

An abstract graphic on the left side of the slide consists of several concentric, slightly irregular arcs in a light purple color. Small circles and dots are scattered along these arcs, some at the ends of the lines and others in between, creating a sense of movement or a network. The overall shape is roughly circular but open on the right side.

Request for Applications (RFA) Ready-Made Garment Sector Innovative Digital Solutions in Bangladesh Information Session

13 January 2022

Agenda

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UNCDF Introduction

UNCDF | HYBRID AGENCY

UNCDF has a unique hybrid model at the crossroads between a **development agency** and a **development finance institution**



The UN's development finance arm, primarily for the 46 Least Developed Countries (LDCs)



From the beginning, UNCDF was given a unique capital activation mandate



UNCDF works directly with both the public and the private sectors

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



Technical
Assistance



Capital
Investments



Market
Research



Advocacy

INCLUSIVE MARKET SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT

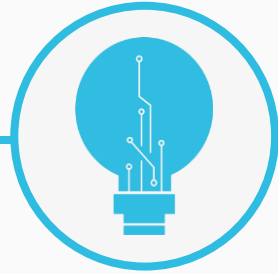


Unlocking Public and Private
Finance for the Poor



ENABLING POLICY AND REGULATIONS

Working with government
to develop policies that
support development of
digital services for those
most left behind



INCLUSIVE INNOVATION

Support local
entrepreneurs, financial
service providers and SMEs
to promote inclusive digital
service market
development



EMPOWERED CUSTOMERS

Empower customers and
their families to acquire the
necessary skills (digital and
financial) to adopt new
migrant centric products



OPEN DIGITAL PAYMENT ECOSYSTEM

Support the digital ecosystem
to develop physical and
payment infrastructure that
increase inclusion of those
most left behind

KEY STRATEGIC INSTRUMENTS



Customer
Centricity



Data and
Research



Stakeholder
Engagement



Expert Technical
Advice & Training



De-risking Financial
Instruments

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RFA Brief

RFA OBJECTIVE



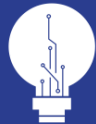
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UNCDF's digital market assessment of the RMG sector in Bangladesh reviewed opportunities for digitalization from both the enterprise and worker/household perspectives.

This RFA aims to build opportunities towards digitalization for improved livelihoods, particularly for women, and overall sustainability in the RMG sector in Bangladesh.

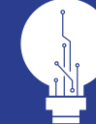
Solutions shall address one of the two areas of intervention:

Area -1



health, well-being, security, safety,
finance and digital, financial and skill
needs at the **worker and household**
level

Area -2



sustainability data reporting,
performance management, ESG
sustainability needs at the **enterprise**
level

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?



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- UNCDF grant contribution may range from US\$30,000 to US\$50,000 per applicant and may include technical assistance support and/or mentorship services to the applicants selected under this RFA.
- Specific projects will be financed based on business needs. Depending on the maturity of the solutions and the success of the pilot, UNCDF would be able to continue its support for the mobilization of investment capital such as loans and guarantees and further technical assistance.
- Applications will need to describe how applicants will deploy the grant and if any technical assistance or mentorship services are being sought.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA



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- The applicant/ lead applicant must be a registered entity
- The applicant can be based anywhere globally, but the project implementation and solution must focus on RMG sector digitalization in Bangladesh.
- If the applicant does not have regulatory approval to pilot the proposed solution in Bangladesh, the applicant must partner with a regulated institution in the country to deliver the solution.
- Joint applications between market players in Bangladesh are encouraged if the proposed solution will expand RMG sectors digitalization with a particular focus to benefit women.
- Applications from consortiums of organizations must show that the partnership was established prior to this call for applications or due to this call for application with a letter of intent.
- The lead applicant and their consortium partner must be registered entities with at least one year of operations and must have statutory accounts and audited financial statements for at least one operating year.
- Applicants may apply only once under this RFA, whether independently or in a consortium.
- The proposed solution must be implemented within a project duration of 9 months after the signature of the PBA and terminating not later than December 2022.
- Applicants must contribute at least 30 per cent of the project's cash costs (costs may include technical infrastructure, resources, and operations).

SUBMISSION PROCESS



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- Through filling out the form on the UNCDF e-investment 'Apply' platform.
- First an eligibility screening form is filled out. If eligible will proceed with filling out main application form, the option to fill this out will appear on the Application page if passing the eligibility screening form requirements.
- Please note you need to select 'Yes' on the question "Are you the Lead Applicant* responding to this RfA?" in the eligibility screening form otherwise the application becomes ineligible.
- Link to the application form here:
https://apply.uncdf.org/prog/rfa_bangladesh_ready-made_garment_innovative_digital_solutions/
- Submission deadline: 23 January 2022

AREA 1 POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS (list non-exhaustive)



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Flexible instalment-based smartphone purchases to increase access of RMG employees to digital infrastructure.

Savings products and long-term savings and pension products tailored to the job nature and socio-economic realities of RMG employees allowing flexible instalments and the option for emergency withdrawals.

Digital payment innovations in rent, food and groceries (including merchant payments), education fees and savings (including long-term savings and social protection).



Application of EdTech to educate on digital security topics including Mobile Financial Services (MFS) fraud, social media hacking, cyberbullying, blackmail and phishing, which would also help in building trust in digital services.

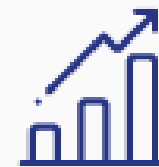
Learning programs and platforms on job skills and coping with IR 4.0 including reskilling and upskilling, soft management skills, English speaking, computer skills, health and nutrition and worker's rights programs.

Monthly subscription-based health and life insurance products with financial contributions from the employer or via a 'co-payer' model.



Value-Added Services (VAS) and other opportunities to promote Internet connectivity for RMG employees.

Integrations among DFS, HealthTech and EdTech services to develop new digital tools.



AREA 2 POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS (list non-exhaustive)



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Integrated sustainability data management systems to track social sustainability performance indicators at the enterprise, value chain and ecosystem levels. Blockchain technology can work as a trust layer, integrating data from varying sources and technologies (e.g. networked devices and machine ecosystems) for increased data integrity.



Integrated and organized sustainability data management systems that aid in integration of ESG sustainability metrics in credit ratings and development of more sustainability-linked financing options for manufacturers to increase the sector's sustainability.



Sustainability-linked financing instruments as incentives to improve on sustainability performance requiring low-cost, high-integrity, verified data on sustainability performance.



Integrated sustainability data management systems that allow manufacturers to manage and disclose sustainability data or for credit-providing institutions to provide sustainability-linked funds or use in credit assessments.

Digitize employee wages with proven enterprise- and employee-level benefits.



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Q&A

Please write your questions at
rfa.ide.asia@uncdf.org with the
subject name
RFA:RMG Bangladesh



Our Vision is to Promote Digital Economies that Leave no One Behind

Our goal is to develop inclusive digital economies that foster private sector development and support those most left behind towards economic inclusion and resilience.

THANK YOU