



The Incubator for Integration and Development in East Africa (IIDEA)

“Integration Made Real for Citizens”

Project Eligibility and Selection Criterion

PURPOSE

This project eligibility and selection criterion provides guidelines for decision making in the selection of the innovative project applications under the Incubator for Integration and Development in East Africa (The IIDEA).

PROJECT ASSESSMENT

All IIDEA applications will go through the following assessment:

1. **Basic Eligibility Check:** In the first instance, the innovative project applications will be subjected to a basic eligibility check. If the application does not meet the entire basic eligibility criterion it will not progress to the next appraisal step.
2. **Full Project Appraisal and Scoring:** The proposed innovative project proposals will be appraised and scored against the following criteria;
 - (a) They will be appraised and scored based on their level of alignment to the IIDEA project concept, priority and theme specific selection criteria. (100 points); and
 - (b) They will be appraised and scored according to a generic selection criteria – efficiency, relevance, effectiveness and the cross cutting themes. (100 points);
 - (c) Once appraisal and scoring is complete, applications will be presented to the Regional Dialogue Committee for final assessment and decision on the applications.

1. Basic Eligibility Check

The following basic eligibility criteria must be met by all innovative project applications:

- (a) Submit a duly filled out standard project application form with a short cover letter summarizing the project proposal (maximum 500 words);
- (b) The proposed innovative projects should be cross-border in nature and should involve stakeholders from at least two EAC Partner States (**refer to “who is eligible”**). The stakeholders’ willingness to collaborate and engage in the project must be fully demonstrated in the application;
- (c) The proposed innovative projects should practically demonstrate concrete and tangible benefits of social and economic development integration to the citizens of the EAC Partner States by addressing one or more of the four freedoms under the EAC Common Market Protocol namely; free movement of workers; free movement of goods; free movement of services; and free movement of capital. The following examples of interventions are not eligible for funding; sensitization and or training of citizens on the above mentioned areas;
- (d) Applications must be submitted before the stipulated deadline.

2. Full Project Appraisal and Scoring



Each of the proposed innovative projects will be fully appraised and scored against the following criteria.

- (a) The proposed innovative project must provide evidence of how it will contribute to the overall objective of the IIDEA Project. The overarching objective of the IIDEA is the promotion of a people centred and market driven EAC integration process. The project is in line with the 4th East African Community development strategy (www.eac.int) and the development-policy guidelines of the German Ministry for Economic Development and Cooperation (www.bmz.de) and contributes to promotion of regional integration in East Africa. (20 points)
- (b) The applicants must provide evidence of how the proposed innovative project contributes to their chosen priority topic and theme to be picked from one of the IIDEA priority topics and themes (trade, agriculture, health, education, peace & security, culture, innovation and ICT). The project must contribute to one of the above priority topics and themes. (20 points)

Generic selection criteria – efficiency, relevancy, effectiveness and cross-cutting themes

The proposed innovative projects will further be appraised and scored on the basis of meeting a generic selection criteria which will assess their efficiency, relevancy, effectiveness and how appropriately they address the cross cutting themes as follows; (160 points);

- (i) **Impact on citizens in the region** (Projects must demonstrate real life East African integration experiences, opportunities and communicate the tangible outcomes for citizens);
- (ii) **Value for Money:** The proposed innovative projects must be realistically costed and have the capacity to promote positive perception amongst citizens of the EAC Partner States on the EAC integration process. Projects may build on previous or existing cross border activities and lessons learnt. The intended (non-monetary) benefits of the project should be higher than its estimated costs;
- (iii) **Need/Justification:** The need and justification for the proposed innovative project must be well established and described. Any relevant research should be included to show how the project links with or complements Partner States' efforts to promote the EAC integration process;
- (iv) **Shared ownership and equally committed capacities:** Since IIDEA projects are collaborative initiatives between stakeholders from at least two EAC partner States, the collaborating partners must take ownership for the project, share its risk and equally commit resources (human capacity and time);
- (v) **Shared values and organizational capability:** Applying organizations/partners should have a history of engaging in socially responsible practices, provide proof of solid financial practices and background including the necessary management capacity to fulfil its foreseen role in the future project. Providing references from their previous or current development partners is highly encouraged.
- (vi) **Communication Strategy:** The proposed innovative project must demonstrate clear strategies for communicating and publicizing the activities, outcomes and impacts of the project and their on the citizens;
- (vii) **Contribution to cross cutting themes.** The proposed innovative project must contribute to the cross cutting themes of the programme, key amongst them:-**Gender and marginalised groups** (promote the involvement and participation of the marginalized groups and gender mainstreaming); **Sustainable Development** (Projects must illustrate financial, operational,



- environmental and social sustainability); **Partnership** (Projects must demonstrate the involvement of the relevant stakeholder groups in the preparation and implementation of the project); **Conflict sensitivity:** (Projects should facilitate the participation and integration of different interest groups and should contribute to conflict mitigation when necessary. The project should be in line with the “do-no-harm” approach);
- (viii) **Replication of project:** The project must demonstrate potential for replication in other contexts in the EAC region and it should not contravene existing national policies and legal provisions;

PROJECT SELECTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Scoring System

All projects will be scored out of 200 points. The quality threshold is 130 points or 65%. Projects that do not score at least 65% of the total points available will not be considered for support. A score equivalent to 65% or above does not guarantee funding, as shortlisted applications will be scored and ranked and a finite amount of funding will then be allocated to the highest ranked projects.

Project Selection

The Regional Dialogue Committee, the EAC Secretariat and GIZ will evaluate the fully developed and submitted Project Idea(s) as per the outlined criteria. Only short-listed Project Ideas will make it to the next step. The short-listed applicant organizations will be contacted within weeks with the decision and information on the next steps.

Contracting

As a basis for implementation, Local Subsidy Contracts will be signed between GIZ and the partners implementing each of the selected projects. The contracts will be prepared and implemented in line with the financial rules and procedures of GIZ.

Implementation

The selected projects will start according to an agreed upon Operation Plan to be drawn by the stakeholders. The stipulated timeline for each Project is a minimum of **6 months, and a maximum of 12 months**. All project related activities must however be completed before December 2018.

Throughout the project implementation phase, regular financial and narrative reporting to EAC-GIZ is mandatory. The reporting must be in line with the project’s Operation & Results Plan and M&E system.

Communication

Constant communication and publicizing of the project activities is an integral part of the project, and as such, the project implementers must regularly provide communication materials such as photos, videos, interviews clips and reports, articles, success stories etc. from their project implementation activities.



Capacity development

A team of experts helps you and your partner organization(s) to review the Project Concept, Operation Plan, Budget, M&E System and Communication Plan.

Standard forms includes: Project Concept, Operation & Results Plan, Budget, M&E System and Communication Plan.

Who is eligible?

IIDEA Projects are set to be implemented through national organizations with regional programmes/cross border initiatives which benefits at least two EAC Partner States. Applicants with a partner from another EAC Partner State other than their own country will have added advantage.

The eligible organizations should be drawn from registered national civil society organizations (CSOs), business organizations and or associations, sector associations, media organizations, service providers, or any other registered constellation of groups that operate across borders and/or regionally in the East African Community. Youth organizations and or associations are particularly encouraged to apply. It is important that applicants have enough capacities to commit to the project in terms of human capacity and time resources.

Applicants are invited to submit their innovative project proposals to iidea@eachq.org with a copy to eac-germancooperation@giz.de by latest 31st July 2016.

***There is no right for funding through EAC-GIZ or IIDEA. All projects are evaluated according to a fixed set of criteria, and the final funding decision is made by EAC-GIZ.**