

Procurement Notice

HVT/059 - Open Call No.3 for Research Proposals on Low Carbon Transport in Low-Income and Lower Middle-Income Countries of Asia

The High Volume Transport Applied Research Programme (HVT) is a seven-year, £18 million investment by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) to undertake research into the complex and interrelated issues of sustainable transport development across Africa and South Asia. This new body of research aims to help inform the decisions of policymakers in low-income countries and make road and rail transport greener, safer and more accessible, affordable and inclusive and to ultimately make good investment decisions that will help drive economic development and poverty reduction. HVT is delivered through a Programme Management Unit led by the international development consultancy DT Global. More information about the HVT Programme [can be found here](#).

HVT joined forces with FCDO's Energy and Economic Growth (EEG), managed by Oxford Policy Management (OPM) to undertake a scoping exercise that examined low-carbon transport (LCT) and energy research priorities in the low- and middle-income countries (LICs/MICs) across Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. The objective of the scoping exercise was to facilitate transition to LCT in LICs and MICs in Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa by identifying barriers to LCT and the research needs that could enhance knowledge and capacity in the transport sector. The scoping studies identified key challenges in the transport and energy sectors, highlighted research gaps and set out a research agenda in several thematic areas.

This Open Call will focus on Asia and two themes:

- Research to enable electric two- and three-wheelers in less developed Asian countries.
- Better urban and transport planning, and peri-urban transport to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and carbon reduction.

This Call will be a partial relaunch of Open Call no. 2 of October 2020 with only two themes, a shorter timeframe and a lower budget. It is based primarily on the findings from the scoping studies on LCT in South Asia and draws on research gaps identified in the State of Knowledge research of HVT Part 1 and subsequent research.

Two to three research projects up to £150,000 each may be awarded under this Call, with at least one from each theme .

The research outputs must be of high quality with an emphasis on ensuring that the research has clear operational relevance, will be tractable¹, scalable² and reasonably conclusive³. There will be a strong practical focus on what has and has not worked and where, why and how, and on the scalability and transferability of the research outputs to LICs in Africa and South Asia.

The programme will deliver primary applied research that generates, validates, and updates effective policies, regulations, and practices for the planning, financing, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of HVT infrastructure and services.

¹ The likelihood of the research output being adopted.

² The extent to which the research outputs can be expanded or go beyond its current state.

³ How tangible project results are likely to be. The research must go beyond initial findings by delivering outputs that can be implemented.

Important Note

The closing date for submission of proposals is **6 December 2023 at 21.00 GMT**. The expected date for the commencement of the Services is approximately February 2024.

The selection of Research Supplier will be on the basis of a combination of the technical and financial scores achieved following a 3-stage evaluation process. The technical points score will receive an 80% weighting and the commercial points score a 20% weighting. A minimum technical score of 65 points will be required to ensure further consideration of the proposal.

To request the dossier of tender documents, please send an email to HVT.Procurement@dt-global.com stating the above procurement reference number and clearly stating the name of the company requesting the documents.

If you have **not** received this notice directly from the HVT PMU, you may wish to subscribe to updates from the HVT Programme. By subscribing, you will receive information on research projects, procurement opportunities, and other project activities. Use [this link](#) to subscribe.