**Taste a Better Future**

**Responses to questions from Jason Jones about the budget document, August 2023**

This document sets out answers to questions from Jason Jones (email 02/08/23), Climate Action Fund Portfolio Officer for The National Lottery, in relation to the Taste a Better Future bid (20220295), led by Sustain: The alliance for better food and farming, working with national partner the Landworkers Alliance. Questions are in black. Responses from Sustain/Landworkers Alliance are in blue.

Q: Where it says ‘see narrative’, what does that link to?  I can’t seem to see a reference.
A: The ‘narrative’ is the ‘narrative answers to key questions’ document, submitted via the Climate Action Fund portal, and also shared here: <https://www.sustainweb.org/assets/taste-a-better-future-answers-to-key-questions-final-Jul23.pdf>

Q: Re: Local Partners - Will all 5 partners get identical payments?  Do they work out as £40,000 per year per organisation x 3 years plus £10,000 for infrastructure, so £130,000 in total?

A: All five partners have been budgeted for on the basis of identical payments of £40,000 per year for three years = £120,000 per partner. The £50,000 for essential infrastructure has not yet been allocated to each partner – in our selection process, we asked them only for an indicative idea of what infrastructure they might need to enable public engagement in climate action and nature. If the funding bid is successful, we are planning for Sustain’s Programme Manager to run the process of refining the criteria for these amounts and working through the costings and options with each partner, within the overall budget limit. We will also encourage and support the Local Partners to seek other contributions and in-kind support to ensure that this money is used only where the needs cannot be met by other means. This process will be under the scrutiny of the Programme Management Board to ensure that the money is allocated fairly, to further programme aims, and used for the purposes intended.

Q: The following 5 budget areas, that I’ve marked 1-5, which partners or other organisations will receive these? (referring to: **Local Partners: Local Climate Hubs x 5)**

1. **Governance & project management including recruitment costs, travel, subsistence and internships**
A: This amount (£11k or £12.5k per year) is for cross-cutting national programme costs, administered centrally by Sustain’s Programme Manager, mainly those costs incurred by the two national partners Sustain and Landworkers Alliance (LWA) for recruitment, travel, subsistence and hosting of paid internships for diversity. However, we will retain the possibility of reimbursing Local Partners and Learning Partners for participation in cross-cutting activities where these are not covered by local budgets, for example if a Local Partner were able to host a paid internship meeting diversity and programme aims; or if a Local Partner could make a valuable contribution to a programme-wide activity that incurred travel costs; this cost could be paid for from this budget line. This process will be under the scrutiny of the Programme Management Board to ensure that the money is allocated fairly, to further programme aims, and used for the purposes intended.
2. **Monitoring, evaluation & learning (e.g. external consultant, training, focus groups, coproduction)**
A: This amount (£12,750 to £19.5k per year) is for cross-cutting national programme costs relating to monitoring, evaluation and learning, administered centrally by Sustain’s Programme Manager, mainly those costs incurred for recruitment of external consultancy on research, data collection and analysis, running training sessions, hosting focus groups, and undertaking co-production activities. Costs will include consultancy fees, venues, payments for contributors, so mainly paid out to external people and organisations. This process will be under the scrutiny of the Programme Management Board to ensure that the money is allocated fairly, to further programme aims, and used for the purposes intended.
3. **Partner engagement activities (e.g. Climate Hubs development materials, site visits,** **external training)**A: This amount (£8k to £11k per year) is administered centrally by the Landworkers Alliance (LWA, working with lead national partner Sustain’s Programme Manager). The intention for this section of the budget is to foster a learning and peer support community between the Climate Hubs. The budget will initially be available to support the development of a coherent climate action programme co-designed by hubs in order to create shared messaging for the programme e.g. event guides, public information. We plan for each Climate Hub to pay a visit to each other at least once, over the course of the project, paid for by this budget. It will also unlock opportunities with the local Climate Hubs that will be of benefit to wider programme aims, for example developing external training on public engagement in climate action and behaviour change; trialling site visits for local policy-makers and planners to win local institutional support. The process for prioritising, planning and agreeing expenditure will be under the scrutiny of the Programme Management Board to ensure that the money is allocated fairly, to further programme aims, and used for the purposes intended.
4. **Network Learning & Movement Building including peer network facilitation, Peri Urban Practitioners Forum, training, visits, events, travel, learning Hub Consultants/support and site visit costs.**A: This amount (£26,250k per year) is a key element of our national programme and is for sharing Climate Hub learning beyond the cohort of 5 hubs, involving members of the wider peri-urban (community farming) practitioners network, administered centrally by the Landworkers Alliance (LWA, working with lead national partner Sustain’s Programme Manager) with the explicit purpose of serving movement-building towards our vision of a Climate Hub in every area. The budget will be used to commission expert input as learning partners (hub consultants from well-established and pioneering peri-urban community farming practitioners), learning activities and production of materials. The process for planning and agreeing expenditure will be under the scrutiny of the Programme Management Board to ensure the money is allocated fairly, to further programme aims, and used for the purposes intended.
5. **Communication -  brand and design, website costs, Climate Hub guidance, films, photography, programme-wide materials, promotional/ celebration events and attendance at conferences.**A: This amount (£10,250 to £14.5k per year) is a draw-down fund to be administered centrally by Sustain’s Programme Manager to enable creation of compelling and engaging communications materials and activities for public engagement and engagement with people and organisations who are the ‘ecosystem of support’ for this work. The Programme Manager will run a process with Local Partners and others to identify key priorities. Where larger expenditure is planned, they will run a tendering process to commission materials and activities for common benefit. The process for planning and agreeing expenditure will be under the scrutiny of the Programme Management Board to ensure that the money is allocated fairly, to further programme aims, and used for the purposes intended.

**If further clarification is needed, please contact: Kath Dalmeny, Chief Executive of Sustain (****kath@sustainweb.org****); Sarah Williams, Programmes Director of Sustain (****sarah@sustainweb.org****) and Alyce Biddle, Community Organiser, Landworkers Alliance (****alyce.biddle@landworkersalliance.org.uk****).**