**Aawaz II**

**Queries related to Expression of Interest (EOI)**

1. Are universities eligible to apply?

*Universities and/or any other education institutions are not eligible to apply as these do not fall under not-for-profit organisations.*

1. Are INGOs eligible to apply?

*No.*

1. Can organization apply in consortium?

*Applications from Joint Venture or Consortiums will not be entertained.*

1. Can you please share the EOI and applications form?

*EOI and the application form are available and can be downloaded from the following link:*

<https://www.britishcouncil.pk/about/jobs/aawaz-II-downstream-partners>

1. Is an organisation eligible to apply who is in the process of getting itself registered with EAD?

*It generally applies to those organisations who have foreign funding or a commitment for foreign funding. Therefore, such organisations can submit application against the EOI with written proof of initiation of the process of registration with EAD*

1. What is the deadline for submission of application against the EOI?

*As mentioned in the EOI document, deadline to submit application with required documents is 31st May 2022. Please submit full application pack (application form duly completed and all required documentation) as well as the soft form to* *Kashif.hanif@britishcouncil.org.pk**. Kindly note that late applications i.e., after 12 midnight on 31st May, and/or incomplete applications will not be considered.*

1. Can you please share the list of districts for which the applications against the EOI are required?

*Applications will be accepted for all districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab except:*

1. *The districts in which Aawaz II is already working (mentioned in the EOI document)*
2. *The newly merged districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa*
3. *The organisations should assess the situation themselves whether they will be able to work in a particular district, do they have presence there, and overall situation and conditions for implementation of donor funded projects.*
4. For how many districts can one organization apply?

*An organisation can apply for one or more districts based on its demonstrated experience and presence in those districts.*

1. Can we apply for the existing districts in which Aawaz II Programme is being implemented?

*No.*

1. Our NOC is in process. Can we submit our application in this case?

*Yes, the application against the EOI can be submitted in case the NOC is in process where you are implementing existing programmes.*

1. Word count restriction is applied in MS Forms and our writeup of EOI is exceeding the default limit. Although in the MS Word format the content is adjusted and completed but while filling the MS Forms format, there is a limitation on the content to be added.

*The character limit for response including spaces for any question is 4000 characters in MS Forms; therefore, you are requested to follow this limitation on MS Forms. We also encourage and recommend that the content on application form both in MS Word format and MS Forms should remain the same. That means the character limit for any question should not exceed 4000 character including spaces.*

1. Do we need to submit the budget along with the application form?

*Budget submission is not required with the application.*

1. While submitting the application form, what documents are required to be submitted?

*The documents mentioned in the EOI as well as in the Application form are required to be submitted.*

1. Can Audit reports of 2017-2018 be accepted?

*As mentioned in the EOI document as well as application form, audit reports for the past two years are required (or one if applicable)*

1. Shall we submit staff profile revealing education, professional experience etc.?

*Kindly share brief profiles/CVs of programme management staff.*

1. While submitting application against the EOI, what is recommended to be mentioned in the Subject line of the email?

*It is recommended to use in the subject line “(Organisation Name) Application against EOI for British Council Aawaz II Programme – Downstream Partners”*

1. What other registration documents are required apart from registration certificate?

*Organisational Registration Documents refer to the authorisation for the organisation to operate based on governing documents, while Organisational Registration Certificates refer to all such registrations which organisation holds with relevant authorities that may include but not limited to NTN registration, Sales Tax registration, etc.*

1. Do we need to submit the application form both through email and MS Forms online or either one of them?

*The submission of application form both through email as well as through MS Forms is required.*

1. Do we need to attach the required documents while submitting the application through MS Forms?

*Only application form is required to be submitted through MS forms. MS Forms does not have option of providing attachments. Kindly share the attachments through email along with the application form.*

1. What is the maximum budget involved?

*Financial proposals are not required as the programme has a pre-defined budget which will be shared with selected partner organisations only.*

1. Total data of EOI is more than 50 MBs. Please guide the easiest and safe way of sending data to British council.

*You can break your application email in multiple emails clearly mentioning the EOI for Aawaz II in the subject line with the name of organisation and districts applying for. Kindly note that size of one email along with attachments must not exceed 8MB.*

1. Can we upload the file through Google doc or through other cloud-based services?

*The use of Google or any other cloud-based services is not acceptable for submission of application form and required attachments. Kindly submit the application and attachments through multiple emails, indicating the email number, i.e., if there are 5 emails from any organisation then each email should clearly display the email number as: 1/5, 2/5, 3/5, 4/5 and 5/5 .......... and so on if necessary*

1. In section 8 of the application form, there is a requirement to provide certified bank statements of the last six months. Are they relevant to ongoing projects?

*The bank statements for bank account(s) of the organisation that are used to manage funds and not the bank accounts specifically opened for projects.*

1. Do we need to handle all marginalized communities in Aagahi Centers OR only 1 community like PWDs (Persons with Disabilities)?

*Aagahi Centres will work for all marginalised groups in the catchment area of the center (i.e. a number of villages) mentioned in the EOI present in proposed community. This can include PWDs.*

1. What are total number of beneficiaries in one district?

*Overall Aawaz II will be reaching out to 7 million beneficiaries across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab. However, the district level targets will be finalised with selected downstream partners.*

1. Can we change/rephrase impact and outcome statements in the result framework?

*You cannot change the impact and outcome statements.*

1. Can we apply for district Kohistan/Rawalpindi which is a very difficult district to work in?

*The organisations should assess the situation themselves whether they will be able to work in a particular district, do they have presence there, what’s the security situation and conditions for implementation of donor funded projects. Similarly, the organisations should also assess whether proposed districts have issues related to Aawaz themes and the target vulnerable groups.*

1. What is the role of Provincial Partner? Who manages the DSPs – British Council or the Aawaz II Provincial Partner?

*Downstream partners (DSPs) are managed by the Programme Management Unit (PMU) of the British Council while the provincial partners provide them with technical support in field activities, monitor programme implementation and help conduct the meetings of the District Forums (DFs) and the establish a link between the DF and Provincial Forums (PF).*

1. Will existing partners be given any preference over the new applicants?

*This is a competitive process and both existing and new partners will have to go through the process and prove that they are the most suitable partners for a particular district with their prior presence, social mobilisation experience and expertise in the Aawaz themes and target vulnerable groups.*

1. What will be the duration of the project?

*The expected duration of the project is until 31st March 2024*