



INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY

REQUEST FOR APPLICATION- 001-RFA-2024

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION (FAQ)

Q: When does the grant opportunity open?

A: The grant opportunity opens when CDF/IEEA publishes the funding opportunity solicitation (001-RFA-2024) on the CDF webpage at <https://kcdf.org/> and CDF Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/CommunityDevelopmentFund>.

Q: What is the maximum amount of award that an eligible MSME can receive?

A: The awards will be up to USD 10,000.

Q: Who can apply for this solicitation?

A: MSMEs legally registered in Kosovo owned by members of Serbian community are eligible to apply in accordance with the RFA eligibility requirements.

Q: What is the process for applying for a grant?

A: The process for applying for a grant is as follows:

- Applicant submits the Full Grant Application(FGA)
- CDF/IEEA Grant Selection Committee evaluates FGA & Budget
- The project team will conduct a site visit to the applicant.
- If the Full Grant Application is successful, CDF/IEEA and Applicant enter into a grant agreement (**subject to USAID approval**)
- Grant Activity Implementation
- Grant Completion/Closing

Q: Explain the eligibility requirements for this solicitation?

A: Eligible applicants must be MSMEs from the Serbian community, legally registered in Kosovo, active for more than one year, that can demonstrate their ability to contribute to the objectives of the IEEA and perform the award accordingly with USAID and CDF policies and practices. They must also display sound financial, administrative, and technical management in the form of a system of controls that safeguards assets and protects against fraud and waste. Additionally, they must support the achievement of the awards objectives and have a satisfactory performance record and record of business integrity and ethicality.

Q: What are the objectives of the IEEA?

A: The IEEA aims to empower and revive women- and minority-owned micro, small, and medium enterprises impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. The solicitation is seeking creative technical approaches and methodologies that can support these objectives.



Q: What is the deadline for submitting the FGA?

A: The closing date for the submission of **FGAs** is **June 28, 2024, CoB 16:00** hours local Kosovo time (Central European Time) on that date. Applications can be submitted to CDF/IEEA at any time before the closing date and time as specified in this solicitation, however early applications are strongly encouraged. It is also important to note that FGAs submitted after the deadline will not be considered under this RFA.

Q: How can I submit my FGA?

A: Applications can be submitted in two languages (Serbian and English). Applicants should submit written FGAs to CDF/IEEA's Grants Department electronically, via email to grants@kcdf.org or in hard copy at the CDF/IEEA premises in the following address: str. Rruga Ahmet Krasniqi, Arberi B-A | 1F , Prishtina, Kosovo. All correspondence submitted via email and/or in hard copy must include the RFA number referring to Inclusive Economic Engagement Activity: 001-RFA-2024

Q: How will FGAs be evaluated?

A: The CDF/IEEA will convene a Grants Selection Committee (GSC) that will evaluate FGAs submitted in response to this funding opportunity.

Q: What happens after a Full Grant Application is successful?

A: Once the GSC has determined the successful application(s), the CDF/IEEA will conduct a risk analysis to make a pre-award responsibility determination of the potential grantee(s). This will include the recommendation to make the award confirming that the applicant:

- a) Has adequate financial resources or the ability to obtain such resources as required during the performance of the award.
- b) Can meet the award conditions, considering all existing prospective recipient commitments.
- c) Has a satisfactory record of performance.
- d) Has a satisfactory record of business integrity.
- e) Is otherwise qualified to receive an award under applicable laws and regulations.

Based on the evaluation of applications by GSC the IEEA Chief of Party will share the results with USAID AOR for approval.

After a grant application is successful and approved by USAID, CDF/IEEA and the applicant enter into a grant agreement, and the grant beneficiary undertakes the grant activities as set out in the grant agreement. CDF/IEEA will monitor the implementation of grant milestones and results achieved. After successful completion of all milestones and achievement of the expected results as per the grant agreement, CDF/IEEA certifies that the grant has been successfully implemented.

Q: Can I procure the equipment?

A: The procurement of equipment will be done by CDF following CDF internal procedures. After the successful completion of all milestones and achievement of expected results, CDF/IEEA will certify that the grant has been successfully implemented. The project will dispose and transfer title of all equipment purchased under the grant to the grantee at the end of the period of performance of grant after the examination of the criteria for the redeployment of the equipment.

Q: Is there any industry preference for the grant opportunity?

A: No, there is no industry preference for this grant opportunity. Eligible MSMEs from any industry may apply as long as they meet the eligibility requirements and can contribute to the objectives of the IEEA.



Q: What are the evaluation criteria for the grant opportunity?

A: The eligible applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Improve quality of products and/or services
- Improve efficiency due to new equipment
- Increase net value of sales;
- Increase of number of jobs, including for women and minorities;
- Increase digitalization of companies.
- Improve access to market

The applications that meet the eligibility requirements and score the highest against these evaluation criteria will be considered for a grant award.

Q: Is Cost sharing mandatory?

A: Cost sharing refers to resources that a grantee contributes to the total cost of the grant activity, and it becomes a condition of an award when it is included in the approved grant budget. The cost sharing is encouraged but not mandatory and will not provide any advantage during the evaluation process, furthermore the cost sharing is considered optional and will not impact the evaluation process.