

SEE – Clean Cooking

Higher Tier Cooking Component (HTCC) Uganda

Innovation Challenge Fund (ICF) Frequently Asked Questions.

Common Questions:

1. What is the Innovation Challenge Fund (ICF) about?

The ICF aims to strengthen the supply side by supporting small and medium-sized enterprises in improving their business operations and access finance as well as promote upscaling and innovations in the cooking sector. Through a holistic technology approach including both e-cooking and advanced biomass cook stoves, HTCC Uganda aims to reach 12,000 households or 60,000 beneficiaries with higher tier cooking technologies (6,000 e-cooking and 6,000 Advanced Biomass Cookstoves).

2. Under what pillars can one apply?

Final selection will be based on the quality and viability of the proposed innovations/projects, alignment with the fund's objectives, and potential for transformative impact in the clean cooking sector. Applicants may submit proposals under the following pillars:

1. Research and Development (R&D)
2. Market Development and Innovative Business Models
3. Digitalization and Knowledge Management

Application evaluation results will contribute (80%) while the pitch session will contribute (20%).

3. Can applicants apply under more than one pillar?

Interested applicants will need to specify which support pillar they are applying under. In case their Innovation Project has scope across more than one ICF support pillar, this should be clearly outlined and justified in the Expression of Interest proposal document. Based on the strength of the applications received, companies may be able to receive ICF funding support under one or more pillars, as assessed on a competitive evaluation process and considerations for available budget.

4. Can applicants submit as a consortium?

Consortiums of 2-4 maximum are welcome to apply. The proposal must clearly outline the role of each entity in the consortium and specify the Lead Agent who will be responsible for coordinating the consortium members and reporting on all contractual obligations to GIZ. Any changes in the consortium must be reported to the GIZ team. When applying as a consortium, consider the increased coordination efforts carefully, balancing them against the advantages that each member brings to the proposed innovations/ projects.

5. What is the minimum or maximum budget limit or preferred budget range for the ICF program?

Successful proposals will receive between EUR 20,000 to EUR 50,000 to implement their innovative, sustainable solutions. The funding request in the proposal should be realistic and reasonable and GIZ reserves the right to allocate less funds than requested.

6. What is the application timeline?

The Innovation Challenge Fund is currently open and will close on the 26th of January 2024 at 05:00PM (EAT).

7. What is the expected implementation period for the Innovation Challenge Fund?

The Innovation challenge fund implementation period is between March 2024 and 31st December 2024.

8. How should I submit my application?

- Applicants must download and complete the Expression of Interest (EOI) template, submit their applications via email to ella.tirwomwe@giz.de and keep in copy solomon.atepo@giz.de
- In the email submission, please include the following information:
- Email Subject Title: “**HTCC Uganda ICF Application: [Insert Company Name] [Insert name of ICF Application Pillar], [Insert Submission Date]**”.
- **NOTE: Kindly note that applications without this subject title may be rejected.**
- Participants should expect to hear back from the assessment team within 30 days of the submission closing date.

For inquiries and clarifications contact: ella.tirwomwe@giz.de and keep in copy solomon.atepo@giz.de

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