

Procedures for Competitive Selection of Grants to Implementing Partners

In accordance with UNITAR Policy Guidelines for Agreements to Implementing Partners, all grants valued at \$100,000 and above are subject to competitive selection unless exception criteria apply (e.g. government agencies having domain rights). Refer to [Policy Guidelines](#).

Grant Notices

1. The Hiring Unit prepares the Terms of Reference (ToR)/specifications of the Grant Notice using the [Grant Notice template](#) and sends it to the Partnership and Grant Oversight Unit (PGOU) to the email address agreements@unitar.org.
2. PGOU will review the Grant Notice before publishing on UNITAR's website and any other selected media based on project requirements. Grant Notices are announced for a period of three weeks.

Acceptance of applications

3. PGOU will receive and file all applications in response to a Grant Notice.
4. PGOU will establish a log of complete and signed applications that have been received by the application deadline (complete applications).
5. PGOU will circulate the complete applications to the Hiring Unit. The Hiring Unit will establish a short list of preferably three applicants.

Review and assessment to applications

6. PGOU will establish a Grant Review Committee (GRC), composed of a representative from the Hiring Unit, a representative from another Division, and PGOU in an ex officio capacity. PGOU will identify the representative from the other Division in consultation with the Hiring Unit.
7. PGOU will convene the GRC to review and assess the merits of the applications. The assessment/review will consider compliance with specifications/terms of reference, technical merits of the proposal, the qualifications of the applicant, delivery schedule and the financial offer. In general, the principle of best value for money should be observed, although delivery schedules and other criteria may also be taken into consideration.
8. PGOU will chair the GRC and ensure that the minutes of meetings are recorded. As an ex officio member, PGOU will not have decision-making powers.
9. Based on its review and assessment of the applications, the GRC shall rank the shortlisted applicants (e.g. first rated applicant, second rated applicant, ...). Not all short-listed applicants need to be ranked, however. In the event there is no agreement between the Hiring Unit member and the other GRC member, a third representative from a non-Hiring Unit Division will be asked to join the GRC and review and assess the shortlisted candidates.
10. The Hiring Unit will contact the first ranked applicant and proceed with a Due Diligence Assessment (DDA), which shall be reviewed by PGOU. The DDA is an internal document and shall not be shared publicly with the IP or outside of UNITAR.

Contracting and announcement

11. If the DDA is favourable, the Hiring Unit will initiate the drafting of a Grant Letter of Agreement and its annexes using [UNITAR' Standard Grant-out Agreement template](#). If the result of the DDA is unfavorable, the Hiring Unit will determine if the first-ranked applicant should be asked to address the concerns raised in the DDA and/or implement mitigation measures, or if the second-ranked applicant should be assessed. If there is no ranked applicant that receives a favorable DDA, the Hiring Unit may be required to:
 - a. Establish a new short list of applicants for consideration;
 - b. Issue a new Grant notice.
12. Once the selected applicant has signed the Grant Agreement with UNITAR, its name and the amount of the Grant will be published (unless measures may prevent public announcement), and other shortlisted candidates notified of the outcome. Applications including any personal data of unsuccessful applicants will be destroyed within 2 years of the date of submission, unless the unsuccessful applicant inform UNITAR otherwise.