

XCEPT Call for Concept Notes

Future Horn, Future Sudans: Multiple and Competing Centres

XCEPT is commissioning research that explores the rise of multiple and competing centres in the Horn of Africa and beyond.

Key information	
Award number:	C2-G053
Programme Name:	Cross-border Conflict Evidence, Policy and Trends (XCEPT) research programme
Implemented by:	Chemonics UK
Funded by:	UK International Development, via the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO)
Call issue date:	Wednesday 27 August 2025
Q&A session:	Monday 8 September 2025, 13:00-14:00 BST
Clarification questions deadline:	Thursday 11 September 2025, 18:00 BST
Submission deadline:	Thursday 25 September 2025, 10:00 BST
Email for electronic submissions:	xcept-fund@chemonics.com
Likely total number of awards:	3-5
Value of each award:	Up to £120,000
Period of performance of each award:	12 months
Estimated start date:	December 2025
Point of contact:	Jenny Sharp, xcept-fund@chemonics.com

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1 Introduction

The Cross-border Conflict Evidence, Policy and Trends ([XCEPT](#)) research programme brings together world-leading experts and local researchers to examine conflict-affected borderlands, how conflicts connect across borders, and the drivers of violent and peaceful behaviour. Funded by UK International Development, XCEPT offers rigorous public good research to advance scholarship and inform policies and programmes that support peace. The programme includes the XCEPT Research Fund (XRF) to commission high-quality new research.

This XRF call for proposals will support the development of three to five research projects that explore **the rise of multiple and competing centres in the Horn of Africa and beyond, and the implications for the future of the states in the region, and the nature of the state itself**. Research under this call is expected to deepen the body of XCEPT-supported work on contested borderlands in Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia and the wider Horn, including Horn–Red Sea dynamics. Comparative case examples from the conflict-affected areas of the Middle East and Asia, which help deepen insight on broader dynamics outlined here also are welcome.

Funding support up to £120,000 is available per award, depending on the scope of the research and methods employed.

2 Background

Various urban hubs are emerging as new political and commercial centres of gravity in the Horn of Africa, including along the Red Sea. These hubs – often found in borderlands – may be changing the nature of centre–periphery relations and thus the shape of conflict systems.

XCEPT research to date has highlighted three factors driving the emergence of these new hubs or ‘centres’: (1) the reconfiguration of commodity flows and digital finance systems that impact revenue distribution and conflict incentives; (2) the evolving geopolitics of the Red Sea region and the logistics chains that move resources and risks inland; and (3) the trajectories of borderland politics shaped by conflict, contestation, and elite interaction with state actors.¹ The research finds that transnational flows of goods, money and people are critical to understanding conflict in the region – and especially in the borderlands where these hubs often emerge. Yet few studies have combined data on trade, finance, and conflict across the Horn’s peripheries, taking a ‘borderlands lens’ to better understand factors driving instability beyond the region’s state centres. This is despite a growing body of literature that highlights the limitations of conventional state-centric approaches to peacebuilding and development in addressing the transnational complexities and borderlands dynamics of conflict.²

¹ See, for example, Kindersley N, “[The Fuel is Us: Water, Oil and Debt on the Sudan-South Sudan borderlands](#)”. Rift Valley Institute, 2025; Terreffe B. “Ethiopia’s Red Sea politics: corridors, ports and security in the Horn of Africa”. London: XCEPT, 2025.

² Goodhand J. “[The Centrality of the Margins: The political economy of conflict and development in borderlands: Working Paper 2: ‘Borderlands, Brokers and Peacebuilding: War to Peace Transitions Viewed from the Margins’](#)”. *Borderlands Asia*, 2018; Wimmer A and Glick Schiller N. “Methodological Nationalism, the Social Sciences, and the Study of Migration: An Essay in Historical Epistemology”. *International Migration Review* 37 (3). 2003. pp. 576-610.



Further research on these themes will deepen our understanding of how the emergence of new centres in the Horn is affecting conflict dynamics, and potentially how these dynamics compare with those in other regions. The research is intended to provide new evidence to improve policy and programme responses to conflict.

3 Description of the research to be commissioned

This Call for Concept Notes responds to findings and evidence gaps identified in recent reviews of XCEPT research and the wider academic and grey literature. It seeks research that explores how emerging urban hubs – often found in borderlands – are reshaping centre–periphery bargains, and the implications of this for governance and stability for the states in the region, and for the future nature of the state itself.

Guiding research questions

Applicants are invited to propose research that explores the following primary question and related sub-questions:

How does the emergence of multiple centres in the Horn of Africa and Red Sea region reshape conflict dynamics?

Sub-themes and questions include:

- **Emergence and evolution:** What drives the emergence of these centres? What dynamics drive their growth and under what conditions do they decline or disappear?
- **Economic drivers:** How do shifting commodity chains, digital finance systems, diaspora revenue flows and other economic forces contribute to the rise or fall of these centres?
- **Maritime and security dimensions:** What roles do maritime trade, port-centric investment, and regional security deployments (especially in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden) play in shaping these dynamics?
- **Political and social implications:** How do these centres affect political settlements, centre-periphery relations, and incentives for violence? What are the implications for state formation and governance?

Proposals need not address all the above sub-questions. Applicants are encouraged to focus on aspects most relevant to their expertise or interest. However, **all submissions should engage with the core theme related to the emergence of hubs / centres and their implications for conflict dynamics in the region.** Additionally, **all submissions also should indicate how research will surface actionable considerations for policy and programme responses.** The latter may include how an understanding of multiple and competing centres might support more inclusive future political settlements and more sustainable conflict mitigation efforts.

Research focus

Research commissioned from this call should investigate how emerging hubs in the Horn of Africa – for example Port Sudan, Jigjiga, Mekelle, Moyale, Garissa, Hargeisa, Kismayo – are becoming (or have been for some time) pivotal **political and commercial nodes** or



‘centres’, reshaping centre-periphery relationships and influencing regional economic diplomacy. Research may also examine why some hubs decrease in importance over time to illuminate these same processes and drivers.

Research may examine **economic drivers** of hub expansion or decline, and how this in turn shapes conflict economies. Recent commodity-centred studies document how specific products drive conflict. Moreda, for example, shows how sesame cultivation depends on mobile labour.³ Patey traces the shift from oil to gold rents inside Sudan.⁴ XCEPT research by Chatham House on Sudan and Ethiopia addresses both sesame and gold as commodities that underpin conflict dynamics within and across state borders.⁵ A changing climate may also shift local conflict economies; droughts, floods, and shifting seasonal patterns increasingly are disrupting agricultural production, trade routes, and livelihoods, altering the distribution of rents and intensifying competition over resources. By identifying goods that generate key rents and brokerage fees, determining who controls these flows (e.g., traders, local authorities, or armed groups), and tracking how markets move in response to instability or violence, research could illustrate the spatial flexibility of revenue systems and highlight incentives for violence. Research also could examine shifts in mobile-money transactions due to supply shocks or remittance inflows, revealing how sudden liquidity may reshape credit, inventories, and conflict dynamics.

Other factors driving the rise or fall of these centres may also be examined. For example, research could examine how **maritime trade, port-driven investment, and security deployments** in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden influence the emergence of inland hubs in the Horn of Africa. Much of the literature to date stops at the shoreline, cataloguing – for example – who finances which port, but it rarely traces how capital, commodities, or coercive leverage move inland and to what effect.⁶ The research could connect port-centric analyses with corridor-centric studies of inland conflict economies to better understand how such investments recalibrate centre–periphery bargains across multiple states via borderland hubs. It could trace how capital inflows, particularly from Gulf sovereign-wealth funds, redirects resources and protection toward specific overland corridors. Research may also consider how Ethiopia’s quest for diversified sea access – and the responses of those in the region – reshapes regional threat perceptions and opens new transit arteries, and how the movement of staples, fuel, artisanal gold, and small arms from coastal chokepoints into borderland markets links maritime dynamics to local security incentives.

By examining emerging hubs as sites of innovation and disruption, research could provide new insights into how **power and authority are being reconfigured in the region**, and the implications of this for conflict. For example, treating these hubs as ‘technopolitical laboratories’⁷ – that is, arenas where geographic marginality encourages experimentation with technology, commerce, and governance – could shed light on the ways that municipal authorities, customary leaders, women traders, diaspora investors, and armed groups may

³ Moreda T. “[Cross-border seasonal migrant labour and agricultural commodity production in the Ethiopia–Sudan borderlands](#)”. *Agriculture and Human Values*, 2025.

⁴ Patey L. “[Oil, Gold, and Guns: The Violent Politics of Sudan’s Resource Booms](#)”. Medford, MA: World Peace Foundation, 2023.

⁵ Soliman A and Baldo S. “Gold and the war in Sudan”. London: Chatham House, 2025.

⁶ Africa Center for Strategic Studies. “[Mapping Gulf State Actors’ Expanding Engagements in East Africa](#)”. Washington DC, 2025; Wilson MW. “Ports, Power, and Proxy Wars”. Jeddah: Gulf Research Center, 2025; International Crisis Group. “[Calming the Red Sea’s Turbulent Waters](#)”. Brussels: International Crisis Group, 2025. Notteboom T, Haralambides H, and Cullinane K. “[The Red Sea crisis: ramifications for vessel operations, shipping networks, and maritime supply chains](#)”. *Maritime Economics & Logistics* 26. 2024. p. 1-20.

⁷ Hagmann T. “[Making sense of borderlands](#)”. Rift Valley Institute, 2025.



come to challenge longstanding capital-centred patronage networks through new forms of authority, trade, and digital finance. Specific focus on women could show how they drive or experience these economic shifts distinctly (for example, as cross-border traders, digital-finance agents, or household managers), highlighting the differentiated opportunities and risks women face as market dynamics are reconfigured.

The research may also illuminate how shifting power and economic dynamics across multiple centres are **redefining the nature of the state in the Horn of Africa**. In so doing, it could challenge assumptions about governance from the state centre, competition for power among key national actors, and with whom and how the international community should engage.

Geographic scope

While the research is expected to focus on the Horn of Africa, XCEPT welcomes proposals that offer comparative analysis to identify and test hypotheses about the evolution and implications of the rise or fall of centres, particularly in XCEPT's core geographies, which include fragile and conflict-affected areas of:

- The Middle East, especially Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, and Yemen
- The Horn of Africa, especially Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia and Ethiopia
- Coastal West Africa and the Sahel
- Afghanistan and Pakistan
- Myanmar

Expected outputs

The primary research output of each award will be a high-quality paper or series of papers, subject to external peer review and suitable for publication by the Awardee organisation or prepared for submission to a peer-reviewed academic journal.

Research papers are typically accompanied by policy-focused outputs, such as summary briefing notes and presentations to policy audiences. Projects may also include outputs geared for a wider public audience, such as commentaries, blogs, podcasts or videos. Applicants should list the outputs they plan to produce in the Application Form.

XCEPT will offer technical review and feedback throughout the process. In coordination with XCEPT, awardees are expected to leverage their professional networks to generate opportunities for uptake and impact. XCEPT also will support contributors to showcase their research at events, webinars and in private briefings to policy stakeholders, as relevant. Finally, XCEPT will work with author(s) to enable open access publication, in line with FCDO requirements.⁸

⁸ See FCDO's (formerly DFID's) [Open and Enhanced Access Policy](#).



4 Funding levels

We anticipate issuing **three to five awards** under this call, across a range of funding levels. The final number of awards may be higher or lower, depending on the scale, quality, and strategic fit of the proposals received. Final decisions will be made by the Selection Committee, which will take into account the overall balance and diversity of the portfolio of research, including thematic coverage, geographic focus, and methodological approaches.

Applicants are encouraged to consider the appropriate scale for their project, bearing in mind the following indicative funding brackets:

- **Up to £15,000** – For desk-based research papers (sole or co-authored) drawing primarily on existing literature, data, and analysis. These projects are not expected to involve field data collection but may include remote interviews.
- **£15,000–£40,000** – For projects that include field data collection. At the lower end of the scale this may involve key informant interviews requiring travel; at the higher end it may involve interviews, surveys or field-based case studies in one or two locations.
- **£40,000–£80,000** – For projects involving more substantial field data collection, potentially across multiple sites or countries, and delivering more extensive outputs.
- **£80,000–£120,000** – For projects proposing a portfolio of research activities across multiple sites, potentially involving mixed methods and multiple outputs that offer comparative case studies in different geographies.

Concept notes should explain the justification for higher budgets relative to the contribution to XCEPT objectives, scholarship, and policy.

5 Who can apply

XCEPT welcomes applications from both **individuals** and **organisations**.

Successful applicants will be responsible for receiving, managing, and reporting on the awarded funds, and must demonstrate the capability to do so in line with FCDO requirements for financial accountability and transparency. This includes maintaining appropriate financial systems and controls.

The awardee will also hold primary responsibility for **duty of care, safeguarding, and risk management** throughout the duration of the project, and must have appropriate approaches in place to manage these effectively.

Applicants should ensure that their proposed budget, and their approach to risk, safeguarding and duty of care are proportionate to the scale, scope, and complexity of the proposed research. These elements will be considered as part of the assessment process.

In line with these expectations, we do not anticipate awarding high value budgets to individuals acting outside of an institutional or organisational framework, unless they can clearly demonstrate the capacity to manage funds and responsibilities at that scale.

Applicants should name a **Principal Investigator** (and Co-Investigators, as relevant). We expect Principal Investigators to be academics, subject matter experts, or advanced



practitioners engaged in research, policy, or programme activities. Principal investigators will usually hold a PhD, but other equivalent academic or professional qualifications will also be considered.

Global South researchers and research organisations are strongly encouraged to apply, independently or in partnership / collaboration with researchers or research organisations based in the Global North. Applications that include meaningful participation of Global South researchers and/or organisations will be scored more favourably.⁹

Proposals should consider whether the research would be strengthened through the participation of researchers with **different disciplinary backgrounds**, or through partnerships between academics and policy professionals.

Applicants must specify whether **ethical review** (e.g., for human subjects research) is required from an Institutional Review Board (or equivalent ethics review body). The applicant will be responsible for obtaining such approval and provide relevant proof to XCEPT before any funds can be dispersed.

Applicants must be able to comply with the ethical and business conduct requirements outlined in Section 10 'Ethical and business conduct requirements', and the [Chemonics' Supplier Code of Conduct](#), which is based on the [FCDO Code of Conduct](#).

Eligible organisations

Organisations applying for funding should note the following:

- Applications from consortia, partnerships or networks of two or more organisations are welcome. For all consortia, a lead organisation should be declared.
- Applicant organisations can be either for-profit or not-for-profit.
- Government departments and agencies (national, regional, local) are not eligible to apply for this opportunity. This exclusion does not apply to publicly funded, independent, and non-political research institutes, which may be eligible provided they meet the other criteria outlined in this call.
- Any organisation applying for funding must be an organisation incorporated or legally organised under the laws of its place of business and must have the proper licenses or registration or be able to obtain the necessary approvals to deliver the services required.

All organisational applicants are asked to confirm that their organisation has a track record of:

- Managing projects of equivalent scale.
- Engaging in the research area proposed.

For more information, please refer to the Concept Note Application Form.

⁹ For the purposes of this call, 'Global South organisation' refers to an organisation that is legally organised under the laws of, and has as its principal place of business or operations in, a country that is a recipient of official development assistance (ODA) ([see OECD list here](#)), that is based in an ODA-recipient country, and is conducting research in or on an ODA-recipient country. 'Global South researcher' refers to an individual who is a national of an ODA-recipient country, is based in an ODA-recipient country (or has been displaced from one in the past several years), and is conducting research in or on an ODA-recipient country.



6 How to apply

The application process involves two stages: Concept Note and full Project Proposal. A description of the application and award process is provided below, with estimated dates.

Date	XCEPT Application Process
27 August 2025	Stage One: Call for Concept Notes published
8 September 2025	Q&A session
11 September 2025	Clarification questions deadline
15 September 2025	Updated FAQs published
25 September 2025	Concept Note submission deadline
Mid October 2025	Stage Two: Shortlisted applicants invited to submit full Project Proposals
Early November 2025	Project Proposal submission deadline
November 2025	Due diligence and Project Proposal assessment and award
December 2025	Kick off

Stage One: Concept Note

The Concept Note stage enables applicants to outline their research idea and approach to enable XCEPT to determine who should be invited to submit full Project Proposals.

i) Concept Note preparation and submission

To apply, applicants should prepare and submit the following:

- **Concept Note Application Form** (max. 1200 words). The concept note should demonstrate how the proposed research addresses the objectives outlined in this call. References to relevant literature should be included as footnotes, which will not count towards the word limit. The Concept Note should include the following (word limits are indicative):
 - **Research idea and evidence gap** (600 words), including a statement of the project's focus and the problem or issue(s) it will address, the research questions and hypotheses, potential contribution to the field (both policy and scholarship), and brief overview of the current evidence gaps in relation to the research idea, with reference to the relevant literature.
 - **Methodology** (300 words), including the empirical strategy and methods the research will employ, why they are appropriate, and the timeline for delivery. Ethical considerations and institutional review processes should also be included here, including the plan for obtaining ethics approval.
 - **Expected outputs** (100 words), such as papers, policy briefing notes, events, blogs, podcasts, videos, and data sets. The anticipated publication pathway or outlet(s) should be included.



- **Research team** (200 words), including the track record of the Principal Investigator / team, and the extent to which individuals and/or organisations from the Global South lead and meaningfully participate during different stages of the research cycle, from research design to data collection, analysis, validation, authoring, and uptake.
- **Summary budget.** Please provide a high-level breakdown of estimated costs across major categories (e.g. personnel, activities, equipment, etc.) sufficient to demonstrate feasibility and value for money. This should include costs related to fieldwork, editing and publication, dissemination, etc.

The Concept Note Application Form should be submitted as a Microsoft Word document. Only applications in English will be reviewed. Please note that application forms differ depending on whether you are applying as an individual or on behalf of an organisation.

- **Curricula Vitae (CVs).** CVs must be provided for the Principal Investigator and any Co-Investigators (maximum three CVs in total). Each CV should ideally not exceed two pages and should include a list of relevant publications, if applicable.

The completed Concept Note Application Form and CV(s) should be submitted via email to XCEPT-Fund@chemonics.com by the date specified in the 'Key information' table at the top of this document. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. **Applications must indicate in the subject line of the email the following: “C2-G053 Multiple centres + [Name of lead (whether individual or organisation)]”.**

Applicants may submit several proposals, but no organisation or individual will be awarded more than one award as the lead applicant.

XCEPT will endeavour to answer clarification questions from applicants at any point during the application process. Those questions and answers that XCEPT feels would be useful for all applicants will be incorporated into an FAQs document. Any questions that you would like addressed should be submitted to XCEPT-Fund@chemonics.com.

ii) Concept Note assessment and evaluation

This step is led by members of the Selection Committee and the XCEPT team. It will consist of an eligibility screening followed by a review and assessment of the Concept Notes, according to the Evaluation Criteria detailed in Section 7 of this document ('How will your Concept Note be assessed?').

A shortlist of **7-10 applicants** will be invited to prepare and submit full Project Proposals for evaluation by the Selection Committee.

Applicants will be notified of the evaluation result by email. We expect to notify applicants within 3-4 weeks of Concept Note submission.

Depending on their scope and complexity, Concept Notes for desk-based papers based primarily on existing literature and data may be selected for evaluation by the Selection Committee **without the requirement to submit a full Project Proposal**. Such applicants will be notified at this stage.

We will not be able to provide feedback on unsuccessful concept notes.



Stage Two: Project Proposal

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to submit a full Project Proposal following Concept Note evaluation.

i) Project Proposal preparation and submission

Shortlisted applicants will be asked to complete a full technical application, providing past performance examples, completing due diligence forms, and submitting a detailed budget and workplan. Further details on requirements and evaluation will be shared at this stage.

Shortlisted applicants will have 3 weeks to complete their Project Proposal.

ii) Due diligence

FCDO requires all award holders to be subject to due diligence and risk assessment. This process will run in parallel to the assessment of the Project Proposals. No final award decision will be taken before this has been completed.

iii) Project Proposal assessment and award

The Project Proposal Selection Committee will make a final decision to make awards based on the proposed projects, the due diligence assessments and risk assessments, and the shape of the overall portfolio.

Chemonics UK will finalise the award with each award holder, taking into consideration feedback from the Selection Committee and the due diligence and risk assessment. The onboarding process is expected to run from November–December 2025.

7 How will your Concept Note be assessed?

Concept Note applications will be assessed by members of the Selection Committee and the XCEPT team. Applications will be judged based on the criteria below. **Please note that this evaluation criteria should be considered as a guide only.**

In addition to the strength of individual submissions, some decisions may be made on a strategic basis across the programme, for example, based on geography or thematic area or to promote equity and inclusion.

Evaluation criteria	Scoring
Research idea and evidence gaps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevance to the themes, questions, and XCEPT focus geographies described in this call. Clarity of the proposal, clear description of the conceptual and analytical framework, and precision of the research question(s). Originality of the proposed topic and knowledge of relevant existing literature and evidence gaps. Consideration and integration of relevant gender dimensions. 	40



Methodology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aptness of the methods proposed, including rigour and robustness of the empirical strategy to address research questions and test hypotheses and of the approach to data collection and analysis. • Feasibility of the methodological approach, based on the time and budget proposed. • Robustness of quality assurance processes built into the design, implementation, writing, and dissemination of the research proposed. • Aptness and robustness of approach to ensuring ethical research standards throughout the project cycle. • Integration of gender- and conflict-sensitive research practices from design to implementation. • Feasibility and realism of plan for accomplishing the deliverables and delivering on time and within budget. • Relevance and aptness of proposed outputs for policy impact and contribution to scholarship. 	30
Research team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic credentials and experience delivering research related to the research idea. • Track record using the proposed methodology. • Relevance of existing networks for research access. • Evidence of ability to produce rigorous, high-quality research outputs and to extract and communicate policy implications. • Extent to which individuals and/or organisations from the Global South lead and meaningfully participate across the research cycle, from research design to data collection, analysis, authoring, and uptake. 	30
Total score	100

8 Contracting

Successful applicants will be contracted directly by Chemonics UK, which manages the XRF. The type of contract issued will depend on the nature of the applicant – whether an individual or an organisation – and, in the case of organisations, their legal status (e.g. for-profit or not-for-profit).

- For organisational applications submitted by a **consortium**, a lead organisation must be designated. This lead organisation will serve as the formal contract holder with Chemonics UK.
- For individual applications with **co-investigators**, XCEPT prefers that co-investigators be engaged as subcontractors under the lead's contract.

If the arrangement described above raise significant complications, then we can consider alternative mechanisms.



Successful applicants will be expected to report their progress on a regular basis, for example through quarterly reporting.

XRF awards are made under the authority of FCDO Standard Terms and Conditions, and [Chemonics' Supplier Code of Conduct](#), based on the [FCDO Code of Conduct](#). The XRF is required to ensure that all organisations receiving FCDO funding comply with the guidance found in the regulations referenced above, as applicable to the respective terms and conditions of their awards.

FCDO retains the right to reject Chemonics' proposal of any successful applicant and terminate, in whole or in part, a subsequent award at any time.

This call does not establish an obligation for Chemonics UK to fund any activity or provide any awards to any applicants.

9 Q&A session and clarification questions

To learn more about this funding opportunity, please join the **virtual question and answer (Q&A) session** on the date specified in the 'Key Information' table at the top of this call. This will be an opportunity to ask questions about this call. If you are interested in joining the Q&A, please confirm your attendance by completing this form:

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/9022867c-c26d-4304-8bc6-0b67e0cc99fa@7c1f24a6-7d39-452c-8237-0726e3b19a73>

If you have any **clarification questions**, please ask them at the Q&A or email them to the Point of Contact by the deadline date specified in the 'Key Information' table at the top of this call.

10 Ethical and business conduct requirements

Chemonics is committed to integrity in procurement, and only selects grantees based on objective business criteria such as technical merit and value for money.

Chemonics does not tolerate fraud, collusion among applicants, falsified proposals/bids, bribery, or kickbacks. Any firm or individual violating these standards will be disqualified from this solicitation process, barred from future opportunities, and may be reported to both our Office of Business Conduct and FCDO.

Programme and Chemonics employees may not ask for, and applicants are prohibited from offering, any money, fee, commission, credit, gift, gratuity, thing of value, or compensation to obtain or reward improper favourable treatment regarding this solicitation. Any improper request from a programme employee should be reported to

BusinessConduct@chemonics.com.

Applicants responding to this Call must sign the declaration included at the end of the Application Form, to include the following as part of the proposal submission:

- Disclose any close, familial, or financial relationships with Chemonics or project staff. For example, if an offeror's cousin is employed by the project, the offeror must state this.



- Disclose any family or financial relationship with other offerors submitting proposals. For example, if the offeror's father owns a company that is submitting another proposal, the offeror must state this.
- Certify that the prices in the application have been arrived at independently, without any consultation, communication, or agreement with any other applicant or competitor for the purpose of restricting competition.
- Certify that all information in the proposal and all supporting documentation are authentic and accurate.
- Certify understanding and agreement to Chemonics' prohibitions against fraud, bribery and kickbacks.

