BIMP-EAGA-ROK Cooperation Fund (BKCF)
Guideline for 6th Call for Proposals (2026)

This Guideline sets out the official operational instruction applicable to the 6th Call for Proposal of the BIMP-EAGA-ROK Cooperation Fund (BKCF).

All proposals must be submitted through the BKCF Portal. All required fields and components must be fully completed in the online system in order to enable the final submission. Proposals that do not meet these requirements cannot be submitted through the Portal.

This Guideline governs matters specific to this call. For general rules and procedures applicable to the BKCF, please refer to the BKCF Manual available on the BKCF Portal.

1 INTRODUCTION

The Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) - Republic of Korea (ROK) Cooperation Fund (BKCF) was established in 2021 by the ROK. It aims to contribute to promoting inclusive and balanced growth in the Southeast Asia region and ASEAN Connectivity by strengthening the partnership between the BIMP-EAGA and the ROK.

It further supports the BIMP-EAGA's Vision 2025 (BEV 2025) of a "Resilient, Inclusive, Sustainable and Economically competitive (R.I.S.E) BIMP-EAGA to narrow development gap." BKCF adopts four strategic thrusts listed in the BEV 2025, namely (1) Connectivity, (2) Environment, (3) Tourism, and (4) Agriculture and Fisheries, as the priority areas.

The Fund will provide grants for individual member countries or subregional programs and projects to address strategic country needs and priorities of BIMP-EAGA.

The Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) has been designated as a depositary and operating entity of the BKCF and will oversee its overall implementation and administration.

2 ELIGIBILITY OF PROPONENT FOR PROJECT APPLICATION

To apply for the BKCF, proponents should meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Government agencies, public sector institutes, academic and research institutes, NGOs, International Organizations, private sector entities or any other autonomous institutes from member countries of BIMP-EAGA and the ROK are eligible to submit funding requests.

- **Individuals are not eligible to apply for the fund.**

- GGGI can participate as a delivery partner to support the implementation of requested components of the approved project with an endorsement of the BIMP-EAGA country or countries where the proposed project will be implemented.

In order to be eligible for the grant, the proponent shall <u>not</u>:

- be included in the Consolidated United Nations Security Council Sanctions List and/or debarred by Multilateral Development Banks; and

- have been declared ineligible by GGGI or ROK MOFA to participate in a call for proposal or included in an ineligibility list of GGGI or ROK MOFA.

3   BKCF PRIORITY SECTORS AND AREAS

Among the list of sectors from BEV 2025, prioritization was given to the following sectors through consultations between BIMP-EAGA and the ROK.

- **<u>Environment</u>**: It includes projects with high potential for environmental and climate mitigation and adaptation impacts that promote inclusive green growth in areas including - but not limited to: water management, waste management and sanitation, renewable energy, energy efficiency, green buildings, green finance, including green bonds, inclusive green entrepreneurship, nature-based solutions including REDD++ and climate-smart agriculture and bioeconomy.

- **<u>Tourism</u>**: It includes projects relating to eco-friendly and sustainable tourism development as well as tourism-related planning and infrastructure.

- **<u>Connectivity</u>**: It includes - but not limited to - low carbon transport, ICT and digital transformation, trade and investment facilitation, and the enhancement of the region's climate change knowledge economy.

- **<u>Agriculture and Fisheries</u>**: It includes projects relating to the long-term food security of the subregion, the development of high-quality agro-fisheries products, and sustainable livelihood for farmers and fisherfolk.

All projects across all sectors identified in the cooperation between BIMP-EAGA and ROK must explicitly include targets and outcomes/outputs for gender and social inclusion, where applicable and relevant.

4 GRANT AWARD PERIOD AND RANGE

BKCF accepts proposals for project periods of either one or two years. While the project is recommended for implementation in the BIMP-EAGA region, proposals for projects in other regions within the BIMP countries are equally eligible.

The total grant for a one-year project is between a minimum of USD 100,000 and a maximum of USD 500,000.

The total amount for a two-year grant proposal is between USD 200,000 and USD 500,000. In the case of multiple countries or BIMP-EAGA regional projects, a maximum of USD 250,000 per country could be allowed.

Project Duration/Type	Total Budget Range (USD)
One-year project	Minimum of $100,000 and a maximum of $500,000
Two-year project	Minimum of $200,000 and a maximum of $500,000
Multiple countries or BIMP-EAGA regional project	Maximum of $250,000 per country

5 APPLICATION AND APPROVAL PROCESS

In collaboration with BIMP-EAGA and the ROK, GGGI will provide clear guidance for the application process, selection, and award of grants in a transparent manner. The following are the steps of the application process:

5.1 APPLICATION PERIOD

26 January to 27 March 2026 (6 PM KST)

5.2 SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL

The proponent shall submit the proposal and required components through the BKCF Portal (https://www.gggi-bkcf.org).

- **Step 1**: Access the BKCF Portal and click **"Submit a Proposal"**
- **Step 2**: Create a user account (registration required for first-time users)
- **Step 3**: Complete the online proposal form
- **Step 4**: Review and submit the proposal and the required components through the Portal.

A proposal will be considered officially submitted only when all required fields and components are completed, and the final submission is successfully performed

through the BKCF Portal. Draft proposals or saved entries that have not been finally submitted will not be considered as official submissions.

All information entered into the online form on the BKCF Portal shall constitute the official proposal submission and will be used for review, evaluation and approval process.

Document List	
Required	☐ BKCF Project Proposal
	☐ BKCF Project Budget
	☐ Due Diligence form
	☐ Annex 1. Deliverables
	☐ Annex 2. Project Implementation Plan
	☐ Annex 3. Institutional Portfolio and Terms of Reference for Human Resources
Optional	☐ Proof of Evidence for Project Co-financing
	☐ Letter of Intent

5.3   PROPOSAL REVIEW AND SHORTLISTING

GGGI will conduct a review of proposals for shortlisting. GGGI may contact selected proponents individually, if necessary, provide written questions. Only proposals that have been successfully submitted through the BKCF Portal will be reviewed and considered for shortlisting. This process shall take no longer than 50 business days.

5.4   ROK MOFA & BIMP-EAGA NS REVIEW

GGGI will prepare and submit the shortlisted projects to the ROK MOFA. ROK MOFA, in consultation with BIMP-EAGA NS, will review the shortlisted projects within a maximum of 50 business days.

5.5   PROJECT APPROVAL AND ENDORSEMENT

Following approval by the Senior Officials of BIMP-EAGA and the ROK during the Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM), GGGI will inform the proponent of the results and provide guidance on the subsequent steps.

6 CONTACT

- Inquiry regarding the Project Implementation: bkcf@gggi.org

- Inquiry regarding the BKCF Portal: info_bkcf@gggi.org