



## **REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA) NUMBER: RFA-USADF/SKF-24-1**

The United States African Development Foundation (USADF), in partnership with the Stanbic Kenya Foundation (SKF), invites applications from small and medium enterprises, cooperatives, and producer groups for grant financing and local support to help them address gaps in their internal systems and capabilities to 100% meet investment requirements by commercial investors.

**Applications will only be accepted from registered private entities operating in Kenya.**

### **Maximum Award US \$25,000**

To be considered for grant funding, the Applicant must demonstrate that:

- It has had basic functional management and financial controls for a minimum of 2 years.
- It has been using financial institutions for all its business transactions for the last 12 months. Money transfer statements can be used to back up the bank statements.
- It has in the past applied for commercial investment and met some (if not most) of the financing requirements, but the application was denied due to internal systems and capabilities gaps.
- It has paid all taxes to the relevant authorities in a timely manner.
- It is legally registered and has fixed premises for the business operations.
- It has capacity to make at least 50% contribution towards the cost of implementing activities under the grant funding.
- For group-owned enterprises/cooperatives, the applicant must demonstrate that it has successfully worked together for a minimum of two years, has the capability to effectively use grants funds, and the membership is in agreement on the challenges to be addressed with the grant funding and has a commitment to benefit its community.
- It is 100% Africa-owned and -managed.
- Special consideration will be given to applications that incorporate innovative strategies and make use of new approaches and technologies.
- Special consideration will also be given to women-owned enterprises and applications that promote youth.

### **Successful applicants must**

- Complete the standard USADF/SKF application form.
- Have a clearly identified and well-defined problem that can be addressed with the grant funding to make the enterprise investment ready.
- Be able to identify a path for growth after the USADF/SKF grant ends with a clear investment plan.
- Be able to contribute at least 50% of the total cost of addressing the identified problem.
- Have a clearly defined market opportunity to grow revenues that can increase incomes.
- If selected, be willing to comply with minimum funds usage, routine monitoring, reporting and full disclosure requirements applicable to the grant.
- If selected, be willing to share details and evidence of why their past application for commercial investment was declined.
- If selected, be willing to provide a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) available on Sam.gov.  
If selected, the SME will be asked to demonstrate their social, economic, and environmental impacts.

**For more details about USADF and SKF as well as application form, go to:**

[www.usadf.gov/apply/](http://www.usadf.gov/apply/) or [www.stanbicbank.co.ke](http://www.stanbicbank.co.ke)

As part of the selection process, shortlisted SMEs will be invited to pitch. Potential applicants are therefore encouraged to view the following videos before making their applications. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9cdNpmrxjI4&t=6s> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2z0ily39iGE> Also, please keep an eye out on social media for additional follow-up information.

Submit your application form and all relevant attachments as spelled out in the application form to [usadfskf@usadf.gov](mailto:usadfskf@usadf.gov) by June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. Applications received after this date will not be considered. **If you will not have heard from us by August 31, 2024, consider your application unsuccessful.**