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BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP FACILITY (BPF) – CALL FOR PROJECTS « ENTERPRISES FOR SDGS »

SELECTION CRITERIA

February 2023

As set out in the regulations of the call for projects, the selection of projects will take place in two phases: a pre-selection phase, conducted together with the DGD and the KBF, secondly the final selection by an independent jury.

All eligible applications are assessed according to:

1. Project management

- Efficiency: the ratio between overhead costs and the overall budget will be used to calculate the efficiency of the project. Projects with high overhead costs will not be retained.
- Experience and capacities of the beneficiary: the beneficiary must be able to show through a simplified business plan that it has sufficient resources (both human and financial) to implement the project.

2. Economic viability

- Economic self-sustainability: projects must show how they will become financially independent, without future grants or subsidies.
- Additionality: the role of the BPF as a catalyst must be shown. The BPF supplies a limited grant in terms of time and money. This is additional to the capital mobilised and lowers the risk for the private investor. Moreover, the principle of the untying of aid, as set out in Belgian law relating to cooperation, will always be verified.
- Innovation, replicability and scalability: priority will be given to innovative projects. The innovative dimension will be evaluated both in terms of the product (characteristics, functions and performance of the products/services) as well as in terms of processes (the manner in which the products are made or delivered, e.g. manufacture, distribution and product or service support). Initiatives must be replicable and scalable.
- Impact on the sector or market: subsidized projects must create a clear and sustainable change from the current operation. The actors involved will have increased their capacities



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(scaling-up) at the end of the subsidized phase, including to access external large financing if necessary.

3. Social and environmental impact

- Effects the project will have on development: the expertise and financial means, contributed by the private sector as part of partnerships, bringing change that contributes to one or more Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).P
- Synergy and complementarity with other actors: projects that show proof of complementarity and synergy with other existing projects and/or with actors and partners of the Belgian development cooperation will be favoured.
- Prioriy themes.
The project has to focus on one of these priority themes:

- Climate, environment and biodiversity
This includes projects that facilitate the transition to sustainable and renewable energy for businesses, promote access to adequate, affordable and sustainable energy services for the population, promote sustainable agricultural techniques, encourage access to bio- and environmental certification, promote the reuse of goods and waste treatment, etc. Candidate projects may also respond to the environmental changes that are already affecting their environment by adapting their (production) processes to limit the impact of these changes.
- Gender and female entrepreneurship
Special attention will be given to projects and enterprises led by women, creating real employment opportunities for girls and women, promoting equal treatment and remuneration for women and men, strengthening the position of women in the family and in society, offering products that meet the specific needs of girls and women in the context in which they live, ...
- Decent work and social protection
In pursuit of these objectives, initiatives will be supported which strive to ensure a fair and viable income for workers and/or suppliers (farmers, etc.), promote fair trade, foster safety at work, stimulate the creation of social protection systems, etc.