CONTEXT
The World Bank Group is launching a Call for Innovation under the West Africa Coastal Areas Management Program (WACA) to bridge the gap between innovators and port developers/owners to build sustainable and integrated coastal management.

The call is part of the WACA Resilience Investment Project (WACA ResIP), a multi-country regional project that aims to support present assets and strengthen the resilience of coastal communities for Benin, Côte d’Ivoire, Mauritania, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, and Togo. The project supported them develop multi-sectoral investment planning processes, culminating in WACA Multi Sector Investment Plans (MSIPs).

THE CHALLENGE
The challenge is to identify innovative and feasible solutions to fight coastal erosion and flooding issues associated with the ongoing development of large commercial ports and maritime operations in the six countries. In most cases, existing ports were built with limited if no zero planning and considerations of potential exacerbation of coastal erosion. The significant threat is that this shortcoming is also occurring in the design and construction of new ports.

The scope is to identify innovations that allow to avoid, mitigate, and remediate the geomorphological and ecological impacts associated with existing and planned commercial ports in West Africa.

WHO MAY APPLY?
Participants could be an individual entity, or a consortium made or more entities. To be eligible an entity has to be a university (public or private), a research organization (public or private), or a private enterprise (i.e. an engineering firm, a construction firm, or a consulting group). An entity is allowed to submit one proposal application only.

Feb 28, 2020 to July 1, 2020
https://www.wacaprogram.org/innovation
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS AND OPERATING PRINCIPLES

Applicants are requested to submit a proposal for one of the four thematic challenges and clearly indicate in their application which one they have chosen to address. Applicants are encouraged to focus on one solution at the time. Proposal addressing two, three, or all four thematic challenges are allowed. However, proposed solutions will have to be clearly separated by thematic area.

• **Thematic Challenge 1.** Which type of infrastructure (green, grey, or a combination of both) could be put in place to manage the impact of port development and port management on sediment movements which lead to unwanted coastal erosion?

• **Thematic Challenge 2.** Which planning measures and port and lagoon operation management practices could be taken upstream to reduce environmental impacts, coastal erosion and lagoon/canal water quality and flow management in particular?

• **Thematic Challenge 3.** What new features of Public Private Partnerships (PPP), business models, and contracting options could be proposed to take sustainability into account in the design and management of maritime transport related infrastructures?

• **Thematic Challenge 4.** What are examples of good global practices in ports and lagoons management and successful case studies that could be proposed to West African countries to better manage the cumulative environmental impact of existing port operations and predict consequences of future infrastructures?

**HOW TO APPLY**

To apply, go to the website [wacaprogram.org](http://wacaprogram.org), click on Call for Innovation to apply by **July 1, 2020**.

Inquiries about the Call for Innovation and the application process will be accepted at [waca@worldbank.org](mailto:waca@worldbank.org) until June 1, 2020.

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

Applicants can ask questions to the WACA team up June 1, 2020, ten business before submissions deadline by sending an email to [waca@worldbank.org](mailto:waca@worldbank.org). Questions and answers applicable to all applicants will be posted on the WACA website. Applicants are encouraged to the page regularly.

**BENEFITS AND REWARDS**

This is a three-stages competition where the best 10, 5 and 3 proposals will be chosen. Depending on the score, selected proposals will receive different degrees of visibility and recognition.

**RANKING CRITERIA**

Submitted proposals will be screened in three different phases: longlisting of top-10, request for additional information, shortlisting of the top-5 who make a pitch and 5-slides presentation at Demo Day; top-3 selected.

**Long-listing of top-10 proposals by World Bank reviewers based on:**

- Situation analysis
- Feasibility challenges
- Financing mechanisms

**Shortlisting of top 5 by panel of international experts based on:**

- Innovation
- Feasibility
- Adaptable to national context
- Impact
- Co-benefits
- Implementation Readiness

**Selection of top-3 winners and invitation at Demo Day:**

Jury of international experts rate the presentations of the 5 shortlisted applicants and their pitches (travel costs paid by the WBG).

**TIMELINES AND DEADLINES**

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<tr>
<td>Launch of the Innovation Call</td>
<td>February 28, 2020</td>
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<td>Deadline for Q&amp;A session and opening of submission’s portal (22 business days before submission deadline)</td>
<td>June 1, 2020</td>
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<td>Deadline for submitting EOIs and call closure</td>
<td>July 1, 2020</td>
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<td>Notification to longlisted candidates and request to submit Detailed Proposals</td>
<td>August 3, 2020</td>
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<td>Deadline for longlisted candidates to submit requested Detailed Proposals (20 business days after notification)</td>
<td>August 31, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notification to top 5 shortlisted candidates and announcement on the WACA website</td>
<td>October 2, 2020</td>
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<td>Deadline for each shortlisted idea to submit their draft 5-slides presentations and start of the coaching period (13 business days after notification)</td>
<td>October 21, 2020</td>
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<td>Demo-Day in DC where shortlisted competitors will present their pitches, and Winner selection by the Jury of top-3 ideas</td>
<td>November 11, 2020</td>
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