

ANNEX C9: Standard Twinning - Publication of the Call for Proposals on the Internet
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TWINNING CALL FOR PROPOSALS
issued by the European Commission

1. Publication reference

GM 24 NDICI AG 01 26

2. Programme and Financing source

Project title: *Support to the Food Safety and Quality Authority (FSQA) in Strengthening SPS Systems and Food Safety Control in the Horticulture Sector – The Gambia*

Programme title: *“Accelerating the sustainable and inclusive transformation of agri-food systems in The Gambia”* (ACT-62597) / Direct Management / Annual Budget Year – 2024

3. Nature of activities, geographical area and project duration

(a) Short description (5 lines) of planned objectives:

The project aims to strengthen the institutional, regulatory and technical capacities of the Food Safety and Quality Authority (FSQA) of The Gambia to effectively implement sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures, food safety and quality systems in the horticultural sector, in line with EU and international standards. It will support the development of the legal and regulatory framework, strengthen inspection and control systems, and build technical capacity in risk assessment and food safety management.

(b) Geographical area: The Gambia

(c) Maximum project duration: 18 months

4. Overall amount available for this Call for Proposals

EUR 1,000,000

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

5. Eligibility: Who may apply?

Only Public Administrations and Mandated bodies as per Twinning Manual of European Union Member State may apply through European Union Member States' National Contact Points.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

6. Provisional notification date of results of the award process

Week of 26 October 2026 (approximately 2 weeks after the submission deadline of 01 October 2026, subject to conclusion of the selection committee meeting)

SELECTION AND AWARD CRITERIA

7. Selection and award criteria

Selection criteria consider the **operational capacity of the Component leaders** mentioned in the proposal: Member State Project Leader, Resident Twinning Adviser and Component Leaders; the assessment is expressed on a **Yes/No** basis, and a single negative evaluation of one criterion disqualifies the proposal.

Award criteria consider the **merit of the main qualifying aspects** of the proposal and are evaluated by applying a **scoring system (1 to 5)**:

Selection and award of the Member State will be based on an evaluation of several qualitative aspects including but not limited to the proposed methodology, the experience of the proposed RTA and PL, the experience of the administration in cooperation projects and the Member State presentation.

See Annex C6 of the Twinning Manual: Administrative compliance and Eligibility grid and Annex C7 of the Twinning Manual.

APPLICATION FORMALITIES

8. Twinning proposal and details to be provided

Twining proposals must be submitted by the Lead Member State Administration to the **EU Member States National Contact Points for Twinning** following the instructions of the **Twining Manual** which must be strictly observed (including the use of the template).

Only one Twinning proposal for Member State can be submitted by the **Member State National Contact Points for Twinning** to the Contracting Authority within the deadline for applications.

The MS application should be submitted to the Contracting Authority via the email address of Member State National Contact Points for Twinning.

9. Deadline for applications

Deadline for submission of Twinning proposals by the National Contact Points to the Contracting Authority: 01 October 2026

The deadline for submission of Twinning proposals by the EU Member State Public Administrations to the corresponding National Contact Point is decided by the latter.

Any application received by the Contracting Authority after this deadline will not be considered.

10. Detailed information

Detailed information on this Call for Proposals is contained in the Twinning Manual and the specific project Twinning Fiches, which are available at the European Union Member States **National Contact Points for Twinning**.

The tentative date(s) envisaged for starting the evaluation committee meetings is: week of 14 October 2026.

The Member State delegation should always include the proposed PL and RTA(s).