

Key Information regarding the Specific Regional Call for Proposals with Launching Date 21.11.2022 by the Facility Investing for Employment (IFE)

IFE will launch a regional Call for Proposal with a submission deadline for Concept Notes at 22.12.2022. The table below summarizes the key information, milestones and time frames with respect to this Call for Proposals.

Specific conditions for applications are outlined in the **Guidelines for Applicants**. Please study this document thoroughly to check whether your entity and project fulfils these conditions. Please submit an application only in case your intended project is mature enough to fulfil all requirements spelt out in the guidelines for applicants and in the online grant application system. Otherwise consider a submission at the next submission opportunity, which will possibly be provided in the June 2023. An official announcement will be made once the next submission date has been determined.

To be able to submit an application, applicants have to register on the online system SmartME: <https://smartme.adalia.fi/login/IFE>

| Overview Info | Notes / Guidance | Dates / Timelines |
|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Call ID Number | During the applicant process, each applicant will be assigned a unique applicant number beginning with this Call ID number. | n/a |
| Countries | Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Morocco ¹ , Rwanda, Senegal, Tunisia | n/a |
| Sector | The Call for Proposal is open to all sectors | n/a |
| Language | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English for Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana and Rwanda French for Ivory Coast, Morocco, Senegal and Tunisia Submissions in other languages will not be considered for evaluation. | n/a |
| Call for Proposals Launch Date | From this date, you can log into SmartME, fill out and submit the application | 21.11.2022 |
| Webinars | Questions & Answer sessions about IFE and on the Call for Proposal will be organized, which can be attended by interested applicants free of charge | will be published at launching date |

¹ still in preparation

| Overview Info | Notes / Guidance | Dates / Timelines |
|--|--|---|
| Deadline for Submission of Questions | Questions submitted after this date will not be answered | will be published at launching date |
| Concept Note submission deadline | This is the cut-off date for submission of proposals. IFE will not consider late submissions. | 22.12.2022 |
| Concept Note Evaluation process | Information provided in the Concept Note will be verified, including potentially through site visits. This evaluation process establishes a shortlist to invite for a Full Project Proposal. | Approximately 8 weeks |
| Full Project Proposal Formulation Period | The shortlisted candidates will be invited to develop and submit an in-depth Full Project Proposal via SmartME | approx.7 weeks |
| Full Project Proposal Evaluation process | Assessment of Full Project Proposals through an in-depth Due Diligence process on the applications. The timeframe depends on project complexity, time required for site visits, etc. | depending among other aspects on the clarity and accuracy of the Proposal |
| Contracting Period | Finalisation of a Grant Agreement including all required supplements such as the disbursement plan and project's implementation plan | Approximately 4-6 weeks |

Key conditions and principles at a glance

| Aspect | Brief Description | relevant chapter |
|--|---|------------------|
| Project categories and max. IFE co-financing share | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Non-for profit without revenue generation (grant proportion max. 90 %) 2. Non-for profit with revenue generation (grant proportion max. 75%) 3. For profit and creation of jobs mainly at 3rd party entities (grant proportion max. 35%) 4. For profit and creation of jobs mainly at applicant's entity (grant proportion max. 25%) <p>Please note: For non-for-profit projects (Cat. 1 and 2) it must be proved that all assets co-financed by the IFE will belong irrevocable to a non-profit entity and that potential revenues / profits generated by the project will be re-invested and not be distributed to and public or private entities or persons</p> | Chapter 2 |
| Key Performance Indicators (KPI) | IFE targets the following KPI: | Annex 1 |

| Aspect | Brief Description | relevant chapter |
|------------------------------|---|------------------|
| | <p>KPI 1: Number of new jobs created either at the applicant's entity/ies and/or at 3rd party entities</p> <p>KPI 2: Number of improved working conditions for existing employees</p> <p>KPI 3: Number of employees benefitting from vocational/further qualification measures</p> <p>Please note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jobs at 3rd party entities can only be counted in case these are created as a direct result of the investment Jobs created thanks to improved general socio-economic framework conditions cannot be counted, even if these improvements are an indirect effect of the project Training centers that only offer skills training but do not show a demonstrated link to direct new job creation, are not eligible Applicants have the obligation to monitor and to prove the jobs created following the completion of the investment phase and start of the operation phase during 3 years! | |
| Eligible applicants | Public entities, private companies, non-governmental organisations, civil society organisations etc. | Chapter 2 |
| Requirement for applicants | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 3 years of relevant experiences (except recently registered entities in the country of call, which are an investee of an individual applicant or any of the consortium members) and sound financial standing. Compliance with international standards regarding environmental and social aspects, procurement rules etc. Compliance with specific IFE related conditions, such as regular reporting, monitoring of job creation etc. | Chapter 3 |
| General Project requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Job creation potential at least 125 new jobs per 1 million grant All jobs must be new and good jobs at the private sector Project must prove additionality Project must not cause market distortion | Chapter 4 |
| Additionality | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicants must prove that the potential IFE grant is absolutely necessary for the implementation of the project and that all other alternative financing options (loans or | Annex 5 |

| Aspect | Brief Description | relevant chapter |
|---------------------------|---|------------------|
| | equity) have been explored (in particular important for projects in Cat. 3 and 4) | |
| Grant size | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Between min. 1 Mill EUR and max. 10 Mill. EUR | Chapter 5.1 |
| Own contribution | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always required Cash and in-kind contributions eligible Min. cash 15% of total own contribution required | Chapter 5.2 |
| Eligible expenditures | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only costs occurring during investment phase No recurrent costs | Chapter 5.3 |
| Selection procedure | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Call for Proposals | Chapter 6 |
| Project development stage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects must be at a mature stage of development, to be demonstrated by presentation of (pre-)feasibility and marketing studies, cost quotations, (pre-)agreements regarding funding plan etc. Projects at an idea stage will not be accepted. Projects, which are already in implementation, are not eligible | Chapter 6.2 |

Need more information?

IFE will host webinars explaining the terms and conditions for applying. The specific dates will be published at the launching date.

Please consult our FAQ section covering questions and answers from previous Calls for Proposals here: <https://invest-for-jobs.com/en/ife-faq>

In addition, questions can be submitted during the submission period only in writing and only to the following email address: cfp.regional@ife-invest.com.

Questions submitted via another means of communication or channels are not receivable.

Questions and their respective answers will be published on a specific website during the submission period (website will be announced and available at the launching date).