

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FUND (SDF) CALL FOR GRANT PROPOSALS

The Government of Rwanda received an additional credit and grant from the World Bank for the implementation of the skills development under the Rwanda Priority Skills for Growth (PSG) Program. The Skills Development Fund II Additional Finance (SDF II AF) main objective is to minimize the skills gap experienced by private business operators by rapidly increasing the supply of skills in high demand in the labour market and to ease the entry of new entrants to the labour market by providing them with the labour market-relevant skills.

It is against this background that, Rwanda TVET Board (RTB) is launching a call for proposal for grant competition for the following 3 windows under SDF II A F:

- Window 1: Rapid Response Training (RRT) and Skills Upgrading for existing workers;**
- Window 2: Out-of-School Youth;**
- Window 3: Apprenticeships, internships, Skills Upgrading for Informal sector, and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).**

Window 1: Rapid Response Training and Skills Upgrading for existing workers.

The objective of this window is to address skills gaps experienced by companies in the formal sector and to promote their collaborations with training institution. The applicants will be an existing company or an investor who are planning to hire new employees for at least one year or upgrade skills of existing employees to support their business.

The training duration for this window is ranging from few days to not more than six months. The grant size cannot exceed 70% of the total cost of the planned training activities, i.e., the grantee must contribute at least 30% of the costs in kind.

Window 2: Out-of-School Youth

The objective of this window is to provide out-of-school youth with practical skills for work in labour-intensive trades that align them with local demand and opportunities, the intervention of this window is short-term practical training for Massive Vocational Training (MVT).

Both non-agricultural and agricultural courses are eligible for support. The training may include an introduction to basic entrepreneurial skills. The funds may be used for acquiring basic tools and equipment needed for the training. The training duration for this intervention is six months (*3 months in the training institution and 3 months at workplace (company/industry)*). And the institution must have a Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with companies/Industries to host the interns after 3 months of training at TVET Centre.

Window 3: Apprenticeships and Internships

This section has four types of training interventions, namely “*apprenticeships, internships, Skills Upgrading for Informal Sector and Recognition of Prior Learning*”. The purpose of this window is to provide beneficiaries with an opportunity to acquire labour market relevant skills, to allow people who have acquired their competences through informal or non-formal training to get certified through Recognition of Prior Learning and also this window will co-finance skills upgrading courses for the informal sector.

Eligible applicants for this window are supposed to be companies/industries; training institutions and informal sectors (Professional associations, Federations, Cooperatives, NGOs and trade unions). Accredited TVET institutions should have an MoU with relevant companies/industries to host the interns for internships programme. The training duration for this window is ranging from few days to not more than six months.

The implementation of skills upgrading for the informal sector and RPL will be mainly done by RTB in collaboration with Private sector/professional associations/trade unions/ federations/ NGOs/ Cooperatives.

In selecting the best applicants to benefit from the grant, priority will be strictly accorded to the training areas (Trades) in the selected priority sectors only:

Hospitality & Tourism, ICT (specifically internet of things, software development, cell phone repair, programming, coding and online learning), Digital Skills (including basic level of digital skills and virtual bootcamps), Agriculture (specifically horticulture & aquaculture), Manufacturing (excluding garment manufacturing and tailoring), Energy, Transport and Logistics, Construction (specifically training of advanced technology in construction), Mining and Other sectors with a demonstrated need for skills upgrading.

The interested applicants are requested to download and fill the application forms specific for applied window available on the SDF Rwanda website: www.sdfwanda.rw. The signed and scanned applications and attachments will be submitted to the following email address: sdfwanda@gmail.com with a copy to: info@rtb.gov.rw not later than **12th February 2021, 00:00 AM**. For more information about application and selection criteria and procedures you can access the SDF Operational Manual on the SDF Rwanda website: www.sdfwanda.rw and for more clarifications please call: +250 783 558 414

Note: No hard documents will be received.

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