

Construction Ideas Fund Window 2: Skills Development for Construction¹ Term & Conditions	
1	Goal of Construction Ideas Fund <p>The goal of the Construction Ideas Fund (“the Fund”) is to support systemic changes within the construction sector in Nigeria by demonstrating innovative ways that businesses and their partners can work with and for the poor. These changes to perceptions and practices will multiply the impact of funding given to projects and contribute to improved performance of the sector as a whole, while providing direct benefits to low-income market participants.</p>
2	Issues of the market <p>Publicly funded TVET facilities are not providing enough skilled graduates, while there are limited private providers in the construction skills training market. Employers are cautious of investing in training for informal (and temporary) workers, while workers themselves do not have access to appropriately located, priced, and certified training services.</p>
3	Intended outputs <p>A greater provision of skills training to informal workers by private sector training providers. The establishment of partnerships between construction firms, training providers and financial institutions leading to the development of commercially viable training services.</p>
4	Regions of implementation <p>The Fund will initially be implemented in Abuja, Lagos, Kano and Kaduna States. Bids will be accepted from entities that have operations in these areas.</p>
5	Sectoral/Industry Focus <p>Businesses engaged in the delivery of construction skills training, or partnerships or consortia with the lead company engaged in the delivery of construction skills training. The Fund expects partnerships or consortia to include: training providers, construction companies, membership associations and financial institutions.</p>
6	Type of funding available <p>Grants for eligible organisations and projects. Funding decisions are made on a competitive, deadline-driven basis by an independent assessment panel. Only the best applications will receive funding.</p>
7	Size of grants available <p>Grants will be available for between £50,000 and £250,000.</p>
8	Implementation period <p>Projects can run for up to 25 months.</p>
9	Construction Ideas Fund and applicants contributions <p>Applicants must contribute their own resources to the project, bearing at least 50% of the total project cost. These contributions can be made both in cash and in-kind.</p> <p>The grant awarding Panel will take into consideration the contributions of each applicant when deciding between applications. Preference may be given to higher applicant contributions.</p>

¹ The Fund may adjust these Terms from time-to-time at its own discretion in order to sharpen the focus of the Fund, also to maximise the effectiveness of funded projects in achieving the purpose and objectives of the Fund.

<p>10 Projects eligible for funding</p>	<p>To be eligible for funding, projects must meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project will contribute to improved incomes, livelihoods, and opportunities for poor participants in the construction sector. • The project will involve a product, service, system or procedure that is innovative, and is unlikely to be addressed by the private sector without the support of the Fund. • The project will result in improvements in the performance of the sector. • The project will be sustainable, or result in sustainable impact, after the grant has been utilized • The project is unlikely to be supported by other commercial sources of finance. • The funding provided by the Fund will be utilised within 25 months. • The project will not create unfair competition or otherwise distort markets. • The project will measure impact against targets, and have a method of forecasting and setting targets – for example, the number of participants trained and quality improvement.
<p>11 Entities eligible to apply</p>	<p>Applicants (or lead applicants if in consortia or partnership) must meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registered and operating in Nigeria (whether domestic or foreign owned, or a joint venture) in compliance with relevant business licensing, taxation, employee and other relevant regulations in Nigeria. • A for-profit (intending to generate a return for shareholders/members) private sector or joint venture enterprise or State Owned Enterprise that operates commercially and without Government subsidy. • In satisfactory financial health (in terms of being a “going concern” as defined by the Fund), and able to show at least two years of unqualified audited accounts. • Adequate resources to implement the project within the agreed timeframe. • Be willing to participate in lesson learning and lesson sharing activities, monitoring and evaluation activities, and share project data with the Fund. <p>Note: Business Membership Organisations and associations, training institutions, Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) are eligible to apply for funding, provided they are in a consortium/partnership led by an eligible private or public sector business.</p>

<p>12</p>	<p>Application procedures</p>	<p>Applications for funding will be assessed through a two-stage application process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first stage involves submission of a simple Concept Note which will outline the project and applicant and demonstrate that they meet the eligibility criteria. • Concept Notes will be reviewed by the Fund Manager, and those that meet the eligibility criteria will be assessed against the Concept Note appraisal criteria. • Applicants that have submitted a Concept Note that satisfies the eligibility criteria and the appraisal criteria will be invited in stage two to develop an Application setting out the full business case for the proposed project. • Applications will be reviewed and successful applicants will be granted funding. <p>Note: Applicants can submit more than one Concept Note but Applications will be limited to one per applying organisation.</p> <p>A successful Concept Note does not in any way imply that the subsequent Application will be funded.</p> <p>Applications will be appraised and approved or otherwise for funding by an independent assessment panel. The panel's decision is final.</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>Appraisal Criteria for Concept Notes</p>	<p>Concept Notes are first screened for eligibility. Only Concept Notes for eligible projects and from eligible applying organisations will be appraised on the extent to which they satisfy the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The likely improvement in incomes, livelihoods and economic and market access opportunities for low-income groups. • The number of people likely to benefit from the project. • The commercial viability and sustainability of the project and enhanced competitiveness of the applicant. • The potential for project replication. • The level of innovation in the project approach. • The likely contribution to improvements in the performance of the sector. • The sustainability of the project or its impact after the grant has been utilised.

14	Appraisal Criteria for Applications	<p>Applications will be appraised by the panel on the extent to which they satisfy the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The quality of the business case and implementation plan including assessment of the risks involved. • The existing internal capability and capacity of the applicant and its personnel to implement the project in the timeframe set out in the bid • The level of new private sector resources mobilised (directly from the applicant, and indirectly as a result of the project); • The extent to which inputs, results and impacts are clearly defined, measurable and achievable. • The benefits arising from the project and the likelihood they will be achieved.
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