

# Nigeria call for grant applications Tailor-Made Training Plus OKP-NIG-20050

## Joint proposal

Country	Nigeria
Priority themes	Food and Nutrition Security
Aim of the project	Improve professional education and vocational training in horticulture at the level of Polytechnics and/or universities, with a focus on the states of Kano and Kaduna, involving so-called “bridging organizations”, which link farmers and value chain actors, and the private sector, in particular farmers organisations.
Call number	OKP-NIG-20050
Maximum available funding for this call, excluding co-funding	EUR 400 000
Maximum funding per Tailor-Made Training Plus, excluding co-funding	EUR 400 000
Co-funding	Encouraged
Note: At least 50% of the required cofunding must come from local funding in the partner country.	
Final date TMT+	The training should be finished before 31 March 2022

## Time schedule

<b>Closing date for submission of grant applications</b>	<b>4 February 2021 11.00 A.M CET</b>
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## 1. Introduction: The Orange Knowledge Programme

Nuffic's Orange Knowledge Programme is a 5 year global development programme, aimed at strengthening professionals and organisations through education and training. It contributes to the goals of the Netherlands' [development cooperation policy](#), in which education plays a significant role.

The programme offers funding in 54 countries for individual scholarships, tailor-made trainings and institutional partnerships between Dutch and foreign education institutions in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and higher education. It focuses on the priority themes of the Dutch government (Water, Food and Nutrition Security, Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights, and Security and Rule of Law) and aims throughout the programme for inclusion, employability and environmental sustainability.

Nuffic is programme manager, in close collaboration with the programme's funder, the Netherlands' Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Running from mid-2017 to mid-2022, it will offer at least 51,000 people the chance to change their future through education.

The Orange Knowledge Programme Tailor-Made Plus Training is meant to improve the overall functioning of organisations by training a selected group of staff. A Tailor-Made Training can solve knowledge and skills challenges of organisations' staff, by specifically targeting their capacity needs.

More information about the Orange Knowledge Programme such as the basic principles and the policy framework can be found on the Nuffic website:

<https://www.nuffic.nl/en/subjects/orange-knowledge-programme>.

The Orange Knowledge Grant Obligations and Conditions for group trainings, which are binding for Tailor-Made Training Plus, can be found among the 'Guidelines and formats' under the link to this call.

The Orange Knowledge Programme focuses on sustainable strengthening of capacity within local priority themes relevant to Dutch development cooperation which are outlined in the Country Plans of Implementation (CPI). Click [here](#) for the CPI's per country.

The Theory of Change (ToC) of the Orange Knowledge Programme describes the interlinkages between capacity building and sustainable inclusive development to which each approved initiative under the Orange Knowledge Programme contributes. The ToC can be found [here](#).

This document describes the procedure for submitting an Orange Knowledge Programme grant application for a Tailor-Made Training Plus.

## 2. Information specific for this call

### 2.1 Long-term impact

The [Theory of Change](#) (ToC) of the Orange Knowledge Programme presents the expected medium and long-term impact and outcomes of the programme. Each impact and outcome is quantified by a number of indicators which are described in the Orange Knowledge Programme [Monitoring and Evaluation Framework](#) and relates to the M&E Framework of Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

All projects must contribute to achieving these impact and outcomes. The grant application and, if the application is selected, subsequent reporting must give insight into how the project will contribute/contributes to achieving impact and outcomes.

The proposed project must contribute to the following objective:

- Contribute to End hunger (SDG 2)

The proposed project must contribute to one or more of the following long-term impact(s):

- 1. Reduce malnutrition ;
- 2. Promote agricultural growth ;
- 3. Ecologically sustainable food systems.

The following medium-term impact will contribute to this:

- (I) education system (TVET/HE) is of good quality, relevant and accessible (SDG 4) ;
- (II) Partnerships between persons and organisations are inclusive and sustainable (SDG 17) ;
- (III) Organisations key to (sectoral) inclusive development of partner countries are strengthened by inflow of enhanced workforce.

This will be achieved by the following outcome:

- A. TVET/HE organisations (in the selected partner countries and in the NL) perform their core tasks better, firmly embedded in their environment, in line with country/regional specific labour market needs and aiming at inclusiveness.
- B. Enhanced knowledge and skills of individuals and organisations (in partner countries and in the NL) in line with country/regional specific labour market needs and aiming at inclusiveness.

In the Orange Knowledge Programme format for a grant application the consortium partners will be asked to select relevant indicators to measure the achievement during and after project implementation at medium-term and long-term-level.

## 2.2 Context of the call

**On COVID-19:** all organisations working on proposals for TMT+ are requested to explicitly take into account the possible consequences of COVID-19 on the project implementation, in questions 1.3.4, 2.1.1, 2.1.4 and 2.2.3 of the joint proposal. In particular, describe in these questions the strategies you have chosen to cope with the travel limitation.

**On integrity:** One guiding principle of the Orange Knowledge Programme is integrity: in the alignment with other Dutch centralised or decentralised development programmes and in the optimal integration of the available four OKP instruments (Institutional Collaboration Projects, Tailor Made Trainings, Scholarships, alumni activities). Please take this guiding principle into account when developing your proposal and elaborate on it in question 1.1.7 of the joint proposal.

In Nigeria, which is Africa's largest economy and most populous country, about one-third of the labour force is engaged in agriculture, mainly on small family farms. These farms supply about 95% of all food production in Nigeria. As the land produces low yields and only 50% of all arable land is under cultivation, Nigeria relies strongly on food imports and food security is critical. Furthermore, investment in agriculture has been low, limiting innovation and research, and targets mostly better-off farmers at the expense of small-scale farmers while it also neglects the important role of women in farming.

In recent years, several knowledge institutions conducted research into Nigeria's food system, the seed sector and the vegetable and potato sectors. A recent report by iCRA shows insight in agricultural education in Nigeria, with a focus on its Northern states (Kano and Kaduna) and identifies potential areas of support by the Netherlands.<sup>1</sup> The main objective in developing horticulture is to diminish food insecurity and malnutrition and to create jobs. The Dutch government currently finances and expects to finance several horticulture projects, for instance 2SCALE<sup>2</sup>, Transforming Nigeria's Vegetable Market (SDGP) and the Seeds for Change Impact Cluster programme<sup>3</sup>.

In general terms, an enabling environment<sup>4</sup> for the development of the agricultural sector is currently lacking. This is due to low investments in research, education and innovation and inconsistent or poorly implemented government policies and regulations and inter-agency collaboration.

### *Agricultural education landscape<sup>5</sup>*

Vocational education is mainly offered by Polytechnics and can be completed with a National Diploma (ND – 2 years - comparable to Dutch MBO level 4) or a Higher National Diploma (HND – 4 years - comparable to Dutch HBO or BSc). Of these polytechnics, seven currently offer agricultural programmes. As for higher education in agriculture, 65 of the 174

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.rvo.nl/sites/default/files/2020/10/Insight-into-agricultural-education-in-Nigeria.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.2scale.org/en/about>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.nabc.nl/africa-business-news/6/world/414/launch-of-seeds-for-change-in-nigeria>

<sup>4</sup> In this context, an enabling environment refers to previously established rules, regulations, procedures and conditions that enable the agricultural sector to develop.

<sup>5</sup> For more details see Chapter 4 of the study: <https://www.rvo.nl/sites/default/files/2020/10/Insight-into-agricultural-education-in-Nigeria.pdf>.

federal, state and private universities indicate that they have agricultural faculties, schools or colleges that offer horticulture courses. Only one university (the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB)) has an established Department of Horticulture. Also some business schools offer specialised programmes in agribusiness. Short-term non-accredited trainings contributing to the development of agriculture and horticulture are offered by a wide range of private initiatives that offer courses to develop the capacity of the numerous youth who cannot afford to study at the government-approved institutes.

Regarding the undergraduate level, the current 2-year national (ND) and higher national (HND) diplomas and the 5-year BSc programme in agriculture and horticulture are considered to be too general and academic by the commercial sector as it experiences that graduates lack practical technical, entrepreneurial and “soft” work-related skills. Also, the 5-year BSc Agricultural programme is regarded as too general, with few opportunities to practice skills, even though some universities seem to have increased the inclusion of agribusiness skills.

Furthermore, in most colleges and universities, competence-based training and education and blended learning programmes are not yet established. However, the Nigerian Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS) is rapidly changing, especially regarding skills training and extension activities, and Nigeria is developing more competence-based education and training (CBET) under a National Skills Qualification Network.

#### *Focus of the call*

This call is opened to support the Dutch embassy’s efforts in the horticulture sector by contributing to increased quality education and vocational training in horticulture in the states of Kano and Kaduna, as these states are key focus areas for vegetables. To support the Nigerian government in improving CBET and developing the horticulture sector, and to support ongoing partnerships within the horticulture sector, the following intervention domain applies to this call:

Improve professional education and vocational training in horticulture at the level of Polytechnics and/or universities, with a focus on the states of Kano and Kaduna, involving so-called “bridging organisations”, which link farmers and value chain actors, and the private sector, in particular farmer organisations.

Proposed projects will have to present capacity building interventions that take into consideration the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of professional education and vocational training in Nigeria as well as the weak enabling environment with regard to the agricultural sector. Proposed projects will have to support institutions that have the potential and/or are already successful in offering skills-oriented, innovative training that responds to labour market demands and the demand for entrepreneurial skills.

The proposed project should contribute to the development of the following outputs:

- Education and training programmes on horticulture in higher and TVET education that are market-oriented ;
- Practical and professional skills and knowledge complementary to theoretical training, by integrating competence-based approaches ;
- Entrepreneurial skills, including good horticultural practices and farming as a business ;

- ICT skills that are relevant for horticultural practices and farming as a business ;
- Interdisciplinary skillsets aligned with labour market needs, stimulating employability ;
- Interactive teaching methodologies and blended learning approaches, by making use of the latest techniques and skills.

The proposed project should focus on and include the following elements:

- Work together with and receive broad support from (small) farmers, farmers organisations and relevant local, regional and national governmental institutions, for instance the National Horticulture Research Institute, the Agricultural and Rural Management Training Institute and the Agricultural Development Programmes. Work also together with relevant private sector advisory services such as East-West Seed or Micro Development Consulting Limited and/or relevant NGO's like Sasakawa Global 2000 or Technoserve.<sup>6</sup> This cooperation is crucial to promote innovations in horticulture and strengthen extension services to improve food security ;
- Stimulate co-development and delivery of knowledge and innovation from research through the coordination and enhancement of relationships between higher and TVET education institutes, local research institutions and the private sector, in order to meet industry needs for relevant and sustainable innovation and skills ;
- Include extension programmes and/or training opportunities for relevant groups ;
- Include and improve the (learning and working) conditions for women and girls and marginalised and discriminated groups.

The intervention should be closely aligned with national policies and with other already existing initiatives (including projects funded by the Dutch government) to generate more impact towards overcoming the education and training gaps in horticulture and to strengthen agricultural vocational and higher education in Nigeria. By continuing where other projects have ended; by working in parallel with other initiatives; and by building a strong foundation for the future, the continuity and sustainability of this project's results will become more strongly embedded.

## 2.3 Co-funding

Co-funding is one of the key principles underpinning the programme. It contributes to reciprocity and increases ownership of the collaboration. Co-funding may involve public, private and/or own funds.

Nigeria is considered to be LMIC according to OECD's DAC list. This means that an application for this call does not require a minimum of co-funding, but partners are encouraged to include co-funding. Integration of co-funding in the breakdown of budgets will be one of the assessment criteria in the selection of applications.

A contribution from public funds is defined as: a contribution in cash or in kind to which is directly or indirectly paid for from state resources. State resources comprise all funds from the

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<sup>6</sup> The aforementioned iCRA report gives an overview of the relevant organisations involved in agriculture and/or horticulture.

public sector, including funds from local levels of government (decentralised, federal, regional or other) and, in certain circumstances, funds from private bodies.

Public funds from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands (including embassies) do not count as co-funding, but can be added to the project.

Private funds are considered to be all funds – in cash or in kind – that are not state resources.

## 2.4 Questions about the call?

If you have a question about this call you can send an e-mail in English to [TMT@nuffic.nl](mailto:TMT@nuffic.nl). Mention in your e-mail the call number.

## 3. Specific characteristics of Tailor-Made Training Plus

Orange Knowledge Tailor-Made Training Plus (TMT+) supports organisations by training a selected group of staff. Tailor-Made Training Plus can also be used to train professionals who have a common training need, but who are not staff members of the same organisation. An organisation from a partner country and a Dutch training provider must jointly formulate a training proposal. The joint proposal must be submitted by a Dutch training provider, potentially on behalf of their consortia.

The Tailor-Made Training Plus consists of at least a tailor-made training that fits the priority themes and focus areas for the country of the requesting organisation as specified on the first page of this call document. The following elements apply to TMT+:

- stronger emphasis on the sustainable embedding of the results within the organisations (in comparison with a regular TMT) ;
- stronger emphasis on involvement of a local/regional consortium partner with whom the requesting organisation ideally maintains a relationship after TMT+ (in comparison with a regular TMT) ;
- room for innovative approaches such as living labs, blended learning, study visits or short internships ;
- possibility to include investments of a maximum of 10% of the OKP subsidy amount in the budget. The added value of the investment should be clearly demonstrated in the proposal.

The Tailor-Made Training Plus has a maximum duration of 24 months. Please note the training should be finished before 31 March 2022.

### 3.1 Eligibility

#### *Grant applicants*

Eligibility for OKP Group Training grants extends to Dutch institutions providing secondary and higher vocational and academic education or other types of Dutch organisations that provide educational training courses and that also contribute to strengthening of the priority themes in the countries on the Country List. These institutions must deliver the training themselves; intermediary organisations are not eligible. The institutions must have sufficient organisational and financial capacity to run a training course. This can be demonstrated using a COCA that is assessed as positive by Nuffic. The organisations must also have demonstrable experience in providing the desired training course.

#### *Group training target group*

To be eligible for an OKP Group Training grant, an application must propose a training course for candidates who meet the following criteria:

The candidates work for one of the following types of national and/or local organisations: ministries, secondary or higher vocational or academic education institutions, universities, private sector, commissions or NGOs. The candidates may not work for:

- a bilateral or multilateral organisation ;
- a non-governmental organisation that is internationally active and is focused on representing social interests, such as development cooperation, nature and environmental protection, health or human rights.

The candidates must have the nationality of or be resident and working in one of the OKP countries for which grant applications for providing the type of group training courses concerned can be awarded (see the Country List Annex).

The candidates must be in a position to apply the acquired knowledge and skills in practice.

Please consult further requirements in the publication of the policy framework in [the Staatscourant](#) and in subsequent amendments.

### 3.2 Grant Obligations and Conditions

By submitting a grant application the applicant agrees with the Grant Obligations and Conditions for Group Training (version 4.0). The Orange Knowledge Grant Obligations and Conditions for group training can be found among the 'Guidelines and formats' under the link to this call.

### 3.3 Assessment

Assessment of the joint proposals will be done by Nuffic in consultation with the Dutch embassies and consulates. For a detailed explanation please refer to the Grant Application Assessment Explanation which can be found among the guidelines and formats under the link to this call.

### 4. Submit your proposal online

All TMT proposals have to be submitted via our web application Delta. We have prepared a TMT+ Delta User Manual to guide you through the application process. The Delta User Manual can be found among the 'Guidelines and formats' under the link to this call. Make sure you have all the information required for your application complete and ready before submitting.

**WARNING:** Please be aware that not all browsers work well with Delta. To be sure, it is preferable to make use of Edge or Google Chrome. Safari is known for not working well.

[Submit your joint proposal in Delta: https://delta.nuffic.nl/Application/Apply/273](https://delta.nuffic.nl/Application/Apply/273)

### 5. Required documents

An application needs to contain the following documents to be complete. Incomplete applications will be rejected.

1. TMT+ Joint Proposal Form Orange Knowledge Programme
2. TMT+ Budget Form Orange Knowledge Programme
3. TMT+ COCA Form Orange Knowledge Programme
4. CVs of all proposed resource persons (there is no prescribed format)

Please note that a COCA check doesn't have to be applied for simultaneously with an application for a TMT+. A COCA can be applied for at any time. We advise you to apply for a COCA check before applying for a joint proposal, to make sure that your COCA is not a reason for rejection.

We welcome you to send COCA applications any time to [okp@nuffic.nl](mailto:okp@nuffic.nl) referring to COCA.