

Strengthening Agricultural Higher Education for Agri-Food System Transformation in Africa

Proposed selection process and eligibility criteria for SHAEA

(draft for consultation)



Objective - the selection process

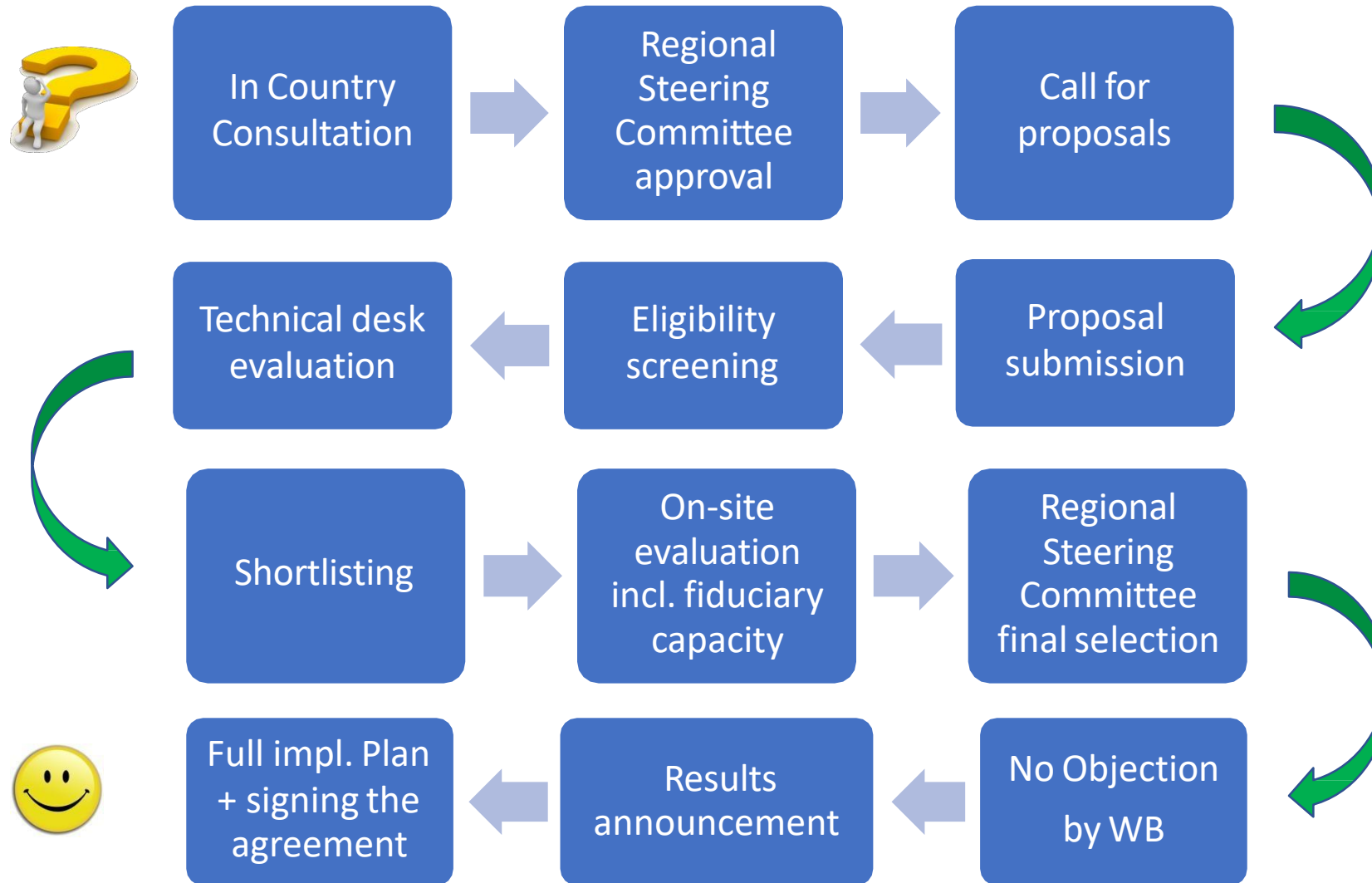
“Select the proposals that are most likely to result in institutional change at the regional anchor university and transformational impact within the Agri-food sector”

- Be **high quality, merit-based, transparent, objective** (systematic and consistent)
- Be **balanced** regarding key knowledge gap areas
- Strategic in terms of **geographical** distribution

Eligibility Criteria

1. Be from one of the participating countries which have IDA funding availability
2. Offer postgraduate programs at the Masters level (preferably also at the PhD level) in agri-food systems related topics and preferably one within the identified regional key knowledge gap areas and have produced at least five cohorts of graduates with Masters degrees in these programs;
3. Have at least one existing active and functional regional partnership in the area of Agriculture
4. Demonstrate on-going effort in reform/change for institutional improvement
5. No land acquisition needed if civil works are expected to be financed under the project
6. If a university has an existing agricultural Africa Center of Excellence (ACE), it can apply as long as the proposed focus area for being a RAU is not the same as what is already supported by the agricultural ACE; and
7. Only one proposal per university may be submitted

Selection Process Overview



National consultation process

Objective

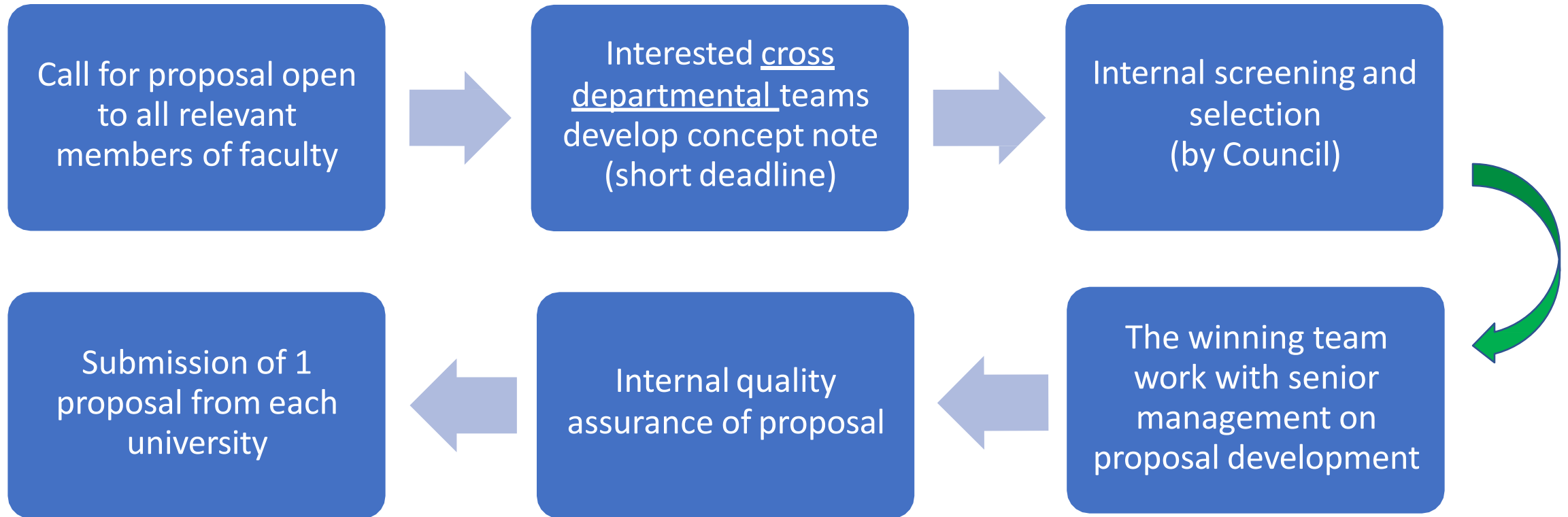
To ensure alignment with national strategies of proposals submitted by eligible universities within the country

Justification

To avoid that universities focus on own interest rather than Agri-food sector needs at national and regional level



Internal Competitive Process (optional)



Advantages and disadvantages of internal university competition

Advantages:

- ✓ Decrease the risk of favoritism
- ✓ Give opportunity for everyone to compete
- ✓ Increase leaderships knowledge of interest for the project among faculties
- ✓ More creativity might come into the proposals
- ✓ Likely to be proposals of a higher quality

Disadvantages:

- Will delay the proposal writing process with at least a month
- Might create internal rivalry and envy so losing teams don't want to participate/support
- Council might not have adequate qualifications to do the screening
- Does not eliminate risk of favoritism

Overall Evaluation Criteria

- Potential impact on agri-food systems
- Capacity and willingness to respond to Agri-food sector actors' needs
- Ability to find and engage strategic partners
- Ability to carry through institutional changes that enhance the universities performance, effectivity and efficiency
- Ability to design and execute high quality transdisciplinary post graduate programs within at least 2 of the 6 regional key gap areas
- Ability to obtain international accreditation of transdisciplinary post graduate programs
- Integration of the CARP++ experiential learning model
- Overall quality of proposal

Evaluation of university proposals

- **Round 1:** Technical review by a independent evaluation committee consisting of renown academic experts as well as competent private sector representatives :
 - internationally recognized and respected committee members
 - evaluators without conflict of interest
 - academic evaluators with expertise to evaluate transdisciplinary programs and outreach capability in the regional key gap areas and private sector evaluator with Agri-food sector expertise
- **Round 2:** On-site visit by members of the evaluation committee
- **Round 3** Final approval by the Regional Steering Committee

Criteria for Technical Desk Evaluation

Criteria for Technical Evaluation	Mark
Alignment of proposal to national priorities with the agri-food sector	X
Potential for strengthening institutional leadership and management capability and push for institutional reform/change for improvement results	X
Potential for Agri-food system transformation impact through training new generations of problem solvers with transdisciplinary skills within the regional key gap areas	X
Potential for Agri-food system transformation impact through linkages with sector demand and collaborating with sector actors	X
Potential for leadership and collaboration in the tertiary education in agriculture sector, with support to AATEIs	X
Potential for strengthening capacity to address Agri-food system transformation at regional level	X
Gender equity and Social responsibility – Inclusion of rural/remote institutions as partner institutions, and involvement of disadvantaged students/faculty,	X
Quality of the proposal and the use of innovative approaches and solutions	X
<i>Total</i>	XX

On-Site and Leadership Evaluation Criteria

On-Site and Leadership Evaluation	Marks
Institutional leadership and vision, alignment to university strategy	X
Implementation capacity with a focus on the procurement, financial management and environmental management	X
Academic component leadership and administrative capacity	X
Experience with cross-disciplinary collaboration in teaching and research	X
Experience with sector involvement in teaching and research	X
Commitment from academic and sector partners to the institutional proposal	X
Government involvement and support	X
Consistency between the proposal and the reality on the ground	X
Total	XX

Post selection

Regional anchor universities conditionally selected, must:

- develop a detailed implementation plan (with key partners)
- refined fiduciary plans
- provide a detailed procurement plan
- develop a safeguard management plan
- present plan for expected civil work

All this need to be completed before the signing of the funding and performance agreement and form part of the institutional readiness conditions.

SHAEA preparation has a tight timetable:

No.	Milestone	Responsible Party	Anticipated Timeframe
1	First RSC and RFU meeting	RSC/RFU/WB (organized by RFU)	July 2018
2	In-country stakeholder consultations	Gov/RFU/WB (organized by the gov, facilitated by RFU)	July-August 2018
3	Issuing the pre-Call for Proposals announcement (for RAUs)	RSC/RFU	July 31, 2018
4	Issuing the formal Call for Proposals for RAUs	RSC/RFU	August 31, 2018
5	RAU proposal submission	Gov submits to RFU (by deadline)	November 30, 2018
6	RAU proposal evaluation and selection	IEC conducts evaluations and submit recommendations to RSC who makes the selection	By January, 2019
7	SHAEA appraisal	WB	By Feb 2019
8	SHAEA negotiations	MoFs/WB	March-April 2019
9	SHAEA submission to the WBG Board	WB	End May 2019
10	SHAEA approval by the WBG Board	WB	End June 2019

SHAEA preparation WB team is comprised of a small regional core team with country teams resided in WB country offices of the participating countries which are led jointly by the country TTLs for agriculture and education.

Thank You!

Comments and suggestions are welcome! Please send them to:

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