II. AWARD INFORMATION

Chemonics anticipates issuing **one or two award(s) totaling up to \$15 million USD**, with individual award values based on the level of investment mobilized and the additionality of U.S. government support, such as by crowding in new investors or mobilizing capital into underserved market segments. This award(s) of up to \$15 million shall be for **non-repayable catalytic capital**, subject to the availability of funds and the completion of domestic U.S. government procedures. The number of awards and the final amount for each will be dependent upon the total catalytic funding secured, the activities proposed and final negotiation. The duration of any award under this solicitation is expected to be no more than **three years**. The estimated start date of grants and subcontracts awarded under this solicitation is on or around **September 1, 2023**. First close will be required one year from the date of award (on/around September 2024). Final close will be required by the end of the award's period of performance (on/around September 2026).

State and USAID will engage and negotiate with other donors, government agencies, and philanthropic organizations to secure additional non-repayable catalytic capital. In response to this RFCP, applicants should develop concept proposals based on a scenario where the total non-repayable catalytic capital available to the investment partner equals 5 percent of the total fund size (e.g., \$50 million for a \$1 billion fund, \$15 million from Chemonics and an additional \$35 million from other catalytic capital providers).

Additionally, State and USAID will engage development finance institutions (DFIs) and multilateral development banks (MDBs) to contribute additional *repayable* catalytic capital (e.g., junior debt or equity in a mezzanine tranche). The program will favor concepts where development finance institution (DFI) and/or multilateral development bank (MDB) capital is subordinated to other commercial capital to further mobilize private financing for the energy transition in the target geographies.

SECTION III. ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS

- Applicants must be a registered in their respective country and be formally constituted, recognized by and in good standing with appropriate relevant government authorities, and compliant with all applicable civil and fiscal regulations.
- Applicants operated as commercial companies or other organizations or enterprises (including nonprofit organizations) in which foreign governments or their agents or agencies have a controlling interest are not eligible as suppliers of commodities and services.
- Applicants may only submit one application per prime organization under this RFCP.
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate successful past performance in implementation of integrated development programs related to CFDA's priority areas.
- Applicants must have established outreach capabilities with linkages to the beneficiary group(s) identified in the program description. This should be reflected by the incorporation of the beneficiary perspective in the application.
- Applicants must display sound management in the form of financial, administrative, and technical policies and procedures and present a system of internal controls that safeguard assets; protect against fraud, waste, and abuse; and support the achievement of program goals and objectives. CFDA will assess this capability prior to awarding a grant.
- Applicants must sign certain required certifications prior to receiving a grant or subcontract. The certifications are from ADS 303.3.8 (grants) and FAR 52.244-2 (subcontracts).
- For any grant resulting from this solicitation, organizations will be required to provide a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) at the time of award. If the applicant already has a UEI number, it should be included in their application. Otherwise, applicants will be expected to get a UEI number before an award is made. CFDA will assist successful applicants with this process. More information on UEIs can be found [here](#).

- For subcontract valued at USD \$30,000 or more, companies or organizations, whether for-profit or non-profit, shall be requested to provide a UEI number unless exempted in accordance with information certified in the Evidence of Responsibility form as part of Stage 2. More information on UEIs can be found [here](#).
- CFDA will work with the successful grantee or subcontractor to draft a marking and branding plan which will be annexed to the agreement.
- Faith-based and community groups will receive equal opportunity for funding in accordance with the mandated guidelines laid out in ADS 303.3.28 except for faith-based organizations whose objectives are for discriminatory and religious purposes, and whose main objective of the grant is of a religious nature.
- Grant support may not be extended to partner government implementing entities. ADS 220 defines a partner government implementing entity as follows: “an office, organization, or body at any level of a public administration system (ministry, department, agency, service, district, or municipality) Examples include parastatals and quasi-governmental entities, including universities.
- Grant support may not be extended to public international organizations (PIOs)

CFDA encourages applications from organizations new to USAID who meet the above eligibility criteria.

SECTION IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

IVA. INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS

Applicants must propose strategies for the implementation of the program description described above, introducing innovations that are appropriate to their organizational strengths.

IVB. APPLICATION

This is a **two-stage** application process. The first stage is for the applicant to submit a concept proposal. Concept proposal instructions (**Annex B**) will be evaluated against the criteria listed in **Section V** below. If the applicant successfully meets or exceeds the criteria, they will be invited to submit a full application or proposal for a potential grant or subcontract. Only those applicants who meet or exceed criteria at the concept stage, will be invited to submit a full application or proposal.

Instructions and a template to be utilized when developing the concept proposal are provided in **Annex B**.

The concept proposal must be signed by an authorized agent of the Applicant.

At the time of developing an application, all activity costs must be within the normal operating practices of the Applicant and in accordance with its written policies and procedures.

IVC. ENVIRONMENTAL SOUNDNESS

The impact of proposed activities on the environment will be considered as environmental sustainability is central consideration in designing and carrying out CFDA projects in accordance with Federal Regulations ([22 CFR 216](#)).

IVD. INELIGIBLE EXPENSES

CFDA **grants** and **subcontract** funds may not be utilized for the following:

- Ceremonies, parties, celebrations, or “representation” expenses
- Purchases of restricted goods, such as: restricted agricultural commodities; motor vehicles including motorcycles; pharmaceuticals; medical equipment; contraceptive products; used equipment, without the previous approval of CFDA; or prohibited goods under USAID regulations, including but not limited to the following: abortion equipment and services, luxury goods, etc.
- Covered telecommunication and video surveillance equipment or services – per the standard provision entitled “Prohibition on Certain Telecommunication and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment,” grant funds including direct and indirect costs, cost share and program income may not be used to (1) procure or obtain; (2) extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain; or (3) enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure or obtain equipment, services, or systems that use covered telecommunications equipment or services (“CTES”) as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. This prohibition covers certain telecommunications equipment and services, including, but not limited to, phones, internet, video surveillance, and cloud servers, produced or provided by Huawei Technologies Company, ZTE Corporation, Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities) unless CFDA has determined that there is no available alternate eligible source for the CTES. For fixed amount awards, this restriction is only applicable if any of the milestones are for telecommunication or video surveillance services or equipment.
- Alcoholic beverages
- Any purchase or activity, which has already been made
- Purchases or activities unnecessary to accomplish the purpose of the award as determined by CFDA
- Prior obligations of and/or, debts, fines, and penalties imposed on the Awardee
- Military equipment
- Commodities and services for support of police and other law enforcement activities
- Luxury goods and gambling equipment
- Weather modification equipment
- Creation of endowments
- Grant award funding may not be utilized to directly finance construction or infrastructure activities of any kind (i.e., the recipient cannot use grant money received from CFDA to finance direct purchase of construction materials or services). CFDA funding may cover the costs of investment in construction of facilities, but the actual cost of construction can NOT be covered by CFDA funds
- Applicants may not offer or supply any products, commodities or related services that are manufactured or assembled in, shipped from, transported through, or otherwise involving any of the following countries: Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Syria. Related services include incidental services pertaining to any/all aspects of this work to be performed under a resulting contract (including transportation, fuel, lodging, meals, and communications expenses).

IVE. SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Concept proposals shall be submitted in **English** with more details on the format provided in **Annex B**. The template for the applicant’s response is designed to gather basic information about the applicant, and what it is proposing to do, and evaluate it against the objectives of the program. All applicants must use the format provided and must adhere to the space limits contained within the format. Concept proposals that exceed the limitations provided may be considered unresponsive.

Concept proposals (including the cover letter) should be submitted in electronic form via the CFDA web portal: <https://airtable.com/shrBLUGR8Xx6pU002>, and should reference RFCP No. I BFET. All concept proposals must be submitted no later than **11:59 pm EDT, on Wednesday May 24, 2023**. Late or unresponsive applications will only be considered at the discretion of CFDA.

In addition to the concept proposal, applicants should submit the following to CFDA:

- A copy of the Applicant’s valid legal registration. **The legal registration details of the applicant (rather than the fund or investment vehicle) can be shared if a fund has yet to be legally registered.*
- A cover letter (Annex A)

Please submit all questions concerning this solicitation by **11:59 pm EDT on Wednesday, April 26, 2023** via this link: <https://airtable.com/shrY5I0ouhTIGPkAH>.

SECTION V. EVALUATION CRITERIA

As described above, applications will be evaluated in a two-step evaluation process:

Step 1

- Applicants submit a concept proposal based on instructions in **Annex B**.
- Chemonics will assemble a technical review committee to evaluate the concept and its feasibility in the context of CFDA objectives, and further determine whether grant or subcontract funding is appropriate for the concept.
- If the technical review committee judges the concept to be feasible and suitably aligned with the CFDA activity detailed in **Section IC** based on an initial evaluation, it will inform the applicant in writing. It will further inform in writing those applicants who do not get past Step 1.

Step 2

- Provided the concept is accepted under Step 1, Chemonics will request those successful Step 1 applicants to submit an application (for a grant award) or a proposal (for a subcontract award).
- Chemonics will complete a second evaluation of the applications and proposals to determine if an award can be made and inform the applicants of the results thereafter in writing.

An invitation to participate in Step 2 does not guarantee that the applicant will receive an award. It is a sign that the applicant is a prospective candidate for an award provided their application/proposal is successful in Step 2.

All concept proposals and applications/proposals will be reviewed by a technical review committee comprised of technical and compliance experts. Recommendations may be vetted by a larger group. Concept proposals that meet the minimum eligibility requirements in **Section III** will be evaluated against the criteria below.

Application Criterion	Description
Geographic Scope	Does the proposed concept clearly define the scope of the capital mobilized with the majority of investment (51% or more) into one or more priority countries, with other emerging countries accounting for the rest? Priority countries are India, Indonesia, South Africa, and Vietnam. Investments into developed countries and PRC-based or -backed projects and/or companies are not allowed under this opportunity.

<p>Sector Scope</p>	<p>Does the proposed concept clearly define the scope of the capital mobilized with a majority of investment (51% or more) focused on supply-side solutions?</p> <p>Supply side solutions support the deployment of renewable energy and could include (a) renewable energy technology and infrastructure, (b) smart grid technology and infrastructure, (c) transmission and distribution technology and infrastructure, (d) energy storage technology and infrastructure, and/or (e) clean hydrogen technology and infrastructure. The remaining capital mobilized should focus on other energy transition relevant sectors, such as demand-side technology and infrastructure (e.g., industry decarbonization, energy efficiency, and e-mobility).</p> <p>In target countries that have a JETP, investments should align with JETP efforts and targets to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy.</p>
<p>Private capital mobilization</p>	<p>Does the proposed concept clearly demonstrate the ability to maximize private sector capital mobilized per dollar of catalytic capital, to meet or exceed a 10 to 1 mobilization target? This means that for every \$1 USD of non-repayable catalytic capital provided through the subcontract or grant, the applicant should ideally demonstrate the ability to mobilize \$10 USD from private sector sources.</p> <p>There are no requirements in terms of how private capital is mobilized and, therefore, there is no preference in terms of the composition of debt and/or equity.</p>
<p>Minimum fund size</p>	<p>Does the proposed concept clearly demonstrate an investment concept that seeks to mobilize between \$500 million and \$1 billion+ in cumulative capital (catalytic capital from BFET + outside capital, with a strong preference for non-DFI outside capital)?</p> <p>The minimum eligible fund size will be \$250M. In a situation where the program receives proposals for concepts of comparable size, the program will favor concepts that mobilize additional capital beyond the proposed fund structure (e.g., co-investment, fund recycling, or debt unlocked at the asset level).</p>
<p>Development stage of target investments</p>	<p>Does the proposed concept focus on financing companies or projects spanning from early or development stage through refinancing?</p> <p>Concepts may not include investments at the pre-seed and early project preparation stages.</p>
<p>Innovation</p>	<p>Does the proposed concept present an innovative approach for achieving US government objectives? The program will favor concepts where development finance institution (DFI) and/or multilateral development bank (MDB) capital is subordinated to other commercial capital to further mobilize private capital for the energy transition in the target geographies. Applicants are encouraged to develop proposals with tiered structures.</p> <p>Additional areas of innovation could include (1) other innovations in the vehicle structure, e.g., using a securitization/bond structure, (2) capital raising approach, e.g., attracting first-time investors to a country or climate solution, (3) capital deployment mechanism, e.g., tailoring the provision of debt/equity to specific circumstances, based on the vehicle focus, or (4) technology focus, e.g., focusing on less commercial energy supply-side solutions (e.g., offshore wind, battery storage).</p>

Need for concessional finance	Does the proposed concept demonstrate a clear need for catalytic concessional funding? Is it clear that the use of concessional catalytic funding will attract new investors, allow investment to reach underserved market segments, or accrue benefits (e.g., lower consumer energy prices) that support USAID priorities?
Climate, energy, and social benefits	<p>Does the proposed concept demonstrate clear and significant climate-related, energy, and social benefits and impacts?</p> <p>The primary objective of CFDA is to mobilize private and public finance to increase climate change adaptation and mitigation. It is expected that activities resulting from CFDA solicitations will promote environmental, social, and governance (ESG) best practices.</p>
Personnel capacity	Does the applicant have a highly qualified professional investment team in place to implement the strategy immediately upon proposal selection?

More specific criteria will be used for evaluating full applications/proposals for those whose concept proposals have been selected in Step 2.

Inclusive Development is a critical guiding principle for CFDA. Priority will be given to proposals that integrate a gender equality and social inclusion lens to fund management, investment thesis, and/or strategy. This could include describing diversity in fund leadership, as well as a strategy for investing in underrepresented and marginalized populations, to include but not limited to women, youth, and Indigenous Populations. This may also include highlighting how investments made will scale solutions led by and benefiting these populations.

SECTION VI. AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

All grants and/or subcontracts will be negotiated, denominated, and funded in **\$USD** unless otherwise noted. All costs funded by the grant or subcontract must be allowable, allocable, and reasonable.

Issuance of this RFCP does not constitute an award or commitment on the part of Chemonics, nor does it commit Chemonics to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a concept, application, or proposal. Further, Chemonics reserves the right to accept or reject any or all concepts, applications, or proposals received and reserves the right to ask further clarifications from the Party. Applicants will be informed in writing of the decision made regarding their concept, application, or proposal.

Annex A Cover Letter Template

[Party: Insert date]

[Insert name of point of contact for RFCP]
[Insert designation of point of contact for RFCP]
[Insert project name]
[Insert "Chemonics International Inc."]
[Insert project office address]

Reference: Request for Concept Proposals No. I
Subject: [Party: Insert name of your organization]'s concept proposal

To cfda_procurement@chemonics.com:

[Party: Insert name of your organization] is pleased to submit its concept proposal in regard to the above-referenced request for concept proposal. For this purpose, we are pleased to provide the information furnished below:

Name of Organization's Representative _____
Name of Party _____
Type of Organization _____
Taxpayer Identification or _____
Registration Number _____
UEI Number (if available) _____
Address _____
Telephone _____
E-mail _____

We are further pleased to provide the following annexes containing the information requested in the RFCP (list title of all submitted annexes).

- I. Copy of registration or incorporation in the public registry, or equivalent document from the government office where the Party is registered.

Name of Submitted Documentation
Name of Submitted Documentation

Sincerely,

Signature
[Party: Insert name of your organization's representative]
[Party: Insert name of your organization]

Annex B Concept Proposal Instructions

The corresponding instructions for the Applicant's response is designed to gather basic information about the Applicant, and what it is proposing to do, and evaluate it against the objects of the program.

- 1) **Technical Approach:** This should be in the form of a **PowerPoint slide deck**, which should be a **maximum of 10 slides**. Guidance on key information to be included in the deck is provided in Part I below. Please design the proposal in close alignment with the evaluation criteria listed under **Section V**.
- 2) **Management, Key Personnel, and Certification:** This should be in the form of a **PDF document**, without a maximum page length, and will be used to get further details on the ability of the proposed team to successfully execute on the proposed Fund. A required certification is also included here. Information required is further detailed in Part 2 below.
- 3) **Key Questions:** Applicants must provide answers that answer all of the key questions in Part 3 below. These responses will be collected in the **Airtable proposal portal**, linked here: <https://airtable.com/shrBLUGR8Xx6pU002>

Part I: Technical Approach (Max. 10 PowerPoint Slides)

1. **Opportunity.** What is the investment opportunity that you see as a fund manager **or other capital deployer** in energy transition in high emission emerging markets? Describe the thesis of your fund **or other investment vehicle** (including fund size, sub-sectors, ticket sizes, instruments)
2. **Problem Statement.** Identify the problem that the activities propose to address – why are you applying for this catalytic capital?
3. **Solution.** Describe the uses of the catalytic capital and how it would fit into the fund structure. Define the private capital multiple that the fund would achieve and clearly describe the additionality of the catalytic capital. Assume a scenario where the total non-repayable catalytic capital available to the investment partner equals 5 percent of the total fund size (e.g., \$50 million for a \$1 billion fund, \$15 million from CFDA and an additional \$35 million from other catalytic capital providers). The program will favor concepts where development finance institution (DFI) and/or multilateral development bank (MDB) capital is subordinated to other commercial capital to further mobilize private financing for the energy transition in the target geographies.
4. **Status of Fund Development.** Describe the traction you have gotten to date for this fund – e.g., for GPs: potential LP's identified / engaged / committed / first close – with a clear distinction between DFI/MDB and pure institutional capital.
5. **Pipeline.** Provide details on the investment pipeline for the fund.
6. **Timeline.** Provide details on the timeline and next steps to fully closing the fund as well as the timeline to deploying funds into projects or companies.

Part II: Management, Key Personnel, and Certification (PDF Document)

1. **Management and Key Personnel.** Please highlight the key investment officers of the fund and their track record relevant for successful execution of the fund being proposed. There should **not be more than 5 professionals** highlighted:

Team Member Name	Past Fund management experience: Name and AUM for each fund, and role in the fund	Total previous funding raised for climate and renewable energy sector funds or projects (strong preference for funds with an energy transition focus in emerging markets) – up to 10, include \$ and investor names	Past investments and exits in climate funds and renewable energy sector (strong preference for financing the energy transition in emerging markets) – up to 10

2. **Certification.** Please complete and sign the below certification, including it in the submitted PDF document.

By affixing my signature below, I certify that to the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this proposal is accurate and correct:

Submitted by (name and title): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Part III. Key Questions (Answered Through Proposal Portal Form: <https://airtable.com/shrBLUGR8Xx6pU002>)

1. What is the target size of the fund?
2. What percentage of the fund will be deployed into the priority geographies? (India, Indonesia, South Africa, and Vietnam)
3. If the previous answer is less than 100 percent, where else will the fund be deployed? Please list specific countries and target investment allocations.
4. How much total catalytic non-repayable (e.g., grant) capital would you need to raise to implement your concept? Please answer as a percentage of total target fund size.
5. For the proposed scenario, how many dollars of private capital do you expect to mobilize for each dollar of non-repayable catalytic capital?
6. How much Development Finance Institution (DFI) / Multilateral Development Bank (MDB) funding do you expect to be included in the capital structure of the fund?

7. In which country would the fund be domiciled? If you indicated the United States, please confirm whether there is any flexibility on location to suit USG/other investor requirements.
8. Do you have suggested changes to this RFCP and/or alternative approaches that you believe would be more effective in achieving the objectives outlined in the RFCP?