

INVESTMENT FOR INDUSTRIAL TRANSFORMATION AND EMPLOYMENT (INVITE) PROJECT

Export Firm Support (EFS) Sub-Component

Project ID No: P171607

CALL FOR PROPOSALS – ROUND 2

Background

The Government of Uganda – represented by the Ministry of Finance and Planning and Economic Development (MoFED) in collaboration with the International Development Association (IDA) and other development partners including the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and Sweden – is implementing the Investment for Industrial Transformation and Employment (INVITE) project which is being financed by the IDA and a Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF).

More details on the project can be found at www.invite.go.ug

The Project comprises four components and is being implemented jointly by Bank of Uganda (BoU) and Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU). Among the four components is the Enhancing Capabilities in Public Institutions and Private Firms under which is the export firm support (EFS)

The EFS is being implemented by the Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU) and seeks to support existing and potential exporters to meet consumer demand through specialized technical assistance and capacity-building activities.

ESF Objective

To boost Ugandan firm exports in value-added manufactured products to regional and high-income markets by supporting firms to enter new export markets or expand their presence through upgrading firms' organizational and production capacities to deliver to the demand of foreign buyers.

Eligibility Criteria

The Export Firm Support (EFS) is open to **ONLY** formal private enterprises, legally established and operating in Uganda, with established business interests in the targeted **manufacturing** sector.

To obtain support, the enterprise must fulfill the following conditions:

- 1) Be formally registered and operating under the laws of Uganda.

- 2) Having been in operation for at least 1 year.
- 3) Employing more than 2 people
- 4) With some initial demonstrated capacity for exporting with room for additional growth
- 5) If Enterprise is currently not-exporting, it must at least have exported once in the last 3 years.
- 6) If Enterprise is currently exporting, it must demonstrate interest in increasing its market share or exporting new products.
- 7) Commodity exporters are not eligible.

Eligible activities

The EFS will among others support qualifying Enterprises to access specialized services envisaged to make a significant contribution towards targeted actions and fulfilling the sub-component objective. The eligible activities and services include but are not limited to the following:

- i) Export market identification and segmentation
- ii) Product design and adaptation
- iii) Product branding, packaging, and labelling
- iv) Production
- v) Installation of standards
- vi) Target market required standards and certifications.
- vii) Relevant training including market intelligence to target export market.
- viii) Regional and international exhibition/shows.

Financial Support

The EFS will provide financial support by reimbursing 80% of the cost of the activity in a range of US\$4,000 and US\$10,000 per activity depending on the exporting needs of the firm.

The Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU) now invites eligible enterprises to submit proposals requesting for funding support under the EFS Sub-component.

How to apply

- Visit the INVITE online platform on www.invite.go.ug and fill in the application under the EFS.
- Only online applications are accepted.

Submission deadline

Applications must be submitted not later than **5:00pm** on Friday **February 28, 2025**.

Disqualification warning

Enterprises may be disqualified from the process if among others they are:

- 1) Non-compliant with the application guidelines
- 2) Found guilty of mis-representation of information
- 3) Involved in lobbying and influence peddling.
- 4) Involved in acts of fraud and corruption.
- 5) Non-compliant with environment and social practices.

Please note:

1. Eligible Enterprises can only apply for **one** activity per **call**
2. EFS does not support entities involved in the alcohol, tobacco, weapons, and gambling sector.

For inquiries, please contact:

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