



# Skills Development Facility (SDF)



## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: REFERENCE NO: SDF-UGANDA/03 GRANT FOR SKILLING PROFIT ORIENTED COMPANIES WORKFORCE-WINDOW1

### Background:

The Skills Development Facility (SDF) is part of the \$100 million Uganda Skills Development Project (USDP) which is a Government of Uganda Project funded by the World Bank, implemented by the Private Sector Foundation Uganda. The SDF aims at promoting employer-led short-term training in order to address prevailing skills imbalances and shortages in Uganda. An important element of the initiative is to facilitate collaboration between training providers and industry to promote demand driven skills development with special attention to innovative modes of training.

### About SDF

The facility is a 5-year project implemented through a Grant Facility mechanism that will be co-financed by the private sector through a matching grant contribution, and support training activities that lead to improved productivity and competitiveness in the formal and informal sectors. This requires strategic partnerships between firms, service providers and industry associations. The focus will be on short-term, practical and technical training of employees (including business skills for the informal sector) ranging from few days to not more than six months.

The actual executing of the training must not exceed one year.

**SDF priority sectors:** The Facility is focusing on six sectors; Agriculture, Construction, Manufacturing / auto mechanics, Transport & Logistics, Information & Communication Technology (ICT) and Tourism & Hospitality.

### Funding Windows and eligibility:

PSFU invites applications for the SDF grants under window1- Skills shortages in the formal sector. Below are details on window 1 which target various categories of beneficiaries in the formal sector. Funding modalities and key eligible activities for window1 are highlighted in table below:

Window	Target beneficiaries	Eligibility Criteria	Highlights of eligible activities	Grant contribution
Window 1: Skills shortages in the formal sector.	Small, Medium and large firms (Profit oriented companies)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Should have been in existence for at least two years</li> <li>Should be duly registered and operating under the laws of Uganda.</li> <li>Should have the capacity to contribute the matching fund</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Skills upgrading initiatives, practical &amp; technical training programs</li> <li>Preference to training courses accredited by MoES or other credible bodies</li> <li>Trainees must be permanent employees of the applying company or those the company intends to employ on permanent basis</li> <li>Subcontractors supplying goods or services to the company</li> <li>Both skilled and semi-skilled workers are eligible for skill upgrading courses</li> <li>Training will be provided by a training institution, but also in-company training can be supported provided the instructor (trainer) has the required professional qualifications and adequate facilities for such training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ceiling: US\$ 250,000</li> <li>Up to 80% Grant contribution for Small &amp; Medium companies</li> <li>(20% Cash contribution from applicant)</li> <li>Up to 50% Grant contribution for Large companies</li> <li>(50% cash contribution from applicant)</li> </ul>

### Note:

- Each window has its own application form and hence, you are advised to use the window1 template.
- Applications for less than \$ 5,000 are not fundable. However, applicants with budgets below \$,5000 are encouraged to join other applying companies so as to benefit from this grant.

### Ineligible costs:

- Seminars and conferences designed to stimulate discussions
- Induction/orientation programmes (except only those relevant for SDF programmes)
- Training for spiritual, cultural and social enhancement, e.g. religious studies and appreciation of music
- Professional-training programmes, involving the upgrading of personnel such as doctors, lawyers, accountants and architects
- Postgraduate training programmes, involving the pursuance of higher education leading to the award of an advanced diploma, graduate diploma, degree or post degree qualification
- Attachment of engineers and senior managers to advance their skills and knowledge in existing or new work areas.

### Does one have to pay back?

SDF is a grant and not a loan. Support provided under SDF is not required to be paid back. However, beneficiary companies will have to contribute a percentage of 20%-50% depending on their scale of operation as reflected in the table above.

### How to apply

Visit the Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU) website: [www.psfuganda.org/](http://www.psfuganda.org/) **opportunities** or [www.sdfuganda.org/](http://www.sdfuganda.org/) **funding windows/window1**, click; apply now carefully study the requirements, fill the application and submit.

- Technical Assistance in writing the application will be made available upon the request of the applicants at their cost.
- Identify a training provider with competence in the proposed skills training. The applicant will be required to identify a training institution recognized by Ministry of education and Sport or related reputable body.

### 3. Organize the following documents:

- A well-developed proposal (filled in application template) clearly demonstrating the skills shortages or innovations

- Certification of registration/incorporation.
- List of targeted beneficiaries (Trainees) disaggregated by gender (Male / Female)
- Profile / Curriculum Vitae for the proposed Instructor(s)/Trainer(s). Acceptable trainers under this window must be a training institution recognized by ministry of education and Sports or reputable body.
- Detailed activity plan and budget.

### Information sharing meeting

SDF will hold an information sharing meeting at **Hotel Africana** on **23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 at 9:00-12:00 AM**. Kindly conform attendance by email to; [sdf@sdfuganda.org](mailto:sdf@sdfuganda.org) or call **+256 312 263 850**.

### Timeframe:

The deadline for submission of applications will be **Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 12 O'clock**. Late submission will not be accepted.

**NB: SDF is a Government of Uganda project, implemented by the Private Sector Foundation Uganda, funded by the World Bank.**