



Call for Investment Proposals for the Youth and Women Economic Empowerment Programme (YWEE) in Kigoma.

About UNCDF

The United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) is the UN's capital investment agency for the world's 48 least developed countries. With its capital mandate and instruments, UNCDF offers "last mile" finance models that unlock public and private resources, especially at the domestic level, to reduce poverty and support local economic development. In Tanzania, UNCDF is supporting initiatives designed to unlock the flow of domestic and private sector capital to invest in small and medium sized infrastructure projects needed to accelerate local economic development and private sector development. By strengthening how finance works at the local level, UNCDF contributes to SDG 1 (no poverty), 5 (gender equality), 7 (affordable and clean energy), 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure) and 17 (partnerships for the goals) on the means of implementation by identifying those market segments where innovative financing models can have transformational impact in helping reach the last mile and address exclusion and inequalities of access.

About the Programme

UNCDF is part of the Youth and Women Economic Empowerment (YWEE) Programme in Kigoma, which is an area-based joint planning and implementation effort under the United Nations Development Assistance Plan (2016 – 2021) for Tanzania (UNDAP II). The programme is implemented by UNCDF in collaboration with other UN agencies: UNDP, UNWomen, ILO, UNHCR, and ITC.

Call for Investment Proposals

With this Call for Proposals, UNCDF is inviting calls for **commercially viable** investment project proposals in the following focus areas:

- Women's economic empowerment
 - *Investment projects owned or developed by women or projects with large derived benefits accruing to women, e.g. small and medium sized infrastructure projects in our areas of focus (agro-processing, manufacturing and trade, climate resilience and clean energy, and public service delivery).*

- Youth Economic Empowerment and Entrepreneurship
 - *Investment projects managed, owned or developed by youth (young women and men at the age of 15- 34 years) which address challenges faced by youth such as employment and job creation, income generation, technical business skills, innovation, and entrepreneurship.*

Projects whose benefits accrue towards empowering youth and women include:

- Manufacturing and Agro-processing
 - *Agro-processing plants, storage facilities and any other agricultural value addition project.*
- Public service delivery infrastructure
 - *E.g. bus terminals, storage and market facilities, water infrastructure and waste management projects.*
- Trading
 - *Small and medium scale business entities that facilitate trade and market linkages within Kigoma; and between the region and neighbouring countries such as DR Congo and Burundi.*
- Climate resilience and clean energy
 - *Projects which improve the livelihood of women and households at large. These include renewable energy infrastructure projects such as on and off grid power generation, water reservoirs and agricultural dams which can support irrigation and commercial farming.*
- Local Economic Development
 - *Businesses that offer local government, the private sector, and local communities the opportunity to work together to improve the local economy by enhancing competitiveness, increasing sustainable growth and ensuring that growth is inclusive.*

What UNCDF under YWEE offers to developers

- Project development support
 - *Provide targeted technical project development and financing support to projects developers (e.g. enhanced project documentation, due diligence and financial structuring).*
 - *Prepare project investment documents in the format acceptable to commercial banks and investors.*
- Link developers to financial institutions and investors
 - *Support project developers in accessing funding from commercial and development finance institutions (e.g. identifying the right investor based on sector, size and type of finance required) and negotiate lending terms.*
 - *For qualified projects, UNCDF may provide seed capital (soft loans and reimbursable grants) based on unique project requirements and investment criteria.*

- *Provide credit enhancements and guarantee support e.g. partial loan guarantees for qualified projects which are eligible for borrowing from domestic financial institutions.*

Eligibility criteria

Proposals must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:

- **Geographical Coverage:** Developers whose projects are targeting and benefiting majority of youth and women throughout the Kigoma Region are encouraged to apply. Special consideration will be given to projects from the districts of **Kasulu, Kibondo and Kakonko**.
- **Focus areas:** Investment projects must fall within the focus areas of: Youth and Women economic empowerment, agro-processing and value addition, public service delivery infrastructure, manufacturing, trading, and climate resilience and clean energy.
- **Commercial viability:** The investment proposal must show how the project will generate revenue and make profits. Applications should therefore be supported by a detailed description of the cost and revenue streams associated with the project.
- **Development impact:** Proposal must show how the project will generate benefits to the communities affected, e.g. job creation, income generation, empowerment of disadvantaged groups (including women, youth and rural communities), trade and market access for agricultural produce.
- **Project status:** Project development activities must have passed a pre-feasibility stage beyond a concept note, i.e. proposals should include as a minimum a completed business plan and all initial compliance steps (e.g. licenses, permits, titles, etc). Priority will be given to existing projects that are looking for expansion.
- **Ownership:** The investment project must be promoted by either a public or private entity operating in Kigoma, Tanzania.
- **Project size:** Total project costs must be between **USD 50,000 and USD 20 million**.
- **Qualified management:** The proposal must show evidence that the proposed management team has the necessary technical and managerial skills to run the project.
- **Compliance:** Compliance with Tanzania laws and regulations and [UNDCF/UNDP Environmental & Social Performance Standards](#) including human rights is a must.

Selection criteria

Eligible projects will be selected for further consideration based on the following selection criteria:

- **Commercial viability:** Proposals that show ability to generate revenue and make profits will be given priority.
- **Developmental impact:** Priority will be given to proposals that show high development benefits accruing to affected communities, e.g. job creation, income generation, empowerment of disadvantaged groups including women and youth and rural populations, trade and market access for agricultural produce, etc.

Documentation

For applicants who will be shortlisted must be prepared to submit relevant documentation related to their businesses within 2 weeks.

Before you submit

UNCDF will offer a half-day session on Wednesday, 13th September 2017 in Kigoma Ujiji to guide applicants on submission requirements. The purpose of this session is to allow applicants an opportunity to raise questions and for UNCDF to provide guidance on how to prepare proposals to increase the probability of meeting the eligibility and selection criteria.

If you wish to participate, please send an email to local.finance@uncdf.org indicating “*YWEE Pre-submission workshop*” in the subject line of your email. You will only be allowed to participate in the workshop after receiving a confirmation email that you have been registered. Time and place will be communicated in due time to those who will request participation via email.

Please note that you are not required to participate in the session in order to submit a proposal. This is merely a courtesy provided by the UNCDF.

Instructions for submitting proposal

Only completed submissions as per the instructions given will be reviewed. A complete submission consists of the following two separate submission forms where the applicant must fill out all sections:

1. The Call for Proposal Submission Form (Word) which can be downloaded at www.uncdf.org/download/file/127/4099/2a-submissionkjpgyweeformworddocx
2. The Call for Proposal **Submission Form (Excel)** which can be downloaded at www.uncdf.org/download/file/127/4100/2b-submissionkjpgyweeformexcelxlsx

Any supporting documentation must be submitted in separate documents.

The two submission forms (Word and Excel) **must** be submitted in their original formats (Word and Excel) along with any supporting documentation to the following recipient: local.finance@uncdf.org. Only one application per entity and per proposal will be accepted.

Language of proposal: Proposals must be submitted in English

Deadline for submission: The deadline for submission of investment proposals is on 25th September 2017.

Please note: Applicants who do not submit both submission templates in their original formats within the deadline will not be considered, and only successful applicants will be

contacted within 3 weeks after the deadline. Those applicants who will not be contacted should consider their proposals unsuccessful.