

## **PRESS RELEASE:**

### **Netherlands Government opens First Call for Proposals for 2011 of infrastructure development programme ORIO**

*The Netherlands government has opened its first call for proposals for 2011 under the ORIO programme, which aims at developing infrastructure in development countries, including Bangladesh. Maximum project cost is 60 million Euro, minimum 2 million euro, of which 50% will be provided in the form of a grant by the Dutch Government. For Bangladesh the applicable sectors are: water management, energy, and environment. The first for proposals for 2011 will close on Monday 7 March 2011 at 17.00 hrs CET.*

The ORIO facility for infrastructure aims to contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by investing in public infrastructure in developing countries. The applicable sectors are defined in consultation with the Government of Bangladesh.

The total annual funds available for ORIO worldwide are 140 million Euro. The budget for each project must be between 2 and 60 million Euro. The Bangladeshi Government should be the applicant for ORIO funding, but private sector companies are invited to initiate project proposals. The Dutch government's Agency for International Trade (EVD) manages the programme.

ORIO contributes to the development, implementation (construction and/or expansion) and exploitation of public infrastructure in developing countries. After approval of the project proposal, funding is available for the finalisation of the send proposal (100% funding) and the implementation of the project procurement and installation (50% funding). After completion of the implementation phase, the operations and maintenance (O&M) of the infrastructural works will also be supported by 50% funding of the O&M costs up to 10 years.

Further information:

All application related documents can be found on the ORIO Publications page on [www.orio.nl](http://www.orio.nl).

For country specific information; visit the country page of Bangladesh.

<http://www.evd.nl/zoeken/showbouwsteen.asp?bstnum=230247>

Or contact the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands;

Phone : + 880 (0) 2 88 227 15

fax : + 880 (0) 2 88 233 26

mail : [dha@minbuza.nl](mailto:dha@minbuza.nl)

Website: [www.netherlandsembassydhaka.org](http://www.netherlandsembassydhaka.org)