



DIASPORA ENTERPRISE ACCELERATOR BUSINESS PLANNING COMPETITION

AFFORD's "Diaspora Enterprise Accelerator" will award grants of up to **£30, 000** each to **20 registered, UK-based African diaspora enterprises** to invest in any of the four target countries to create at least 10 sustainable jobs and address problems in the social economy.

The target countries are:

- Nigeria
- Rwanda
- Sierra Leone
- Zimbabwe

Diaspora Enterprise Accelerator eligibility

Only organisations meeting the criteria below are eligible to apply:

African diaspora-led.

This means organisation that have a majority of trustees who define themselves as being of African heritage, who live in the UK and (irrespective of citizenship) retain emotional, financial and cultural links with their country and/or the African continent.

Active or planning to be active in one or more target countries

Be planning to invest the accumulative grant and match funding into a business that is active in one of four eligible countries: Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone or Zimbabwe. The organisation must be legally compliant in the country. Your organisation must also be respectively compliant with legal registration requirements in that country.

A registered UK company

Be one of the following: a UK registered charity; company limited by guarantee (not for profit); non-profit co-operative, community benefit society; Community Interest Company (CIC); Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) or Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation and in sound financial health.

Operate in one or more of the following core sectors:

- Agriculture
- Education/ Training
- Health
- WASH (Water, sanitation and Hygiene)
- Food
- Small and medium scale manufacturing
- Retail and hospitality sector
- ICT/creative industry
- Energy & Power

Focused on sustainability

The organisation must demonstrate a strong commitment to income generation, financial sustainability and innovation. Applicants should also demonstrate the ability to build partnerships, utilise technology and harness tools such as social media for success.

How does the stage 2 selection process work?

The second stage is by invitation only. All invited organisations will receive on-going support for business plan development.

The second stage consists of:

1. Reading the Business Plan Guide
2. Preparation and submission of a Business Plan
3. Completion and submission of the Business Plan Summary Application Form
4. Pitch in front of a final selection panel

The deadline for the Business Plan submission is 28th April 2017 at 5pm.

Following the Business Plan submission, all applicants will be invited to present their proposals to a panel of Judges.

Contacts:

Email: adf@afford-uk.org

Grants Management: 020 3326 3750 Ext 209

Business Development and Enterprise Support: 020 7729 2960 Ext 213