

The Facility « Investing for Employment » announces the launch of the first official call for proposals in Rwanda

Press Release

Kigali, 22 February 2021



Today, many African countries have dynamic economies that offer excellent investment opportunities. However, additional support is needed to overcome local challenges and stimulate job-creating activities.

Over the past decade, Rwanda has managed to implement important economic and structural reforms and to maintain steady economic growth.

Rwanda aims to become a middle-income economy by 2035, and to join the high-income countries by 2050. The government intends to achieve this ambition through the "National Strategy for Transformation 2017 - 2024", which is based on detailed sectoral plans geared towards achieving sustainable development goals.

Rwanda was in the midst of an economic boom before the emergence of COVID-19. Economic growth had surpassed the 10 per cent mark by 2019, mainly as a result of large public investments made to implement the National Strategy for Transformation. Projections showed that this dynamic would continue in 2020. However, as everywhere else, the COVID-19 pandemic dampened the Rwandan economy seriously.

The Facility « Investing for Employment » (IFE) is an investment facility created by KfW Development Bank (KfW) on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) as an integral part of the Special Initiative on Training and Job Creation. Operating under the brand Invest for Jobs, the Special Initiative aims to create good jobs and apprenticeships and to improve working conditions in its partner countries in Africa: Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt (in preparation), Ethiopia, Ghana, Morocco, Senegal, Tunisia and Rwanda.

To reach this goal, IFE awards co-financing grants ranging from **1 million EUR to 10 million EUR** per project through a competitive application process. The first call for proposals in Rwanda will be launched on **1 April 2021 at 5 pm CET** seeking applications for four types of projects:

1. Public Infrastructure for job creation (covers up to 90 % of the cost)
2. Common service for job creation (covers up to 75 % of the cost)

3. Projects that foster direct job creation which have benefits/impacts more broadly than solely for the project owners (covers up to 50 % of the cost)
4. Projects that foster direct job creation by companies (covers up to 25 % of the cost).

Green economy is also one of the key elements that applicants will have to take into account. Rwanda's commitment to the environment has not hindered its growth, quite the contrary. Rwanda's policy in the green economy sector is contained in the 'Green Growth and resilience climate strategy', launched in 2011. This strategy aims to integrate climate change into all sectors of the national economy.

The evaluation of the projects will be carried out by the Facility IFE. The evaluation process covers a first pre-selection stage based on submitted concept notes and a second phase of a detailed project proposal evaluation.

IFE invites companies and other interested organisations, whether public or private, as well as consortia to submit concept notes as soon as the **call for proposals opens on 1 April 2021 at 5 pm CET**.

Due to the corona pandemic (COVID-19), information meetings will be organised online, presenting the objectives of the facility, its conditions for submitting proposals, as well as the steps and modalities of participation, the eligibility of projects and the evaluation criteria of the submitted concept notes.

For more information about the Facility « Investing for Employment »:

<https://invest-for-jobs.com/en/investing-for-employment>

For more information about the Special Initiative on Training and Job Creation:

<https://invest-for-jobs.com/en>

We are looking forward to hearing from you!

For general enquiries regarding the Special Initiative and the Facility « Investing for Employment » :

info@invest-for-jobs.com

For enquiries about the call for proposals:

cfp-ife.rwanda@invest-for-jobs.com