

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

INFORMATION NOTE

Introduction

The Government of Rwanda has launched an ambitious climate action agenda to enhance the country's resilience and promote sustainable growth. Under its Climate Action Plan, known as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), Rwanda has committed to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 4.6 million metric tonnes of CO₂ equivalents (38%) by 2030 compared to business as usual.

In response to this need, the Rwanda Green Fund and the Development Bank of Rwanda (BRD) have established Ireme Invest - Rwanda's Green Investment Facility. Ireme Invest offers a range of tailored financial instruments to support Rwanda's private sector, providing green finance to advance the sector's contribution to the country's climate action goals.

To assist in this endeavour, Ireme Invest is inviting entrepreneurs, businesses, and cooperatives that provide agricultural adaptation solutions to apply for support and funding. By joining the programme, you can gain access to tailored technical assistance and resources to accelerate your ventures and boost your capacity while creating positive environmental and social impact in the agricultural sector.

As such, Ireme Invest, in partnership with The Alliance of Biodiversity and CIAT (Alliance) and with funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, plans to run the Rwanda Adaptation Accelerator Programme. Adaptation refers to adjustments in ecological, social, or economic systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli and their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities. The Alliance serves as a key technical partner in the programme, integrating science-based and data-driven

solutions and frameworks to de-risk agrifood investments. These tools enable the quantification of climate and environmental risks and impacts to inform investment opportunities and corresponding risk mitigation practices throughout the investment lifecycle.

Ireme Invest welcomes solutions from the following Agricultural sub-sectors:

Application Process

STEP 1: Apply through Venture Space Porta

Applications can be submitted once the call for applications is open. The application submission is the first step in the process of joining the programme and accessing funding from Ireme Invest

APPLICATION STEPS

To apply to join the programme, an application must be submitted through the Ireme Invest online portal accessible here. Applicants are required to create an account on the venture space. Webinar and info-session opportunities will be provided to interested applicants.

NOTE: Hard copies submitted physically or soft copies submitted through email will not be accepted.

STEP 2: Application appraisal (Eligibility review)

- Solutions should be aimed at adaptation solutions in the Agriculture sector
- Currently operating in Rwanda
- The solution should clearly articulate their business model
- The solution should meet environmental impact criteria
- The solution should promote or be aligned with strategic national and international environmental and climate objectives
- The business personnel should demonstrate the capacity to implement the project.

STEP 3: Selection of 30 businesses

STEP 4: Submission of funding proposals

STEP 5: Selection of 10 businesses

STEP 6: Grant funding and Demo Day showcase

UP TO

10

selected businesses or entrepreneurs will secure grant funding up to Rwf 100 million, determined by the maturity and nature of their business or idea.

At the programme's conclusion, the 10 selected businesses will have the chance to present their products during an event known as Demo Day. This event will serve as an opportunity to attract potential investors and secure the ongoing success of their projects beyond the conclusion of the programme's funding.

Financial Instruments and Ticket Sizes

Successful 10 selected businesses will receive business development services and grants of up to Rwf 100Ma

APPLICATION OVERVIEW

- Eligibility Review:** Ensure compliance with the eligibility criteria
- Application Form:** Provide information as requested in the application form. This includes questions about basic information regarding your organization, the business idea, value proposition, and markets. Also, regarding the adaptation metrics and impact as well as your motivation and commitment to the programme.
- Attachments:** Upload all necessary documents to support the information provided in the preceding sections as indicated. (e.g. proof of registration, pitch deck, financial statements, and other relevant documents).

Eligibility Criteria

The business must fulfil the following criteria:

- This opportunity is open to SMEs and cooperatives operating in agricultural adaptation solutions in Rwanda.
 - Your business or proposed project should address environmental or climate change challenges.
 - Specify the intended use of funds.
- Be registered in Rwanda, with a valid certificate from the Registrar
- Demonstrate scalability and significant economic impact

- Present evidence of environmental and financial viability
- Support and funding are available to organizations with models focused on promoting agricultural adaptation solutions across the following priority areas:
 - Resilient practices for livestock
 - Nature-based solutions and supporting practices
 - Sustainable on-farm practices for smallholders
 - Water Technologies
 - Climate and weather services
 - Value addition and efficient processing
 - Seeds, Crop production, and food systems
 - Sustainable, regenerative agriculture/CSA
 - Agri-business (infrastructure, equipment, processes)
 - Sustainable textiles, straw
 - Eco-tourism

How to Apply

Interested entrepreneurs and businesses are encouraged to apply at www.iremeininvest.rw/apply/

Applicants are required to create an account on the application portal. Webinar and info-session opportunities will be provided to interested applicants. Applicants can email application@greenfund.rw with any questions.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE ON FRIDAY 28TH JUNE 2024 AT 23:59.

More Information

For additional programme information, please visit www.iremeininvest.rw/apply

Ireme Invest Partners

Ireme Invest has been made possible by our invaluable partners.

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