



**UNITED NATIONS CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (UNCDF)
Request for Applications**

Innovative digital solutions for the resilience of MSMEs under COVID 19 context in Ghana

Q&A session minutes, April 27, 2020

Q: Can submissionners provide pending audited financial statements and then update it?

A : **Yes, we recommend then to provide audited financial statements for 2018 and the pending ones for 2019**

Q: For the Investment Readiness Level Scale, do you want us to complete the table so you can see where we are, or will you make that assessment independently?

A: This choice is left to the discretion of the candidates but is not a mandatory element.

Q: Can an applicant apply for \$200,000 and request technical assistance or does the value of grant plus technical assistance need to be \$200,000.

A: The total funding is \$200,000, meaning grant and technical assistance both in the same budget.

Q: Please explain the concept of “inventory solution”.

A: The non-exhaustive list of solutions provided are relevant for MSMEs but may not be relevant for every COVID-19 in the different countries. It is applicant’s responsibility to propose solutions that are relevant to the local needs of MSMEs

Q: To what extent do we need to have an MVP? For instance, if there is already an app available, can it be a new feature/addition started from scratch or do we need an MVP of the said feature?

A: The objective of this call for proposals is to provide immediate responses in the context of the current pandemic, therefore the proposed solutions must already exist and be ready to be deployed.

Q: Can a local lead company partner with an international company as a consortium partner?

A: No, all the members of the consortium must be registered in the country.

Q: When will the solution providers be selected? when is the project supposed to kick off?

A: Our goal is to do a selection and granting in 14 days after the deadline of submissions of this RFA, but it will depend on the number of proposals to be evaluated.

Q: Is there a target number of MSMEs you are looking to reach through this project.

A: We seek to reach the maximum number of MSMs within the available budgets.

Q: The RFA mentions that UNCDF could help coordinate loan guarantee schemes. Should this be under the technical assistance required?

A: **The specific RFA is for grants and technical assistance, but UNCDF could liaise interesting proposals with other UNCDF's pillars such as LDCIP.**

Q: Should all local partners have the audited financial statements?

A: **Yes.**

Q: Can one applicant submit two different applications covering different solutions?

A: **Yes, but only one solution will be granted.**

Q: Who will be expected to run/operate this platform?

A: **The selected partner institution that submitted the project proposal.**

Q: Any Capacity Building training for the MSMES? I have 8000+ smallholder farmers 80% are women and youth? most of them are illiterate. I'm trying Community base advisors to smallholder farmers with App. How do I fit in? How can we be part of the consortium?

A: **Grant can be used to fund capacity building through digital means. It is up to each applicant to see how and whether to be part of a consortium.**

Q: How will transactional charges be negotiated?

A: **Refer to the RFA on the list of eligible costs. The applicant is advised to present all the expenses items and UNCDF team will decide accordingly.**

Q: Is co-funding by the applicant desired by UNCDF?

A: **Yes**

Q: Government Agency is available to assist with the deployment as well as the operational bit?

A: **UNCDF, in partnership with SNV (a Netherlands development agency) is implementing for the European Union Trust Fund (EUTF) for Africa the "Boosting green employment and enterprise opportunities in Ghana (GrEEn)" in Ashanti and Western regions. GrEEN will channel finance through performance-based grants to selected Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) in Ghana.**