

Selected Proposals under the Call for South-South Research for Development

On 13 September 2016 the Call for South-South Research for Development was launched. The deadline for the first stage proposals was Friday 17 October 2016. On Tuesday 8 November 2016 the DUPC committee communicated their final selection towards the participants; in total 5 proposals are selected for funding

The DUPC committee received 16 first stage proposals. Some characteristics of the first stage proposals submitted are presented in the table below.

Table 1. Summary South-South first stage proposals submitted.

Lead	
UNESCO-IHE	0
Southern partners	16
Themes	
Efficient water management, particularly in the agricultural sector	7
Improved catchment area management and safe deltas	5
Access to clean drinking water and basic sanitation	8
In the Middle East specifically: Water scarcity and water problems related to the refugee crises	1
Cross cutting themes	
Water governance	10
Water diplomacy	3
Climate change	11
Gender & diversity	13
Regions	
Worldwide	1
Asia	5
Sub Saharan Africa	5
Middle East	1
Latin America	4

All proposals were checked on eligibility, resulting in 15 proposals continuing for the evaluation process. The ranking of the proposals for the South-South Research for Development call was based on the evaluations done by external reviewers (each proposal was reviewed by three external reviewers) and a final discussion amongst reviewers of the proposals. Based on the outcomes the DUPC committee recommended five proposals for funding to the Rectorate. The Rectorate accepted the selection. Please find the list with selected proposal below in table 2.

Table 2. Selected proposals ranked in alphabetical order.

Proposal	Project Leader	Country
Delta Flows: The Role that Delta's play in sustaining basin-scale fisheries in the Mekong and Irrawaddy Rivers	Oudom Phonekhampheng, Vice President, National University of Laos	Mekong (Vietnam, Laos), Irrawaddy (Myanmar)
Dengue, water, and households: informing suppliers and government officials in SMALL towns	Sandra Manuel, PhD Assistant professor Eduardo Mondlane University Dept: Archaeology and Anthropology	Small towns in Mozambique, and neighbouring countries
Golden Triangle Latin America – Sanitation Learning Alliance Colombia, Brazil, Bolivia	Carlos Arturo Madera Parra University of Valle Dept: Estudio y Control de la Contaminación Ambiental (ECCA)	Latin America
River basin simulation for improved trans-boundary water management in the Nile: Case study of the Tekeze-Atbara sub-basin	Yasir A. Mohamed HRC-Sudan	Tekeze-Atbara sub-basin (T-A sub-basin)
Water and sanitation solutions to the refugees in Jordan and Palestine (WASAR)	Maher Abu-Madi Birzeit University, Palestine Dep: Institute of Environmental and Water Studies	The Middle East: Jordan and Palestine

The meeting with the reviewers concluded that the quality of the first stage proposals in general was considered good. Still, a number of points for improvement could be derived from the discussion. These improvements would give the research collaborations proposed more societal relevance, and will improve the quality and the societal impact of the DUPC2 programme in the future. These points of attention include:

- Local demand for the research presented was not always clear, and not always supported by letters of support or by co-funding.
- Interdisciplinarity within the proposals was limited; many proposals were disciplinary driven.
- The sustainability of the expected outcomes of the proposals could be presented more clearly/stronger; what will happen with the outputs and outcomes after the projects have ended.
- More focus could be given to cooperation on a regional level. Collaboration between regions was presented in all proposals, but in various cases the added value of such collaboration was not made explicit (which is a key principle behind this Call).

We encourage all unsuccessful applicants, together with their partners, to identify funding facilities best matched to their topics and approach.

We plan to launch a second call for South-South research for development in 2017.