

الاراضي العربية ادارة Arab Land Initiative

Call for proposals - Twinning arrangements

The purpose of this Call for Proposals is to solicit interest from existing or prospective partners to participate in the work of the Arab Land Initiative, coordinated by the Global Land Tool Network / UN-Habitat and financially supported by BMZ. The twinning initiative, as part of the programme, aims at pairing two organisations from the Arab region (or one from the region and one from outside the region) to exchange knowledge and experiences, build networks, work together and create opportunities to foster cross-fertilizing experiences in the area of good land governance and land administration.

Date of issue of the call:	18 December 2020
Deadline for submissions:	15 February 2021
Contact for questions and submissions:	unhabitat-arablandinitiative@un.org

Background

The Arab region is undergoing a decade of profound change and challenges. The way land is accessed, used and controlled has an important impact on social, economic and environmental dimensions of a society, touching upon all key elements of sustainable social and economic development, peace and stability, and realisation of human rights. This makes of land a cornerstone for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG1,2,5,10,11, 15 and 16). Each Arab country has distinctive needs, priorities, problems and economic, political, and social contexts which must be recognised when developing strategies and plans. However, there are regional trends and commonalities for which cross-country intervention is needed. There is a need to strengthen land-related institutions, reducing social exclusion, inequalities and gender gaps, improve the responses to climate change, displacement, migration and violent extremism that undermine the overall stability and development of Arab societies through a consolidated network.

The Arab Land Initiative was established in 2016 to address some of these key land governance challenges faced by the Arab states by increasing coordination, collaboration, knowledge and information sharing among organisations and institutions active in the region. The Dubai Declaration on Land Governance of 2018 reflects the key themes to be addressed and provides a basis for the development of the “Arab region programme on good land governance in support to inclusive development, peace and stability”. Funded by the BMZ and coordinated by the GLTN/UN-Habitat, the programme has the overall objective to improve the capacity of regional and national stakeholders to manage and administer urban, peri-urban and rural land in the Arab States to foster peace and stability and to achieve inclusive social and economic development – particularly for women, youth and displaced.

Information about the twinning arrangement

1. What is it and why is it important?

The twinning arrangement initiative as part of the programme aims at pairing two organisations from the Arab region (or one from the region and one from outside the region) to exchange knowledge and experiences, build networks, work together and create opportunities to foster cross-fertilizing experiences in the area of good land governance and land administration. GLTN/UN-Habitat intends to establish four to six different twinning arrangements. Each one will pair two partners from different Arab countries (or one Arab and one non-Arab country). The details on the criteria of eligibility and on the submission process for the expressions of interest can be found in section III of this document.

Twinning arrangements between organisations from Arab countries, and between organisations from Arab and non-Arab countries, can be a vital and catalytic part of strengthening the capacity of the Arab region in addressing land governance issues through the enhancement of the land administration systems. The focus of the twinning arrangements lies on the organisations, institutions, land and government departments that are operating at the local, regional and national level in the Arab region and who are willing to learn, share, assess and adopt innovative solutions and tools that are existing in Arab region or in other regions.

The regional and international dialogue and collaboration, enhanced through the twinning initiative, can facilitate not only the capacity development of institutions and organisations, but it will also allow to identify the gaps and risks associated with the different land tools used in some Arab countries, which are often old, technologically outdated, expensive, gender discriminatory or not pro-poor oriented.

Knowing that there are several organisations and countries which are developing and implementing solutions, tools and approaches aiming at addressing land governance issues, the twinning arrangements are an important tool to share experiences and best practices, and for achieving good land governance in the Arab and non-Arab region.

2. Objectives

Twinning arrangements aim at creating and strengthening partnership, sharing knowledge and building capacities between two entities from different countries. The collaborations will contribute to the establishment of a wider land network and help achieve specific goals, creating linkages to address land related issues, developing projects, sharing experiences (e.g. best practices, advice, risks, etc.) and knowledge (e.g. IT skills, capacity building, tools, methodologies, etc.), identifying further potential partners, saving time and money through convergent activities, and creating opportunities.

3. Eligibility criteria

Institutions and organisations applying for the twinning arrangements should comply with the following criteria of eligibility:

1. Be a public organisation (e.g. government departments, etc.) or a registered as non-profit organisation (e.g. academia, civil society, NGOs, intergovernmental and/or international organisation, etc.) or any other organisation complying with the eligibility requirements detailed in the tables below.
2. Applicants from all countries are eligible. Organisations registered and based in one of the countries composing the Arab region¹ will be given priority.
3. Applying organisations need to have identified their twinning partner or partners and make this explicit in the proposal.

4. Funding available and timeline

Each twinning arrangement will be supported with a maximum of **USD 30,000** that will be made available by UN-Habitat / GLTN through an Agreement of Cooperation or through direct payment for some of the activities proposed (e.g. travel costs, venue, etc.). Agreements of cooperation will be signed between UN-Habitat and one of the two organisations that are part of the twinning. The selected organisations will be informed by **February 2021**. All activities will have to be completed before December 2021.

¹ Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.

Submissions

What information needs to be submitted

Applicants should provide the documents listed below, including (1) cover letter, (2) short portfolio and (3) a technical proposal. Only complete submission documents will be considered by the selection board. Submissions from applicants failing to provide the requested information will be disregarded. Submissions in **English, French and Arabic** will be accepted.

1. Cover letter (max. 600 words)

The cover letter needs to identify the key area of collaboration that the twinning applicants are interested in, and how they are planning to structure the collaboration. Partners need to demonstrate to have capacities and experience relevant for the twinning.

2. Short portfolio of the organisations (max 3 pages for each of the two twinning organisations)

containing information on:

- a. Organisations' vision, mission and objectives;
- b. Description of completed and current activities and projects, which are relevant for the twinning arrangement;
- c. Organisational and management structure, including members of the Governing Board and their designations.

3. Technical proposal (max 6 pages) should include:

- a. Description of the activities the organisations intend to include in the arrangement;
- b. Workplan, methodology and implementation strategy;
- c. Explanation on how the twinning arrangement will contribute to the short- and long-term development of the organisations;
- d. The CVs of the personnel to be involved in the twinning, indicating their qualifications, technical skills and the status (e.g. permanent staff, project-based consultant, etc.);
- e. A budget outline;
- f. Indication of which of the two submitting organisations is the lead organisation (which includes being the recipient of funds, if the modality of funds' transfer is through an Agreement of Cooperation).

How to submit the proposals

Submissions must be delivered in electronic format no later than the 15 February 2021 to the Arab Land Initiative's secretariat at the following email address: unhabitat-arablandinitiative@un.org, kindly mention "Name of Your Organisation-Twinning arrangement application" as the subject of the email. All related questions or clarifications must also be channelled through this email address. Applications submitted to a different email address will not be considered. The Submissions and accompanying documents must be received in accordance with instructions provided. Submissions from applicants failing to provide the complete information to fulfil the basic eligibility criteria will not be considered.

Selection process

The organisations will be selected by the Arab Land Initiative's Secretariat in consultation with the Arab Land Initiative's reference group, in accordance with the procedure set out in the UN-Habitat IP Management policy and Standard Operating Procedures. Applications' will be evaluated based on the criteria that will include:

- Technical capacity of applying organisations;
- Quality of the proposal;
- Relevance of the proposal for the objectives of the Arab Land Initiative (see <https://arabstates.glt.net/the-initiative/>).