



Mekong – ROK Cooperation Fund (MKCF) Management Manual

Version 5.0 / Jan 2025



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	Introduction: How to use this Manual	4
1.1.	Purpose	4
1.2.	. Target Audience	4
2. C	Overview of the MKCF	5
2.	.1. Background	5
2.	.2. MKCF Logo	5
3. A	Applying for the MKCF	6
3.	.1. General Information	6
3.	.2. The MKCF's Seven Priority Areas	6
3.	.3. Eligible Requirements of Proponent	8
3.	.4. Budget and Duration	8
4. Pı	Project Proposal Formulation	9
4.	.1. Overview	9
4.	.2. Preparation of the Expression of Interest (EoI)	12
4.	.3. Full Project Proposal	13
l.	Budget Arrangements (in USD)	14
II.	Project Category and Cost Norm	15
5. Pı	Procurement	19
5.	.1. Principles	19
5.	.2. Mis-procurement	20
5.	.3. Methods of Procurement	20
6. Fi	inancial Management and Disbursement	24
6.	.1. Financial Management and Disbursement Arrangements	24
6.	.2. Financial Documentation	25
6.	.3. Financial Reports	27
7. R	Result-Based Monitoring Implementation and Performance	28

7.1. Reporting	28
7.2. Mid-term Progress Report	28
7.3. Final Report	29
7.4. Monitoring Visits	29
8. Internal and External Audits	30
9. Guidance on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)	31
Appendix 1: Expressions of Interest (EoI) Template	33
Appendix 2: Full Project Proposal Template (once the EoI is shortlisted)	37
Appendix 3: Indicative Budget	42
Appendix 4: Indicative Work Plan	43
Appendix 5: TOR	44
Appendix 6: CV	45
Appendix 7: Agreement on Fund Disbursement (to be signed)	47
Appendix 8: [Receipt format] (1) Purchase Receipt	49
Appendix 9: [Receipt format] (2) Outward Remittance Receipt	50
Appendix 10: [Receipt format] (3) Cash Payment Receipt	51
Appendix 11: Workshop / Meeting Minutes	52
Appendix 12: Mid-term Progress Report	53
Appendix 13: Final Report	55
Appendix 14: Quarterly Monitoring Form	58

1. INTRODUCTION: HOW TO USE THIS MANUAL

1.1. Purpose

The purpose of the Mekong-ROK Cooperation Fund (MKCF) Manual is to provide general information on operational rules and practices that are applicable to MKCF.

1.2. Target Audience

All actors involved in the MKCF.

This manual serves as a reference guide for Project Proponents and Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) of the MKCF and as an introduction to the MKCF for new arrivals.

2. OVERVIEW OF THE MKCF

2.1. Background

Following the launch of the Mekong - ROK partnership in 2011, the MKCF was established in 2013 to encourage and support cooperation in six priority areas¹ outlined in the Han River Declaration of 2011.

It was agreed among five Mekong countries (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Viet Nam and Thailand) and the ROK that the MKCF will be financed through an annual contribution from the ROK to MI and will be managed by MI in accordance with the *Terms of Reference* (TOR) adopted at the 3rd Mekong – ROK Foreign Ministers' Meeting in July 2013 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam. Moreover, at the 5th Mekong – ROK Foreign Ministers' Meeting in August 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, the Ministers recognized the need for a more efficient management of the MKCF and agreed to task MI to act as a Coordinator for the MKCF.

2.2. MKCF Logo

The MKCF logo was created with the view to enhancing the visibility of the MKCF to the wider public. The logo was created by Mekong Institute and represents the cooperation among the constituent states of the Mekong countries and the ROK. The logo should be utilized in the MKCF supported projects such as in project activities, e.g. training, workshop, seminar, conferences, project reports, publications, meeting and training materials, physical assets, facilities and equipment.



Figure 1. MKCF logo

¹ 1. Infrastructure, 2. Information Communication Technology (ICT), 3. Green Growth, 4. Water Resource Development, 5. Agriculture and Rural Development, 6. Human Resource Development

3. APPLYING FOR THE MKCF

3.1. General Information

The Fund provides a grant for projects that are of regional in nature². Such project is aligned with the priorities of the country to address national issues that facilitate regional integration process. It can be implemented in a single country. However benefits should be shared among the countries in the Mekong region and the ROK.

In other words, the regional project should address the needs of several Member States in the Mekong region. Such projects can consider national development objectives but are developed per regional development objectives as well.

3.2. The MKCF's Seven Priority Areas

The Fund provides grants to support catalytic and innovative activities in the seven priority sectors: (1) Culture and Tourism, (2) Human Resources Development, (3) Agriculture and Rural Development, (4) Infrastructure, (5) Information and Communication Technology (ICT), (6) Environment, and (7) Non-traditional Security Challenges.

Some examples of the projects for each priority sectors can be:

Sector	Examples of the projects		
(1) Culture and Tourism	 Preservation and restoration of cultural heritage sites Expansion of youth education in culture, arts, sports and creative economy. Cultural tourism development, including creative industries on art, music including cultural exchanges and cultural entrepreneurship. Promote cultural and creative industries Empower cultural professionals and enhancing networks, knowledge and exchange among creative agents among Mekong and ROK Smart tourism - use of digital tools and services to advance sustainable and smart tourism, sustainable investment promotion in Mekong tourism sector. Etc. 		
(2) Human Resources Development	 Promote education and skill development in digital age Cooperative alliance among the Mekong countries for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) / Career and Technical Education (CTE) Capacity building for MSMEs and entrepreneurs to enhance job opportunities and successful trade and investment environment in the Mekong countries Greening TVET, new skills, upskilling/reskilling on emerging industry needs. Etc. 		

² Project designed to address regional issue(s), project interventions designed and benefits more than one country in the Mekong region (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Viet Nam and Thailand)

(3) Agriculture	 Development of regional agricultural value chain
and Rural	 Strengthening regional agriculture supply chains
Development	 Mekong Agricultural productivity improvement
DOTOIOPINGIN	
	Rural finance and market development
	 Digital rural transformation for agricultural development in the
	Mekong region
	 Promotion of food security and food safety
	■ Etc.
(4) Infrastructure	 Capacity building in regional project management related to
(4) illiasilociole	
	infrastructure (road, power communication etc.)
	 Critical infrastructure development in rural areas for agriculture
	development
	■ Etc.
(5) Information	 Application of ICT for regional disaster risk management / climate
	* *
and	change adaptation (e.g. early warning system)
Communication	 Estimation of crop production with ICT
Technology (ICT)	 Development of regional agriculture market information system
,	MSME Digitization and Fintech
	 E-commerce & paperless trade and customs facilitation
	· ·
	Development of alliance with the Mekong countries on ICT
	infrastructure / regional connectivity
	 ICT application and broadband connectivity in rural and remote
	areas, application of ICT in disaster management, application of ICT
	in production sectors (industry, agriculture) and transport and logistics.
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	ICT application in public governance
	Promote digital transformation and encourage use of internet of
	things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence (AI), Big data, Block chain
	technology and digital content
	■ Etc.
(6) Environment	 Promote the use of electric vehicle (EV)
(0) LIIVIIOIIIIEIII	, ,
	Sustainable management of natural resources
	 Climate change mitigation and adaptation measures
	 Sustainable transport and logistics
	 Promotion of ESG in production sectors
	Green infrastructure for climate resilience in the Mekong
	 Use and application of traditional knowledge in natural resources
	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
	management, forest conservation and management etc.
	■ Etc.
(7) Non-	 Facilitation of safe labor migration within the Mekong region
traditional	 Disaster management for natural hazards Clearance of explosive
Security	remnants of war, illegal drug trafficking, human trafficking
Challenges	 Prevention of in security areas to address transnational crime,
	terrorism and violent extremism
	 Cyber security to build an open and secure cyber space
	 Safe Mekong, Combating Illicit Trafficking, surveillance techniques
	and transboundary coordination etc.
	■ Etc.

NB - Projects proposals of entirely of research nature or academic research are not encouraged under this fund.

3.3. Eligible Requirements of Proponent

- Government agencies/Autonomous Organization from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Viet Nam, Thailand (CLMVT) and organizations from the ROK.
- Non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, and training institutes from CLMVT and the ROK.
- International Organizations, including UN Agencies, and other International Non-Governmental Organizations having operating offices in the Mekong countries and ROK.
- Experience in implementing development projects for at least 5 years.
- Assistance to individuals will not be provided.

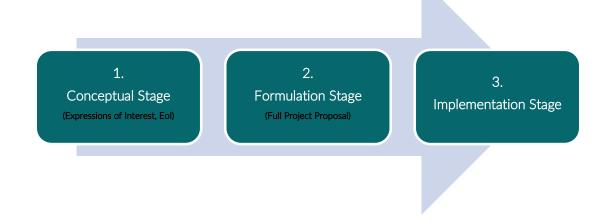
3.4. Budget and Duration

- The contribution of the Fund per project proposal is minimum of 300,000 USD and maximum of 1,000,000 USD.
- The fund encourages projects promoting 3-way (triangular) or 4-way (quadripartite) collaboration with other donors, including but not limited to the Mekong River Commission (MRC), Japan, United States (US), Australia, New Zealand, Germany, Canada etc. Extra budgetary funds should be leveraged, when needed, to facilitate such projects.
- The fund provides grants for joint activities with a regional or international entity, formalized through a cooperation agreement and is considered as regional.
- Activities which are not eligible for funding include construction of buildings and payment of rent or utilities.
- The time frame of the project should be 2-3 years.

4. PROJECT PROPOSAL FORMULATION

4.1. Overview

After the Call for Expressions of Interest (EoI) is announced, the potential proponents should follow the following procedure. The announcement of the EoI submission will be made on the websites of the Governments of the Mekong countries, Mekong Institute (MI) and through network of MI partners in the Mekong countries.



4.1.1 Steps

(1) Proponents shall need to submit an EoI to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) of the respective countries. International Organizations, including UN Agencies, and other International Non-Governmental Organizations having operating offices in the Mekong countries and ROK based organizations should submit the EoI to ROK MOFA. The EoI should be submitted to the following focal points in the Mekong countries and ROK within the stipulated date.

Country	Focal point in the MOFA	Contact information
Cambodia	Ms. Angkearbos Hong	hongangkearbos@gmail.com
Lao PDR	Ms. Noy Amphone	mekong.dialoguepartners@gmail.com
Myanmar	Mrs. Chaw Su Mya	srcd.myanmar@gmail.com
Viet Nam	Mr. Phan Hoang Dung	mekong.mofa@gmail.com
Thailand	Mr. Phonlakrit Warawat	phonlakrit.w@mfa.go.th
ROK	Mr. Kim Dong Hoo	ROKmekong2014@mofa.go.kr

- (2) The Focal Point of each MOFA in CLMVT and the ROK shall collect the EoIs and forward all the EoIs to MI. Screening by focal point of MoFA in Mekong countries is not required.
- (3) MI shall review the EoIs to shortlist according to the evaluation criteria. The evaluation will follow the following criteria.

No	Assessment Area(s)	Weight (%)	
1	Relevance of the proposed project with the priority area(s) of Mekong-	30	
	Republic of Korea Cooperation Plan of Action (POA) 2021-2025		
2	How the identified issues will be addressed	20	
3	Regional nature of the project (Identified regional issues and	20	
	conceptualized in the project design)		
4	Relevant project implementing experience of the proponent	15	
5	Relevant experience of the proposed project team	15	

- (4) MI shall review as per the above assessment criteria to shortlist the EOIs and submit to ROK.
- (5) The Approval Body at the MOFA-ROK shall make a decision on selection of the EoIs that will be developed into a full project proposal. Only shortlisted EoIs will be informed for the next steps.
- (6) MI shall notify the selected EoIs to the 6 Senior Official Meeting (SOM) leaders (5 Mekong Countries and ROK) for their information and support.
- (7) Proponents of the selected EoIs shall submit the full project proposals to MI within the stipulated date. In the case revisions are requested on the submitted full project proposal, MI will inform the proponent to revise and submit within a specific date.
- (8) During the full project proposal preparation phase by the shortlisted proponents, due diligence will be conducted to check the capacity of the proponent to implement the project technically and financially. This will be part of evaluation criteria to select the proposal. Shortlisted proposals may be disqualified if not found to be in compliance with the requirements of the full proposal.
- (9) The Eols shortlisted for full proposals do not necessarily guarantee award of final selection of the project. The shortlisted proposals are subject to review and will go through a process of evaluation.
- (10) MI shall review the full project proposals as per the selection criteria and results of the organizational assessment (due diligence) to shortlist the full proposals for submission to ROK approval body.
- (11) MKCF Deliberation Committee at MOFA-ROK refers to the MI evaluation and conducts its own evaluation to select the final project. In case of countries with shortlisted project budget of less than 600,000 USD, additional project may be considered subject to the availability of funds and quality of the project proposal.
- (12) Foreign Ministers of the six countries endorse the full project proposals that will be funded by the MKCF in the form of a Co-Chair's Statement of the Mekong-ROK Foreign Ministers' Meeting. If there is no Co-Chair's Statement, the final shortlisted projects are circulated to Mekong countries and ROK for endorsement that is used in place of Co-Chair's Statement. (the selected projects' mid-term reports and final reports will be uploaded on MKCF website)
- (13) Once MI is officially informed of the endorsement of the projects by ROK, MI will inform the proponents about the endorsement. The PIA will be required to prepare for the launch of the project and will conduct the following:
- a) appoint and confirm the full-time project positions.
- b) open a bank account (USD) in the name of the project at a local commercial bank, having experience in management of international / ODA fund.

Upon receipt the project bank account details, the proponent will sign and submit an Agreement on Fund Disbursement to MI.

The above should be completed within 2 months from the date of notification of ROK endorsement from MI.

(14) MI shall request for approval from the ROK to release the 1st installment (50%) and shall disburse the installment upon receipt the approval letter from the ROK. PIA will inform the date of launch of the project within 15 days of receipt of the first installment.

MI team will join the PIA at the project launching meeting where the PIA team is required to introduce the project team with assigned responsibilities, project details including M&E, work plan revisions, budget adjustments and finalization, partnership arrangements with another Mekong countries/ROK etc.

PIA needs to update the programmatic details (activities, outputs, expected outcomes, and work plan) in the M&E system developed by the MKCF Secretariat within one month of the project launch. During the implementation cycle, physical progress must be updated against the plan with adequate supporting documentation.

At the project launching meeting, MI will introduce the project monitoring and reporting guidelines. Any minor budget revisions or activities if deemed necessary may be incorporated at this stage.

- (15) In case there is a delay in launching the project after receiving the 1st installment of the project fund in the bank for more than 2 (two) months, MI may implement necessary measures (including termination of project) after consulting with ROK MOFA. Project not initiated within 1 (one) year after MI officially informs PIA of the endorsement of the projects will be terminated.
- (16) Once the Mid-term Report (the Project Progress and Financial Reports) are received and reviewed by MI and shared with ROK MOFA, MI shall request for approval from the ROK to release the 2nd installment (40%) and shall disburse the installment upon receipt the approval letter from the ROK after thoroughly reviewing the Mid-term Report.

If the Mid-term Report does not meet the standards (project quality, project progress rate etc), ROK MOFA and MI may request supplementation of the report and improvement plans for projects. Nevertheless, if the PIA does not respond to appropriately to these request, the ROK MOFA may cancel the project with the consensus of Mekong countries' SOM. Any revisions on budget or project activity may be proposed with justification for review and consideration.

- (17) Upon completion of the project, the Project Implementing Agency will submit a Final Report (including the Financial Report) to the respective MOFAs and MI within 60 days after completion of the project.
- (18) The final installment of 10% will be released on satisfactory completion of all activities of the project with clear exit strategy.
- (19) The Project Implementing Agency is required to inform the interest earned (after adjustment of foreign currency) in the project bank account at the closure of the project.
- (20) Following the review of the Final Report, if necessary, MI can request correction and revision, and any unspent balance of the fund should be returned to MI's MKCF account within 30 days after the financial report approved by MI (in USD currency).

Bank Name	Bangkok Bank
Bank Address	147 Prachasamosorn Rd. Muang, Khon Kaen 40000, Thailand
Branch	Prachasamosorn Road
Currency	USD
Account Name	MEKONG-ROK COOPERATION FUND
Bank Account	840-101-0019-118355-501
Receiver address	123 Khon Kaen University Mittraparb Rd.Muang, Khon Kaen 40002
SWIFT	ВККВТНВК

4.2. Preparation of the Expression of Interest (EoI)

Proponents should submit an EoI as per the structure below:

A. Cover page (1 page)

- i. Name and address of Organization
- ii. Contact person (name, telephone, fax, and email)
- iii. Title of proposed project/sector
- iv. Country (s)/region
- v. Total project cost
- vi. Duration of project
- vii. Signature, name, title of the authorized representative of the Organization (applicant)

B. Technical (6 pages maximum)

- i. **Introduction:** Provide a brief background on the identified development issues in the Mekong region and how the identified issue(s) will be addressed. Indicate the nature of the issue including its importance in the Mekong sub-regional cooperation context, how it will be achieved and description of the target population, stakeholders and its regional implication.
- ii. **Objective:** State the short and long-term objectives of the project and how objectives relate to specific challenges or opportunities in the specific sector in the Mekong region. Also, explain how the project promotes cooperation between the Mekong countries and the ROK and contributes to the sustainable development of the Mekong region.
- iii. **Description of Specific Activities:** 1) Description of the identified issues in the context of Mekong region, 2) How the regional challenges or opportunity will be addressed in the project, 3) Method(s) of approach to be applied, 4) Brief description of the activities to achieve the stated objective(s), 5) Potential partners in the Mekong region and role of the partners in the project.
- iv. **Anticipated Results**: Describe the expected outputs, outcomes and impact of the project.
- v. **Logical framework:** Provide the indicative measures of the project results (Impact, Outcome, Outputs), Indicators, Source of Verification (SoV) / Means of Verification (MoV) as well as risks and assumptions.
- vi. **Team Members:** Please provide brief professional biography of the 2/3 full time project staff i) Project Manager, ii) Project Coordinator, and (iii) Project Finance Assistant (in case of projects with budget of above 500,000 USD). Provide ToR for the 2 or 3 full time project staff as per appendix 5 and provide updated CVs (max

5 pages) of the two aforementioned full-time project staff as per the sample format in appendix 6. It is encouraged that at least one member of the project team is from any of the other Mekong countries or ROK.

C. Financial (3 pages maximum)

- i. **Financial Statement:** Provide a brief statement as to why the proposed activities are feasible both technically and financially.
- ii. **Estimated Cost:** Provide an estimated budget (total cost), year wise (for multi-year project) and cost share.

D. Attachments

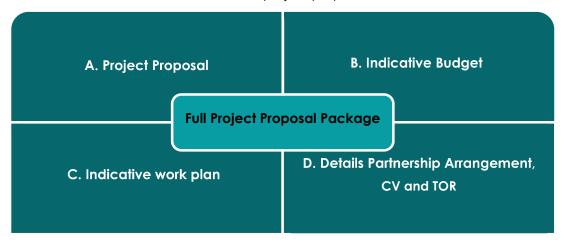
i. Any additional documents that provide information on Partnership arrangements (pre-bidding agreement, MoU, consent letter, etc.) with organizations in the Mekong countries, International organizations, trilateral/quadrilateral cooperation etc., previous experience in implementing development projects, institutional capabilities, and CV and TOR of the core project team.

The EoI must be written in English, typed, single spaced with 12-sized Times New Roman font. The EoI should not exceed 10 pages. The 10 pages do not include the attachments. The attachments must be concise and in a separate file.

The EoI will be reviewed based on their relevance, feasibility, and sustainability.

4.3. Full Project Proposal

The shortlisted EoIs will be invited to submit a full project proposal.



A. Project Proposal (Appendix 2)

The full proposal will include, but not limited to the following:

- i. Problem to be addressed
- ii. Background, problem analysis, and justification
- iii. Objective and success criteria
- iv. Outputs
- v. Indicative work plan
- vi. Management and implementation arrangements

vii. Budget and funding arrangements

The proposal must be written in English, typed, single spaced with 12-sized Times New Roman font.

The proposal must be a development cooperation project with a focus on specific developmental problems, be innovative and unique and be independently originated and developed by the proponent. The project should fulfill the regional criteria to benefit more than one Mekong country

B. Indicative Budget (Appendix 3)

Budget Arrangements (in USD)

- Adequate provisions for the cost of all proposed activities and personnel. Cost breakdown by line item specifying clearly for each cost item covers:
 - Unit cost (unit price in USD)
 - Quantity of items and
 - Total cost for each item
- The budget should show the detail for all costs categorized.
- The budget must show:
 - Description of each element of cost
 - Number of units of direct costs, and indirect costs (if approved)
 - Unit cost of each item (unit price in USD)
 - Sub-total for each category of costs and Total cost for each item

A. DIRECT COSTS	B. INDIRECT COSTS
1. Personnel	1. Management Fee
2. Consultancy services (Professional)	
3. Direct Supplies and Services	
4. Travel	
5. Equipment	
6. Other Direct Costs	

Project Category	Cost	Remarks

A. DIRECT COSTS: are related to project activities

1. Personnel:

- The proponent/PIA recruit full-time staff specifically for the MKCF funded project.
- For all personnel, indicate the percentage level of efforts. For the newly recruited staff, the ToR should be included as annexes in the project proposal.
- Regular staff of the proponent organization may join the project but on project deputation / secondment basis and such notifications should be provided in the proposal
- The total personnel budget cost should not exceed 30% of the total direct cost budget
 - The project should have at least 2 full-time positions hired for the entire project duration, e.g. Project manager and Project Coordinator/ Project Assistant. Projects exceeding more then USD 500,000 may suggest additional Project Finance Assistant.
 - The proponent may engage additional staff (part time basis) for limited number of days and submit time sheets charge under the 7% management fee of the project budget.

2. Consultancy services (Professional):

- Consultants/Experts are identified and charged under the activity budget for specific outputs.
- ToRs of the consultants/experts for the identified activities should be submitted as annexes in the project proposal.
- All expenses related to acquiring the services of a consultant for a specific activity within the project. (i) design of capacity development program, e.g. curriculum development, training packages, and etc.; (ii) delivery of capacity development program; (iii) reporting and information dissemination; (iv) design of technical and policy study/research; (v) delivery of training and workshop; (vi) field survey and data collection; (vii) project documentation; (xiv) and other activities agreed by the Republic of Korea (ROK) through Mekong Institute (MI) to be performed by a. International Expert: An individual subject expert; or one is from an internationally or regionally recognized organization; b. National Expert: An individual subject expert; or one is from nationally recognized organization, Institute/University etc.
- The project staff(s) may not act as the consultant, and the payment for consultant is not allowed for project staff(s) who receive salary from the project.
- The costs include (all for consultant only):
- Consultant fee/Remuneration
- Reports, communication materials, and publications
- Airfare
- Ground transportation
- Accommodation
- Other costs related with the payment process

2.1. International and National Consultant/Remuneration fee

- The lump sum payment by assignment is not allowed
- Procurement Method:
 Selection of Consultant
- Maximum number of working days: 120 days/calendar year or

Project Category	Cost	Remarks	
	 Max: US\$ 300- 500/Working Day (the fee may differ depending on the position and ranking of the personnel) 	equivalent lump sum amount - Note: Proof of university degree or work experience may be requested	
2.2. Reports, communication materials, and publications	 Equivalent to 2 working days 		
2.3. Airfare	Economy classDirect flightActual costs		
2.4. Ground transportation	 Base rental price per day subject to the market rate applied in each location in each country 		
2.5. Accommodation	 For traveling within the Mekong region US\$ 120 and ROK Max: US\$ 150/night/person 		
 3. Direct Supplies and Services: Includes all direct supplies and services costs that are required to carry out the project. The costs include: Venue for the event (meeting, training, etc.) Coffee breaks Lunch Translation services Training materials Design and printing of certificates, photo, videos, etc. Others relevant and allowable 			
3.1. Meeting/Training Package (consists of venue, coffee breaks, and lunch)	For 4-5 star hotel - Full day: US\$ 80/Pax - Half-day: US\$ 40/Pax If the activities conducted in 3* hotel the cost should be US\$ 50		
3.2. Translation services	 Max: US\$ 15/page (350 words/page) For Simultaneous Translation Max: US\$ 300/Working Day for half day US\$ 200 		

Project Category	Cost	Remarks
	 Other relevant and allowable 	
3.3. Other expenditures under Category 3	Actual basis applied to each location in each country.	

4. Travel (for the PIA and/or participants of the event):

- International travel costs must be related to the project activities and incurred by the PIA and/or participants who work/participate on/for the project.
- Participants are required to travel on the most direct and economical flights. Moreover, travel costs budgeted in line with planned activities and specified in the detailed budget.
- The costs include (all for the PIA and/or participants of the event only):
 - Airfare (economy class)
 - Ground transportation
 - Accommodation
 - Per Diem
 - Travel insurance
 - Other cost related to COVID-19 testing
- All flight seating must be economy class. For special cases, seating call can be rearranged
 if approved by the ROK MOFA beforehand.
- Note: Local travel costs should be placed in the 'Other Direct Costs' category.

4.1. Airfare	Direct flightEconomy classActual costs	 For roundtrip airfare from a Mekong country to the ROK, the Fund will cover up to 1,000 USD for an economy seat. For roundtrip airfare within the Mekong region, the Fund will cover up to 800 USD.
4.2. Ground transportation	 Base rental price per day subject to the market rate applied in each location in each country. 	
4.3. Accommodation		
Accommodation in Mekong countries and ROK	 Max: US\$ 120/night/ person for Mekong countries Max: US\$ 150/night/ person for ROK 	
4.4. Per Diem		
Per Diem in Mekong countries and ROK	Max: US\$ 60/day	
4.5. Travel insurance	Actual costs and cover only during the period of travel	
5. Equipment:		

- Costs of equipment should not exceed 10% of the total project budget.
- Equipment that are deemed necessary for the successful implementation of the project will be permitted.
- The proponent is required to send a justification letter(s) along with the project proposal explaining why purchase of equipment is necessary for project implementation.
- The car or the building construction for project office are not allowed
- ROK MOFA may reject the proposed equipment budget either fully or partly
- Asset created via procurement will be reported in the final project report.

6. Other Direct Costs:

- Includes all other project costs that do not fall under the definition of Personnel, Consultancy services, Direct Supplies and Services, Travel and Equipment. Those costs directly related to performance of the activities described in the grant proposal (application). Such costs must be reasonable, competitive and allowable as specified in expenditure categories.
- If the project cost exceeds USD 500,000, the PIA will be required to engage external auditor to audit the fund. For the auditor services, the PIA may include auditor's fee up to a maximum of USD 10,000. Such cost should be included in the other direct cost category.
- B. INDIRECT COSTS: are in support of all project activities of the implementing agency. Indirect costs include overhead and administrative costs which are not directly attributable to the proposed grant activity.
- 1. Management fee
- Max: 7% of the total approved budget. The fee is charged based on actual expenditure of direct cost.
- Indirect cost budgeted will be considered on a caseby-case basis
- This fee includes project overheads, adjustment on any loss of foreign currency exchange, financial audits, meetings, travel and DSA of project staff and support staffs, office rental cost.
 Staff support cost are required to produce time sheets.

- C. Indicative work plan (Appendix 4)
- D. Details of Partnership Arrangement, CV, and TOR (Appendix 5)

5. PROCUREMENT

5.1. Principles

Competition	Efficient and Effective Procurement	Impartiality, Transparency, and Accountability	Procurement Ethics	Eligibility
-------------	-------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------	-------------

Competition

Procurement shall be carried out in an open competitive basis to the maximum practical extent. All eligible bidders shall be given equal opportunity to compete in providing goods and/or services to the MKCF recipients.

Efficient and Effective Procurement

Procurement shall be conducted in a manner that maximizes the efficient use of the MKCF's resources and ensures that the goods and/or services procured effectively meet the requirements of the MKCF recipients.

Impartiality, Transparency, and Accountability

Procurement shall be conducted in an impartial, transparent and accountable manner, and all eligible bidders shall be given the same information. Fairness and transparency in the procurement process require that all suppliers and consultants competing for a specific contract do not derive a competitive advantage from having provided services related to the contract in question. Therefore, the procuring entity/project management unit shall, when practicable, make available to prospective bidders all reasonable and material information that would, in that respect, give a supplier or consultant a competitive advantage.

Procurement Ethics

All procurements should not be in violation of the national laws and regulations on procurement, including Conflict of Interest, Code of Conduct for Suppliers. Furthermore, the MKCF considers a conflict of interest to be a situation in which a party has interests that could improperly influence that party's performance of official duties or responsibilities, contractual obligations, or compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The MKCF through MI will take appropriate action to manage such conflicts of interest, or rejects a tender or proposal for award in case it determines that a conflict of interest has flawed the integrity of any procurement process.

Eligibility

An eligible supplier or consultant is an organization or an individual that complies with national laws on procurement and is determined by the procuring entity to be a supplier or consultant who is legally and financially capable of providing the goods or services in the country or countries where such goods or services are to be provided.

5.2. Mis-procurement

If procurement is not carried out as agreed or prescribed, the MKCF through MI shall declare misprocurement and cancel that portion of the MKCF allocated to the goods and/or services that have been misprocured.

5.3. Methods of Procurement

Open tendering and request for proposals

The objective of open tendering is to provide all eligible suppliers or consultants with timely and adequate notification of requirements and an equal opportunity to bid for the required goods or services. In turn, this is expected to lead to competitive pricing, product innovation, and performance improvements. The project implementing agency shall open all tenders at the stipulated time and place, and tenders received after the stipulated deadline may be rejected, as stipulated in the procurement document. Open tendering may be conducted by issuing a request for proposals, especially when it needs to consider the financial aspects of proposals separately, and only after completing the examination and evaluation of the technical, quality and performance characteristics of the proposals.

Restricted tendering

Procurement may be undertaken by means of restricted tendering when:

- The subject matter of the procurement, by reason of its highly complex or specialized nature, is available only from a limited number of suppliers or consultants; or
- The time and cost required to examine and evaluate a large number of tenders would be disproportionate to the value of the subject matter of the procurement.

Request for quotations

Procurement may be undertaken by means of a request for quotations from approximately three suppliers or consultants, to assure competitive prices, for the procurement of readily available goods or services, or standard specification commodities of small value. Requests for quotations shall indicate the description and quantity of the goods or services, as well as the desired delivery (or completion) time and place. The evaluation of quotation shall follow the basic principles provided in these Procurement Regulations. Quotations may be submitted by letter, facsimile or by electronic means. The terms of the accepted offer shall be incorporated in a purchase order or brief contract.

Single-source procurement

Single-source procurement may be undertaken in the following exceptional circumstances:

The subject matter of the procurement is available only from a particular supplier or consultant, or a particular supplier or consultant has exclusive rights in respect of the subject matter of the procurement, such that no reasonable alternative or substitute exists, and the use of any other procurement method would therefore not be possible;

- In exceptional cases when there is an extremely urgent need for the subject matter of the procurement, such as in response to natural disasters, and engaging in any other method of procurement would be impractical because of the time involved in using those methods:
- The procuring entity, having procured goods, equipment, technology or services from a supplier or consultant, determines that additional supplies or services must be procured from that supplier or consultant for reasons of standardization or because of the need for compatibility with existing goods, equipment, technology or services, taking into account the effectiveness of the original procurement in meeting the needs of the procuring entity/project management unit, the limited size of the proposed procurement in relation to the original procurement, the reasonableness of the price and the unsuitability of alternatives to the goods or services in question;
- The procuring entity determines that the use of any other method of procurement is not appropriate for the protection of essential security interests or confidential information; or
- When the estimated value of the procurement contract is regarded as a low value under the applicable regulation.
- Refer the below mention table for procurement threshold limit for goods and services.

Procurement thresholds for Services and Goods

			or services of				
Туре	Purchase volume	Request/ Review	Approval	Open tendering and request for proposals	2. Restricted tendering	3. Request for quotations	4. Single- source procurement
Goods / Service	USD 0 - USD 500	Project Assistant or Project Officer	Project Officer Project Manager				-Quotation (if any) -Receipt (Invoice)
Goods / Service	USD 501 - USD 5,000	Project Officer	Project Manager				*Internal memorandum is required to clarify the reasons chosen for the single-source procurement
Service -Consultant			Project Manager and Committee	- Company profile / Consultant's CV - Proposal / TOR	- Company profile / Consultant's CV - Proposal / TOR		
-Sub- contractor	USD 5,001 and above	Project Officer	(If needed)	- 3 information quotation or more - Announcement - Purchasing selection	- Purchasing selection report - Quotation - Announce in public channel - Agreement / Contract - Receipt (Invoice) - Committee for selection		
Goods / Equipment	USD 5,000 and above (>=)	Project Officer		and properties - Company profile - 3 information quotation or more - Purchasing selection report - Agreement / contract Receipt (Invoice)	- TOR / Specification and properties- Company profile - 3 information quotation or more - Purchasing selection report - Agreement / contract Receipt (Invoice) - Committee for selection		

5.4. Handover of Asset Purchase via Procurement of Project Assets under the MKCF project.

If project is closed earlier due to some unforeseen circumstances, in such situation all the project assets will be returned by PIA to MI

All the assets purchased under the MKCF project, at the end of the project all assets will be assessed and included in the final reported, where following section will be covered by the PIA. a) Name of asset, b) Original value of the asset c) Current Status of Asset, d) Location of Asset (PIA premises or Community).

6. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND DISBURSEMENT

6.1. Financial Management and Disbursement Arrangements

Financial management and disbursement arrangements required under this Manual aim to achieve the following objectives:

- To enhance transparency in financial management and use of funds to ensure that project resources are spent in full compliance with the covenants under the Agreement on Fund Disbursement with efficiency and effectiveness;
- To provide clarified requirements and procedures for project management and implementation, including Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) tasks.

The funds shall be spent for intended purposes as specified in the Agreements on Fund Disbursement. To this end, all selected organizations (fund recipients) must adopt adequate financial management controls:

- A separate bank account (or sub-account) in United States Dollars (USD) held at financial institutions (commercial banks) for the purpose of depositing and expending the grant fund disbursed must be established.
- The account name must be the official name of the PIA and/or title of the project.
- No other funding shall be deposited into this account, and no expenditures which are not for eligible costs under the approved fund shall be paid from this account.
- No funds disbursed under the approved fund may be transferred to other bank accounts owned by the recipients that contain funds from any other sources.

If deviations from the approved budget are found during the verification process but cannot be duly explained, the PIA shall refund the amounts paid to them with respect to claims which were not accounted for under the approved budget and it cannot participate in the MKCF project in the future. However, certain adjustments during the implementation phase with prior approval from MKCF secretariat will be acceptable, but such changes should not exceed the total approved budget.

A disbursement schedule is prepared for each fund. This schedule details the content of, and due date for each report the PIA is required to submit under the Agreement on Fund Disbursement. In addition, the schedule specifies the amount of payment and the indicative disbursement date for each scheduled funding. The payments schedule is included in the Agreement on Fund Disbursement.

The 1st installment (50%) shall be disbursed upon receipt of the approval letter from the ROK and signed Agreement on Fund Disbursement.

Upon approval of the Mid-term Report (the Progress and Financial Reports) by MI, the 2nd installment (40%) MI will be disbursed to PIA.

The final installment of 10% will be released on satisfactory completion of all activities of the project with clear exit strategy.

All funds will be denominated and funded in United States Dollars (US\$). It is obliged to make all payments through project bank account including salary payments.

6.2. Financial Documentation

Fund receipts and expenditures are requested to be properly accounted and recorded in the financial management systems of a PIA. The following are the key documents that must be maintained and easily accessible for supervision, M&E, and audit purposes:

- Fund Disbursement Agreements
- Bank statements showing transactions of fund receipts, exchange rate for converting USD to local currency and payments;
- Supporting documents, including procurement contract, invoice, receipt, payment voucher, travel documents, training and workshop-related documents, minutes/ToR for consultancy services, and others evidencing that project activities are in progress or fully completed;
- Financial reports
- Original documents should be maintained by the PIA for at least 5 years

The financial documentation shall be prepared in line with the documents required for the project activities and costs as specified in the following table:

Project Category	Financial Documents	Remarks			
A. DIRECT COSTS: are related to project activities					
1. Personnel:					
1.1. Project Manager1.2. Project Coordinator1.3. Project Finance Assistant**	 Copy of Agreement or Contract or Special Service Agreement (SSA) Original (or Certified Copy of) Bank Transfer Slip or Receipt signed Signed TOR CV 	 Proof of university degree or work experience may be requested 			
2. Consultancy services (Profes	ssional):				
2.1. International and National Consultant/Remuneration fee (Resource Person, Subject expert, Facilitator)	 Copy of Agreement or Contract or Special Service Agreement (SSA) Original (or Certified Copy of) Bank Transfer Slip or Receipt signed by Consultant/Expert Detailed session summary Signed TOR CV Time sheet 	- Proof of university degree or work experience may be requested			
2.2. Reports, communication materials, and publications	 Copy of Agreement or Contract or Special Service Agreement (SSA) Original (or Certified Copy of) Bank Transfer Slip or Receipt signed by Consultant/Expert 	 Proof of university degree or work experience may be requested 			

Project Category	Financial Documents	Remarks
	- Original (or Certified Copy of) Invoice and/or Receipts	
2.3. Airfare	Boarding Pass(es) / ticket(s)Original (or Certified Copy of) Invoice and/or Receipts	
2.4. Ground transportation	- Original (or Certified Copy of) Invoice and/or Receipts	
2.5. Accommodation	- Original (or Certified Copy of) Invoice and/or Receipts	
3. Direct Supplies and Services	:	
3.1. Meeting/Training Package (consists of venue, coffee breaks and lunch)	 Original (or Certified Copy of) Invoice and/or Receipts Meeting/training minutes or report 	
3.2. Translation services	 Copy of Agreement or Contract or Special Service Agreement (SSA) Original (or Certified Copy of) Bank Transfer Slip or Receipt signed by the translator 	
3.3. Other expenditures under Category 3	- Original (or Certified Copy of) Invoice and/or Receipts	
4. Travel (for the PIA and/or po	ırticipants of the event):	
4.1. Airfare	Boarding Pass(es) / ticket(s)Original (or Certified Copy of) Invoice and/or Receipts	
4.2. Ground transportation	- Original (or Certified Copy of) Invoice and/or Receipts	
4.3. Accommodation	- Original Invoice and/or Receipts	

Project Category	Financial Documents	Remarks
4.4. Per Diem	 Original (or Certified Copy of) Invoice and/or Receipts 	
4.5. Travel insurance	 Original (or Certified Copy of) Invoice and/or Receipts 	
5. Equipment:	 Original (or Certified Copy of) Invoice and/or Receipts 	
6. Other Direct Costs:	 Original (or Certified Copy of) Invoice and/or Receipts Quotation based on the amount of purchase 	
B. INDIRECT COSTS		
1. Management fee	Overheads for the projects including & hotel accommodation receipts of profession for support staff (e.g. finance, project stationaries, internet, telephone and continuous cont	oroject staff, time sheet assistant staff),
* All invoice and/or receipt should be attached on the provided Receipt format (Appendix 7-10). ** for projects more than 500,000 USD		

6.3. Financial Reports

- The **Mid-term Financial Report** must show the amount budgeted for each line item, the amount expended against each budget line as of the date of the report, including the remaining balance in each line. Totals must be shown for each of the three columns with explanations for material and irregular variances. Also, financial reports must also indicate bank account balance against received and disbursed amounts, which are reconciled with the bank statements issued by designated financial institutions.
- The Final Financial Report is the consolidation of the Mid-term Financial Report that must accurately present all financial information on grant fund receipt and use of funds for intended purposes. The structure of the final financial report is the same as the mid-term financial report.
- All supporting documents as indicated above shall be submitted to MI as an integral part of the financial reports and attached by (i) Approved Proposal with approved budget; (ii) Copy of agreed work plan, and (iii) Copy of Disbursement Letter.
- If deviations from the approved budget are found during the verification process but cannot be duly explained, the PIA shall refund the amounts paid to them with respect to claims which were not accounted for under the approved budget and it cannot participate in the MKCF project in the future. However, certain adjustments during the implementation phase with prior approval from MKCF secretariat will be acceptable, but such changes should not exceed the total approved budget.

7. RESULT-BASED MONITORING IMPLEMENTATION AND PERFORMANCE

7.1. Reporting

- MI has adopted the model of results-based monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system based on a well-constructed results framework. The system will use guidelines for systematic resultbased M&E of progress and performance and outcomes, including reporting formats, field visits data collection, case studies for reporting, organized learning, and sharing input to policy dialogue.
- Result-based M&E of Project Implementing Agency will be undertaken on the basis of their periodic progress/performance and financial reporting as well as regular monitoring visits.
- MI will assist the PIA to efficiently implement the awarded funds through establishing a quality assurance system to assure that implementation is moving in the right direction toward achievement and accomplishment of designed objectives and results in a timely manner.
- Project Implementing Agency will be required to submit a Quarterly Monitoring Report, Midterm Progress Report, and Final report. The reports should be against the respective results indicators. Reporting deadlines will be specified in the Agreement on the Fund Disbursement. All reports and related documents must be in English and should document the project activities and generated results and outcomes, lessons learnt and the expenditures up to the date of the report.
- All of the reports must be written in English, typed, single spaced with 12-sized Times New Roman font.

7.2. Mid-term Progress Report

- A Mid-term Progress Report shall contain a description of the work accomplished to date, generated results and outcomes, lessons learnt; problems addressed during project implementation, describe strategies designed to overcome the problems, and a brief outline of the activities planned for the remaining project period.
- Any problems, e.g. concerns and issues, arising out of the project implementation that was not anticipated should immediately be brought to the attention of MI. If action is needed or requested, MI will discuss with PIA to determine what actions may be taken within the reporting/project implementation periods.
- If the Mid-term Report does not meet the standards(project quality, project progress rate etc), ROK MOFA and MI may request supplementation of the report and improvement plans for projects. Nevertheless, if the PIA does not respond to appropriately to these request, the ROK MOFA may cancel the project with the consensus of Mekong countries' SOM.

7.3. Final Report

- The Final Report should cover all of the above for the period covered by the report in which the funded activities were carried out, information with which to evaluate the project achievements and impact, a statement of all the eligible costs, and a full summary statement of the fund's receipts and expenditures and payments received.
- The Final Report should include evidence that the full scope of work set in the indicative work plan has been successfully conducted, including, among other items, (i) a technical narrative summarizing the project's outcomes against the results framework, (ii) practical recommendations resulting from the accomplished work, and (iii) an account of outreach and dissemination activities undertaken. Also, the PIA should submit any training or meeting materials that were circulated to the participants.

7.4. Monitoring Visits

- MI will assign focal person(s) to oversight, follow-up with PIA, and visit the PIA during the project implementation. The purpose of these monitoring visits is to discuss the progress based on the information the PIA has provided in the proposal and the indicative work plan. These monitoring visits also provide an opportunity for providing technical assistance, coaching and mentoring the PIA. The visits serve an integral part of the capacity development approach.
- Monitoring visits will allow MI to monitor physical/technical progress, and the administrative, financial and internal control systems of the grantees, and assess the results of technical assistance or capacity development provided to the PIA.
- MI will conduct site visits to the PIA office to help and support the compliance in accounting, financial, procurement, and controls requirements in line with the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and International Audit Standards (IAS). This will ensure the effective and efficient use of the fund and proper management of resources while providing technical assistance and capacity development support as needed.

8. INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL AUDITS

- If the project cost exceeds USD 500,000, the PIA will be required to engage an external auditor to audit the fund. For the auditor services, the PIA may include auditor's fee up to a maximum of USD 10,000. Such cost should be included in the other direct cost category.
- The external financial audit of each grant fund is an integral part of the consolidated audited financial statements of MI.
- An external audit shall review not only the expenditures of the PIA during the project period and audit the schedule of receipts and expenditures of the grant funds, but will also check the existence, adequacy, and effectiveness of internal control system. Receipts for expenditures of grant funds in the audit report should be reconciled with the amounts reported by the PIA. If inconsistencies are found, payments to the PIA may be suspended while MI conducts investigation.
- The audit report on the project financial statements must be supported by a Management Letter. Schedule of required report and external audit report is described in the following table.

REPORT	SUBMISSION
Quarterly Reporting	The quarter will be counted starting from the agreement date
Mid-term report (Progress and financial reports)	As indicated in the Agreement on Fund Disbursement
Final report (Completion and financial reports)	No later than sixty (60) calendar days after the completion of project
Annual External Audit Report with a Management Letter	To be notified by MI
Final External Financial Audit Report with a Management Letter	As describe in section no 8: Internal and External Audit

The reporting requirements can be summarized in the following chronological order by (i) Midterm Progress Report, (ii) Final Report. The PIA shall maintain books, records, documents, and other evidence relating to the Fund in accordance with International Accounting Standards, International Reporting Standards and International Standards on Auditing. The PIA shall assume full responsibility for effective and proper administration of funds. The PIA's original accounting, financial and procurement records, as well as all fund documents (including narrative reports, Agreement on Fund Disbursement, and amendments) shall be made available to MI, external auditors, and the ROK.

9. GUIDANCE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR)

1. Purpose

This guidance outlines the principles and procedures for managing intellectual property rights (IPR) in projects where new products, technologies, or innovations are developed. It aims to ensure transparency, fairness, and compliance with legal and contractual obligations while safeguarding the interests of all stakeholders.

2. Definition of Intellectual Property

Intellectual Property (IP) refers to creations of the mind, such as inventions, designs, trademarks, and copyrights, that result from the project activities. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Patents for inventions
- Industrial designs
- Copyright-protected works (e.g., software, documents)
- Trademarks and branding

3. Ownership of Intellectual Property

- Pre-existing IP: Any intellectual property brought into the project by participants remains
 the property of the respective party unless otherwise agreed upon in writing.
- Newly Created IP: All intellectual property developed during the project will be owned as
 defined by the project agreement. Common ownership options include:
 - o Ownership by the lead organization.
 - o Joint ownership by all contributors, with rights proportionate to their input.
 - o Assignment to a designated entity as agreed by stakeholders.

4. IPR Agreements

- All project participants must sign an IPR agreement at the start of the project, specifying the ownership, licensing, and usage rights of any new intellectual property developed.
- The agreement should include terms for:
 - o Distribution of ownership.
 - o Licensing terms for usage by participants or third parties.
 - o Royalties or revenue-sharing arrangements, if applicable.

5. Protection of Intellectual Property

- All project participants are responsible for ensuring the confidentiality of sensitive information and early-stage innovations.
- The project team should consult legal professionals to file for appropriate IP protections (e.g., patents or copyrights) before public disclosure or commercialization.

6. Licensing and Commercialization

- Licensing agreements should clearly outline how the intellectual property will be used, including terms for sublicensing, exclusivity, and territorial rights.
- Revenues generated from commercialization should be distributed as per the agreed terms in the IPR agreement.

7. Dispute Resolution

• Any disputes related to intellectual property ownership or usage will be resolved as per the dispute resolution mechanism defined in the project agreement or by Donor.

8. Acknowledgment and Attribution

• All contributors to the development of new intellectual property must be acknowledged in accordance with their contributions.

9. Compliance with Laws and Policies

- The project must comply with all relevant local, national, and international laws related to intellectual property rights.
- Any third-party intellectual property used in the project must have proper authorization or licensing to avoid infringement.

10. Monitoring and Reporting

- The project manager will be responsible for monitoring IPR-related activities and ensuring compliance with the agreed terms.
- Periodic updates on the status of intellectual property protection, licensing, and commercialization should be provided to stakeholders.

11. Amendments to IPR Policies

 Any changes to IPR policies during the project must be discussed and approved by all stakeholders, with formal documentation of the revised terms.

12. Termination of IPR Agreements

Upon project completion or termination, the ownership and usage rights of intellectual property must be clearly defined and recorded to avoid future disputes.

APPENDIX 1: EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI) TEMPLATE

A. Cover page (1 page)



Mekong-ROK Cooperation Fund (MKCF) **Expressions of Interest (EoI)**

1. Organization				
- Name:				
- Type:				
- Physical operating/busines	- Physical operating/business address			
2. Responsible person				
- Name/position:				
- Phone number:				
- Email:				
3. Title of the project (Please also pro	vide an abbreviation)			
- Full name:				
- Abbreviation:				
4. Main priority area	□ Culture and Tourism			
(Select the most relevant one)	□ Human Resources Development			
	□ Agriculture and Rural Development			
	□ Infrastructure			
	□ Information and Communication Technology			
	□ Environment			
	□ Non-traditional Security Challenges			
5. Sub-priority area	□ Culture and Tourism			
(Select the second most relevant	□ Human Resources Development			
one)	□ Agriculture and Rural Development			
	□ Infrastructure			
	□ Information and Communication Technology			
	□ Environment			
/ Town of a control (100)	□ Non-traditional Security Challenges			
6. Target country(ies)	Please be as specific as possible			
7. Total estimated project budget (in USD)				
8. Duration of the project				
(in months)				
Signature of the responsible person:				
Name/position of the responsible per	rson:			
Date:				

B. Technical (7 pages maximum)

1. General description of organization (up to 200 words)

- Describe the legal status, vision, mission, programs, and relevant experience in project implementation, as well as the management structure of the organization.

2. Problem statement (up to 250 words)

- Provide a clear description of the problem (a **regional development issue** in the Mekong region) that your project aims to address.

3. Mekong-ROK Cooperation (up to 250 words)

- Explain how the project promotes the Mekong-ROK cooperation in addressing the problem. Please refer to the **Plan of Action (POA) 2021-2025 on the Mekong-Republic of Korea Cooperation for the implementation of Mekong-Han River Declaration**

4. Objectives (up to 250 words)

- State the short- and long-term objectives of the project, relating them to the problem statement (e.g. Provide clean water to rural areas).

5. Anticipated results output, outcome, impact) (up to 300 words)

- Describe the expected outputs, outcomes and impact of the project (e.g. output: Install 100 wells, outcome: Improved health of the residents, impact: Better quality of life).
- Explain how the results will benefit and be shared in the Mekong region.

6. Activities and innovative approaches (up to 300 words)

- Describe the proposed activities and explain how they will be implemented to achieve the objectives and anticipated results.
- Indicate the geographical location(s) of the proposed activity, specifying the specific area(s).
- Describe any innovative approaches that will be utilized.

7. Theory of change / Link to MI-ROK Logical framework (up to 250 words)

- Briefly describe the theory of change, clearly outlining its underlying assumptions, and demonstrate how it aligns with one or more of the MKCF priority sectors.
- Briefly describe how all activities are connected to the outputs, outcomes, and impact.
- How well the objective of the project aligns with the Logical Framework of the Mekong-ROK.

8. Project pilot group / pilot area (up to 250 words)

- MKCF prioritizes funding for development projects through field testing. You can focus on specific communities or groups within designated locations for this purpose. Please provide relevant documents or supporting information for the group and area, if available. Please outline any stakeholder and ultimate beneficiary consultations that were held.

9. Risk management (up to 250 words)

- Outline how potential risks will be identified, assessed, and mitigated throughout the project.

10. Project management / implementation arrangements (up to 300 words)

- Provide the proposed structure for project management, implementation, and coordination, including roles and responsibilities.

- Provide updated CVs (max 2 pages) of the three full-time project staff as per the sample format in the annexure (It is recommended that at least one member of the project team be from one of the other Mekong countries or the ROK).
- Provide a list of potential partners in the Mekong countries and the ROK, along with their roles in the project, and explain how you plan to collaborate with these partners on the activities.

C. Financial (3 pages maximum)

1. Financial statement	 Provide a brief statement explaining why the proposed activity requires the proposed amount and how it will lead to the expected output. This applies to all proposed activities and their corresponding outputs. List the outputs and provide justification for the proposed budget. 	
2. Estimated budget	 Provide an estimated budget (total cost), broken down by year (for multi-year projects), and details on cost sharing. Include details of any contributions, including those from third parties (in USD), as well as in-kind contributions. 	

3. Budget template

Output	Activities	Quantity/ Units	Unit Cost (in USD)	Total Cost (in USD)	Remarks
Output 1: [Insert]	Activity 1.1	[Quantity]	[Unit Cost]	[USD]	[Explanation/Notes]
	Activity 1.2	[Quantity]	[Unit Cost]	[USD]	[Explanation/Notes]
Output 2: [Insert]	Activity 2.1	[Quantity]	[Unit Cost]	[USD]	[Explanation/Notes]
	Activity 2.2	[Quantity]	[Unit Cost]	[USD]	[Explanation/Notes]
Output 3: [Insert]	Activity 3.1	[Quantity]	[Unit Cost]	[USD]	[Explanation/Notes]
	Activity 3.2	[Quantity]	[Unit Cost]	[USD]	[Explanation/Notes]
Total				[USD]	

The cost proposed including:

(A) Direct Cost

- Personnel (maximum of two full-time project personnel are allowed and salary cost should not exceed 30% of the total cost), CVs and ToRs are required to be submitted along with the concept paper. It is encouraged that at least one member of the project team is from any of the other Mekong countries or ROK
- 2. Consultancy services (Professional) ToRs of the services need to be provided indicating number of days.
- 3. Direct supplies and services
- 4. Travel
- 5. Equipment
- 6. Other direct cost

(B) Indirect Cost

Management fee (Max. 7% of the project budget) includes project overheads, financial audits, meetings, travel and DSA of project staff and support staffs. Staff support cost are required to produce time sheets. The fee is paid based on the actual expenditure of direct cost.

C. Attachments

Any additional documents that provide information on partnership arrangements (e.g., prebidding agreements, MoUs, consent letters, etc.) with organizations in the Mekong countries, international organizations, etc.; past experience in implementing development projects; institutional capabilities; and the CVs and TORs of the core project team.

APPENDIX 2: FULL PROJECT PROPOSAL TEMPLATE (ONCE THE EOI IS SHORTLISTED)

(1) Summary



Mekong-ROK Cooperation Fund (MKCF) Project Proposal

Organization

- Name:
- Type:
- Physical operating/business address

Responsible person

- Name/position:
- Phone number:
- Email:

Title of the project

- Full name:
- Abbreviation:

Duration of the project (in months)

[insert text]

Date of submission

AA	C. I
Main priority area (Select one)	Sub-priority area (Select one)
□ Culture and Tourism	□ Culture and Tourism
□ Human Resources Development	□ Human Resources Development
□ Agriculture and Rural Development	□ Agriculture and Rural Development
□ Infrastructure	□ Infrastructure
□ Information and Communication	□ Information and Communication
Technology	Technology
□ Environment	□ Environment
□ Non-traditional Security Challenges	□ Non-traditional Security Challenges
Summary of the project (up to 300 words)	
[insert text]	
Target country(ies)	
[insert text]	
Total estimated project budget (in USD)	
[insert text]	

dd/mm/yy

(2) Technical



Mekong-ROK Cooperation Fund (MKCF) **Project Proposal**

1. Project milestone									
☐ Estimated Implementation Sta	art Date:	dd/mm/yy							
☐ Estimated Implementation En	d Date:	dd/mm/yy							
☐ Project Duration:		in months							
2. Description of financial eleme	ents								
Total project budget (in USD)	From the MKC	F (in USD)	Contribution, if any, including from third parties (in USD)						
[insert text]	[insert te	ext]	[insert text]						
3. General description of organ	3. General description of organization (up to 500 words)								

- Describe the legal status, vision, mission, programs, and relevant experience related to the proposed project.

4. Project background and justification (up to 500 words)

- Describe the reasons behind the selection of the project idea, how it is relevant to the identified priority sector(s) of the MKCF.

5. Problem statement (to be addressed) (up to 500 words)

- Describe the problem(s) and how the project intends to address them.

6. Regional nature of the project (at least 300 words)

- Describe how the problem or issue affects multiple Mekong countries and requires regional action and explain how it will be addressed in the project.
- Explain how the project fosters cooperation between the Mekong countries and the ROK to address the identified regional issue(s).

7. Objectives (up to 500 words)

- Describe the short- and long-term objectives the project intends to achieve in contribution to (1) national priorities and (2) regional priorities.
- Describe how well the objective of the project aligns with the Logical Framework of the Mekong-ROK.

8. Anticipated Results (up to 500 words)

- Describe the expected outputs, outcomes, and impact of the project, and explain how these results will benefit the Mekong region.
- Explain how they will be shared across the region.

9. Activities and innovative approaches (up to 500 words)

- Describe the main activities (refer to Appendix 4: Indicative Work Plan) and provide information on how these activities are linked to the objectives the project intends to achieve.
- Indicate the geographical location of the proposed activity, specifying the specific area.
- Describe any innovative approaches that will be utilized.

10. Theory of change (up to 500 words)

- Describe the theory of change, clearly outlining its underlying assumptions, and demonstrate how it aligns with one or more of the MKCF priority sectors.

11. Logical framework (Outcomes	, Outputs, Activi	ities and Inputs o	at the project leve	I)
Intervention Logic	Indicators	Means of Verification / Source of Verification	Risk / Assumptions	Remarks
Project outcomes				
1. (outputs 1.1. and 1.2. may contribute to outcome # 1)				
2.				
3.				
Project outputs (that contribute to	outcomes)	.		
1.1.				
1.2.				
2.1.				
2.2.				
Activities	Description			
1.				
2.				
3.				
•••				
Inputs				
1.				
2.				
3.				
			-	-

12. Project pilot / pilot area (up to 500 words)

- MKCF prioritizes funding for development projects through field interventions in specific locations by focusing on specific communities or target groups/villages within designated location (s) for this purpose. Please provide relevant documents or support information for the group and area, if available.

13. Risk management / Project sustainability (up to 500 words)

- Outline how potential risks will be identified, assessed, and mitigated throughout the project.
- Explain how the project's sustainability will be ensured in the long term after its implementation with support from the MKCF.

14. Project management / implementation arrangements (up to 500 words)

- Describe the project management structure and coordination mechanisms with Mekong country partners, relevant stakeholders, the MKCF Secretariat, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA).
- Provide a brief overview of human resource inputs, including full-time and part-time project staff, experts, and consultants, along with their bios, roles, and responsibilities (refer to the ToR and CV formats in Appendices 5 and 6).

15. Partnership with organisation(s) in the Mekong countries and the ROK (at least 300 words)

- Explain how institutional arrangements will be established to collaborate with partner organizations in the Mekong countries and the ROK (if applicable) and describe the implementation arrangements for joint activities with these partners.

16. Value added by the MKCF's involvement (at least 300 words)

- Specify why MKCF's involvement is critical to the project and how the project has the potential to contribute to achieving the Fund's objectives.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) FRAMEWORK

		OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (OVIS)	DEFINITION	BASELINE	TARGET	DATA SOURCE / MEANS OF VERIFICATION	RISK / ASSUMPTIONS
HIERARCHY OF RESULTS	RESULT STATEMENT(S)	What information needs to be collected (Description of indicators / progress markers)?	How is this calculated?	What is the current value?	What is the target value?	How will it be collected and measured?	A statement outlining factors that may delay the project.
Impacts							
Outcomes							
Outputs							

APPENDIX 3: INDICATIVE BUDGET

The budget should be presented in this section and provided as a separate Excel file.

APPENDIX 4: INDICATIVE WORK PLAN

<u>No</u>	ACTIVITY	Оитрит	BUDGET		Month																				
				1	2	3	4	<u>5</u>	6	7	8	9	10	<u>11</u>	12	<u>13</u>	14	<u>15</u>	16	<u>17</u>	18	19	20	21	<u></u>
1																									
2																									
3																									
4																									
<u></u>																									
TOTAL			IN USD																						

APPENDIX 5: TOR

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF KEY PROJECT CONTRACTED PERSONNEL

No.	Name	Organization	Position	e-mail / phone	Remarks
1	Dr./Mr./Ms.				e.g. TOR No. 1
2					
3					
4					

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF FULL TIME PROJECT STAFF

	TOR No. xx
Position	Project Manager
Duty Station	
Responsibilities	
Requirements	
Date	DD/MM/YY

	TOR No. xx
Position	Project Coordinator
Duty Station	
Responsibilities	
Requirements	
Date	DD/MM/YY

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF CONSULTANTS/EXPERTS

	TOR No. xx
Position	
Duty Station	
Responsibilities	
Requirements	
Date	DD/MM/YY

CVs of Proposed Project Team with passport size photo

- 1. Name:
- 2. Proponent Organization:
- **3.** Proposed Position:
- 4. Date of Birth: dd/mm/yy, Nationality:
- 5. Complete personal contact details:

Address:

Mobile:

Email:

- **6.** Education:
- 7. Membership in Professional Associations:
- 8. Other Trainings:
- **9.** Countries of Work Experience: [in the last 10 years]
- **10.** Languages: [Mother Tongue/Excellent/Good/Fair/Poor]

Language Speaking Reading Writing

11. Employment Record:

Date from - to	Location	Employer organizations and reference persons	Position	Work Undertaken that Best Illustrates Capability to Manage the Project
mm/yy To date	City / Country	Name and position of reference person + email + telephone	Title of position held	Project Title / budget / donor / achievement – include also main project features, activities performed, project coordination activities, etc.
mm/yy – mm/yy	City / Country	Name and position of reference person + email + telephone	Title of position held	Project Title / budget / donor / achievement – include also main project features, activities performed, project coordination activities, etc.

12. Other Relevant Information (e.g., Publications)

Certificat	ion:			
I, the unc	lersigned, hereby certify to the best of I	my knowledge and beli	ef	
			Yes	No
i)	This CV accurately describes my qua experience.	lifications and my		
ii)	I am employed by the proponent or	ganization.		
iii)	I was part of the team that wrote the (EOI) for this proposed project.	Expression of Interest		
the EOI/p CV has b	nat I have been informed by the propo proposal. I confirm that I will be available een submitted, in accordance with the outlined in the proposal.	e to carry out the assigr	nment for v	which my
	and that any willful misstatement may le ciplinary action by the MKCF.	ead to disqualification,	dismissal, c	or any
Name:		Date:		
Signature	e:			

APPENDIX 7: AGREEMENT ON FUND DISBURSEMENT (TO BE SIGNED)



Mekong – ROK Cooperation Fund (MKCF) Agreement on Fund Disbursement

Project Implementing Agency (xxx) will be responsible for implementing the project titled xxx supported by the MKCF as follows:

Project Title			
Project Implementing Agency	Name of the agency Address: xxxx	Head of the Organization	full name title email address phone number
Project commencement date	Insert the date for the first activity in the indicative work plan of the approved proposal	Project implemented date	Insert the date for the final activity in the indicative work plan of the approved proposal
Mid-term Progress Report Submission date	DD/MM/YY	Final report Submission date	DD/MM/YY

The total budget approved and endorsed for this project is xxx USD. (insert name of the PIA) agrees that MI disburses the 1st, 2nd and final installments to the bank account given as below, and in case of failure to provide the required financial documents, (insert name of the PIA) is obligated to return the respective amount to MI's MKCF account. Moreover, the remaining balance allocated for one budget item cannot be used for other disbursements and should be returned back to the MKCF account as well.

Payment	Amount (USD)	% of the total budget	Remarks
1st installment		50%	Once signed 'Agreement of fund disbursement' is received by MI
2 nd installment		40%	Once the mid-term report is received and confirmed by MI
3 rd installment		10%	Upon satisfactory completion of all activities of the project with clear exit strategy

Total			100%	
Name of the Bank				
Address of the Bank				
Swift Code				
Recipient's account nar		The account:	should not be a pe	rsonal one.
Recipient's account nur	nber			
Recipient's address				
_	isions of MKCF	as prescribed ir	n the Manual. The F	e, and (insert name of the PIA) PIA agrees to provide project orm. Executive Director Mekong Institute
Signature Date				Signature Date
Director/Manage Department/Division Name of Project Implementing Agen	on			Coordinator MKCF Mekong Institute
Signature Date				Signature Date

APPENDIX 8: [RECEIPT FORMAT] (1) PURCHASE RECEIPT

Purchase Receipt (Purchase Receipt (Ref. number:)					
Project Title / Country :						
Project Manager :						
Project Duration :						
Troject Bordiion .						
Item						
No. (eg. Flight ticket / Computer)	Description (eg. Purpose)	Amount	Date			
(eg. mgm menter, competer,						
Purchas	ed as above.					
Project Manager name:						
Project Manager name: Project Manager signature:						
Date:						
R	Receipt					
In case of purchasing a flight ticket, the	e original receipt here. boarding pass should be provided arate A4 paper if needed.	here also.				

APPENDIX 9: [RECEIPT FORMAT] (2) OUTWARD REMITTANCE RECEIPT

Outward Remittance Receipt (Ref. number:)				
Project Title / Country :				
Project Manager:				
Project Duration :				
Bank name of the recipient : Account number of the recipient: Currency : Amount :				
Receipt				
Please attach the original bank slip here. You can use a separate A4 paper if needed.				

APPENDIX 10: [RECEIPT FORMAT] (3) CASH PAYMENT RECEIPT

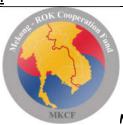
Cash Payment Receipt (Ref. number:)
Project Title / Country :
Project Manager :
Project Duration :
Name of the recipient:
Affiliation of the recipient:
Position of the recipient:
Nationality:
Passport Number:
Total amount paid (e.g. honorarium):
I hereby verify that I received the amount specified above for
Recipient's name:
Recipient's signature:
Date:

APPENDIX 11: WORKSHOP / MEETING MINUTES

Workshop / Meeting Minutes (Ref. number:)				
Project Title / Count	try:			
Project Manager:				
Project Duration:				
Date	dd / mm / yy time		Venue	
Title of the workshop / meeting	(e.g. Logistics A	Management an	nd Supply Chain)	
Subjects Discussions				
Remarks				
	Name	Affiliation	e-mail/ contact number	Signature
Participant				

APPENDIX 12: MID-TERM PROGRESS REPORT

(1) Progress Report



Mekong – ROK Cooperation Fund (MKCF) Mid-term Progress Report

A. Brief Project Information 1.1. Project title 1.2. Country (s) / region 1.3. Project area □ Culture and Tourism

- □ Human Resources Development
- ☐ Agriculture and Rural Development
- □ Infrastructure
- □ Information and Communication Technology (ICT)
- □ Environment
- □ Non-traditional Security Challenges

1.4. Implementation start/end date

Implementation start date
Implementation end date
Project lifespan

| dd/mm/yyyy | dd/mm/yyyy | dd/mm/yyyy | years |

roject lifespan _____ years ____ months

B. Prepared by

Name:
Title:
Department:
Name of the Implementing
Agency:
Signature:
Date:

C. Update on progressive implementation of the project

Provide information on the current status and progress made under the grant in terms of the achievements/milestones reached to-date as compared to the work plan. All activities as per the approved work plan need to be described in this section. It is required to provide photos, videos as part of this reporting.

XXX

D. Problems Encountered/Deviations

Address problems encountered in the course of the project and suggest reasons, if any and solutions

XXX

E. Work plan for the remaining activities

Use the format in Appendix 4

(2) Mid-term Financial report

- excel file will be provided.



Mid-term Financial Report

Implementing Agency			
Project Title			
Grant Start Date			
Grant End Date			
Grant Amount (USD)			

dd/mm/yy dd/mm/yy

Budget and Report Summary

1st installment received on Total expenditure as of dd/mm/yy Balance as of dd/mm/yy

Reporting Period

dd/mm/yy - dd/mm/yy

Budget line	Description	Ref. number	Approved budget (x) USD	Actual expenditure (y) USD	Balance (x- y) USD
Category 1 (e.g. Personnel)					0
1.1. xxx					0
					0
Category 2 (e.g. Consultancy services)					0
2.1. xxx					0
					0
Total (USD)			0	0	0

APPENDIX 13: FINAL REPORT

(1) Final report



A. Brief Project Information

Mekong – ROK Cooperation Fund (MKCF) **Final Report**

71. Brief Froject Information			
1.1. Project title			
1.2. Country (ies) / region			
1.3. Project area			
□ Culture and Tourism			
□ Human Resources Developme	ent		
Agriculture and Rural Develop	oment		
□ Infrastructure			
Information and Communica	tion Technology	(ICT)	
□ Environment			
□ Non-traditional Security Challe			
1.4. Implementation start/end dat	e		
Implementation start date	<u>dd/mm/yyyy</u>		
Implementation end date	<u>dd/mm/yyyy</u>		
Project lifespan	years	months	
1.5. Approved project budget			
(USD)			
1.6. Date of 1st and 2nd			
installments			
1 st installment			
2 nd installment			
B. Prepared by	1		
Name:			
Title:	-		
Department:	-		
Name of the Implementing	-		
Agency:	-		
Signature:	-		
Date:			
C. Project outputs			

- Describe the project objective(s) and tangible outputs that were achieved.
- Attach the output document(s) like Program Agenda, Workshop / Meeting Minutes, Questionnaires, List of Participants, Photos etc.

All activities as per the approved work plan need to be described in this section. It is required to provide photos, videos as part of this reporting.

- Attach any other assessment report drafted for the project	
XXX	

	Indicator	Achieved	Remarks
Project output 1.		o/x	
Project output 2.			
•••			

D. Project outcomes

- Briefly describe the project outcomes that were achieved.

	Indicator	Achieved	Remarks
Project outcome 1.		o/x	
Project outcome 2.			
•••			

E. Contribution towards developing the Mekong Countries and deepening the Mekong-ROK cooperation

XXX

F. Overall Project Assessment

- Outline two or three key findings or lessons learned arising from the implementation of the project.
- If applicable, provide explanation for any adjustments made for project implementation
- Provide guidance to the design and implementation of future or related projects.

G. Financial Analysis

XXX

H. Project Completion Check List

XXX

I. By Mekong Institute

XXX

Name xxx

Title xxx

TIF

Mekong Institute

Signature

Date

(2) Financial report

- excel file will be provided.

excel file will be provide	d							
MKCF								
	Fina	l Financial	Report					
Implementing Agency Project Title Grant Start Date Grant End Date Grant Amount (USD)	dd/mm/yy dd/mm/yy							
Budget and Report Summary								
2nd installment received on Total expenditure as of dd/mm/yy Balance as of dd/mm/yy								
	Re	eporting P	eriod					
dd/mm/yy - dd/mm/yy								
Budget line	Description	Ref. number	Approved budget (x) USD	Actual expenditure (y) USD	Balance (x-y) USD			
Category 1 (e.g. Personnel)					0			
1.1. xxx					0			
					0			
Category 2 (e.g. Consultancy services)					0			
2.1. xxx					0			
					0			
Total (USD)			0	0	0			

APPENDIX 14: QUARTERLY MONITORING FORM

		Quarterly Monitoring Form					
Project title							
Project Objective							
Implementing Agency / Country							
Funded by	Mekong-Republic of Korea Cooperation Fund (MKCF)						
Project commencement date		Project completion date					
Mid-term report submission date		Final report submission date					
Approved Budget (US\$)		1st install. (50%) transferred on					
Reporting Period	·						

Outputs/Activities		Plan: Year 1										Progress	Remark	
	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Status	Short Descriptio
Output 1. xxxx														
Activity 1.1. xxxx														
Activity 1.2. xxxx														
Activity 1.3. xxxx														
Activity 1.4. xxxx														
Activity 1.5. xxxx														
Output 2. xxxx														
Activity 2.1. xxxx														
Activity 2.2. xxxx														

Progress status: Output (Achieved, Partially Achieved, Not Achieved). Activity (Completed Postponed, Canceled)