



INNOVATION CHALLENGE – REQUEST FOR DISABILITY INCLUSIVE AND ACCESSIBLE INNOVATIONS

Application Type:	External Vacancy
Job Title:	Request for Innovative Solutions – Disability Inclusive and Accessible Innovations
Category:	Innovation, Design and/or Advocacy for People Living with Disability
Brand:	UNDP
Application Deadline:	Thursday, 12 November 2020
Duty Station:	Virtual
Type of Contract:	Contract for professional services
Languages Required:	English
Duration of Contract:	90 working days

Applications may be submitted on or before Thursday, 12 November at 4.30 p.m. (Kenyan time-GMT+3.00) via the e-mail address consultants.ken@undp.org

UNDP Kenya reserves the right to accept or reject any submissions.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1) Background

The global crisis of COVID-19 is deepening pre-existing inequalities and exacerbating challenges faced by people living with disability. More than 15 percent of the global population — over 1 billion people — are estimated to have a disability, 80 percent of whom live in developing countries. According to the 2019 census, 2.2% (0.9 million people) of Kenyans live with some form of disability. Persons with disabilities have, under normal circumstances, challenges in accessing health care, education, employment and many other services and opportunities. These challenges have been compounded during the pandemic due to the measures to control disease transmission and the strains of the pandemic on the economy and service delivery.

Innovation has and will continue to play a significant role in the country's response and recovery to the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the past few months, we have witnessed Kenyans ingenuity in creating solutions to the challenges posed by the pandemic. Cutting across different sectors such as agriculture, health care, transport, commerce, the innovations validate the fact that Kenya is a hub of brilliance and creativity. However, for the most part, access to innovation for most Kenyans whether as consumers or developers is not equal and barriers still exist in the innovation landscape. This is particularly so for persons with disability. Most solutions developed to address present day challenges are not designed with persons with disability in mind. Limitations exist with regard to access of information, enabling infrastructure, access to opportunities including financial resources, education, networks and markets. Further, the



talent pool of technology creators and innovators is marginally represented by persons with disability. Accessible and inclusive innovation represents a huge opportunity for Kenya to ensure that the country's growth is truly an inclusive phenomenon. Persons with Disability are gravely and disproportionately impacted by systematic and structural inequalities in various ways including the adverse effect of inequality on the fabric of society evidenced by conflict, dissent and instability.

UNDP Kenya through the “*Transcending Foundations of Peace and Security for Inclusive and Sustainable Development in Kenya*” programme and the *UNDP Accelerator Lab* seek to address immediate and underlying drivers of conflict including, poverty, inequality and youth unemployment by promoting inclusion and participation of youth, persons with disabilities (PWDs), women and other marginalized groups in sustainable interventions. UNDP therefore seeks to invite innovative solutions and approaches to address socio-economic challenges faced by PWDs that are related to or exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

2) Objectives

This intervention aims to achieve the following objectives in line with the key outputs for the Transcending Foundations of Peace and Security programme as well as the mandate of the Accelerator Lab.

- Mapping and amplifying homegrown accessible and inclusive innovations to highlight the contributions of Kenya's innovation ecosystem towards achieving SDG 10 (Reduced inequalities within and among countries)
- Facilitating the scaling of viable accessible and inclusive innovations to ensure increased impact for the respective beneficiary groups
- Stimulate entrepreneurship to accelerate progress towards achieving disability inclusion and social cohesion
- Supporting community peace-related initiatives that are inclusive of women, youth, PWDs and other marginalized groups
- Enhanced inclusion and participation of youth, women, PWDs and other marginalized groups in alternative livelihoods, peace and security processes
- Develop financial inclusion tools, platforms and mechanisms to support enhanced access to finance by partner financial institutions

3) Themes

This Innovation Challenge invites solutions that facilitate improved access and usability of products and services for Persons with Disability in Kenya. The applicants are encouraged to identify one area within the categories 1 to 6 below in which they will showcase their innovation.

- 1) **Access to technology** – innovative approaches to facilitate the accessibility of technology such as digital platforms
- 2) **Access to information** – innovative approaches to bridge the information accessibility gap for PWDs

- 3) **Access to healthcare** – innovative approaches to ensure PWDs have easier access to healthcare that meets their needs for example, Personal Protective Equipment and hygiene-related facilities to minimize the spread of COVID-19 infections
- 4) **Access to education** – innovative approaches to support inclusive access to education facilities, platforms and opportunities
- 5) **Access to opportunities** – innovative approaches to increase accessibility and inclusivity to livelihoods and entrepreneurship opportunities to facilitate business continuity and livelihood sustainability while giving adequate attention to the gender gap in disability.
- 6) **Access to financial products/ services (financial inclusion)** - The ramifications of COVID-19 pandemic and the intractable challenge of conflict has compounded the vulnerability of PWDs and rendered the process of access to financial resources and other building blocks to livelihoods more arduous. The goal for this theme would therefore to create platform, tools, and provide technical assistance to partner financial institutions focused.

4) Target

UNDP is looking for registered companies or organizations in Kenya that can respond to the Innovation Challenge with Accessible and Inclusive Innovations that focus on Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).

This Challenge has a total allocated budget of USD 40,000 of which USD 8,000 will be disbursed to each of the top five (5) applicants that have the winning submissions.

Each applicant will be expected to submit an innovative approach that fits within one of the five key categories of themes highlighted above. In their proposal, each applicant should clearly indicate:

1. The specific target group within the different kinds of disabilities
Does the submission effectively address a challenge faced by a specific target group and/or gender within the PWD demographic? The applicant should provide a clear rationale on the selection of the target group, for example, why the focus on one type or different types of disabilities, age, region, etc.
2. What makes the approach new, unique or innovative?
3. What makes the approach relevant to PWDs?
Does the approach demonstrate evidence that it's wanted by the target audience and their communities? Has the applicant employed a collaborative approach in the design process?
4. What makes the idea affordable, replicable and sustainable?
5. How does the approach clearly link to either of the key 6 categories of themes above?

The applicant should also include in their proposal:

- a) Budget breakdown clearly indicating how the USD 8,000 would be spent if selected
- b) Timelines to implement the idea with clear deliverables within the next three (3) months if selected
- c) Monitoring and evaluation plan with clear Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to track and demonstrate evidence of the impact to the target beneficiaries

5) Award Process and Milestones

Scope of work	Deliverables or Outputs to be delivered	Percentage of Payment (%)	Payment Schedule
<p>Disbursement of award will be made upon contract signing and submission of work plan for the development or scale up of the solution.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contract Signing 2. Detailed Workplan with clear activities, budget breakdown and timelines 3. Detailed monitoring and evaluation plan with clear performance indicators 4. Detailed plan of how documentation will be done throughout the project (blogs, articles, photos, videos, or other relevant forms of media content) 	<p><u>100%</u></p>	<p><u>December 2020</u></p>
<p>Final report detailing results, learnings and insights including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of tested prototypes in relevant forms (according to the type of idea submitted) • Prototyping and prototype testing process (can be in the form of blogs, photos, videos or other relevant forms) • Evidence of impact based on the KPIs in the Monitoring & Evaluation plan • Feedback and insights from the end-users • Key learnings arising from the implementation of the project 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report detailing results, learnings and insights after implementing the project 2. Documentation of the Implementation of the Project (blogs, articles, photos, videos, or other relevant forms of media content) 	<p><u>N/A</u></p>	<p><u>March 2021</u></p>

6) Eligibility

To be eligible for this Innovation Challenge, the applicant must:

- Be a registered company or organisation in Kenya for a period of not less than three (3) years
- Be directly responsible for the execution and implementation of the innovation
- Demonstrate prior experience of at least two (2) years or more carrying out activities related to inclusive design, innovation, development or advocacy for Persons Living Disability
- Illustrate how they will work with Persons Living with Disability in the implementation of the idea.

People living with disability, women and youth are highly encouraged to apply.

7) [Application Guidelines](#)

1. **Language & format:** Proposals may be submitted in English using the application form in Appendix 7.1
2. **Supported costs:** Costs towards the development or scaling up of the proposed innovation.
3. **Timeline:** Proposals will be accepted through October 30th to November 12th, 2020. The participatory decision-making process will run from November 13th, 2020 through November 25th, 2020. Only the selected applicants will be announced.
4. **Misrepresentation:** Any misrepresentation of information or facts will be grounds for disqualification.
5. **Implementation:** The Applicant should be ready and committed to implement the project if their application is selected.

8) [Appendix](#)

Appendix 7.1: Application Form

A. INFORMATION ON THE APPLICANT

A1. GENERAL INFO ON THE APPLICANT

Name of applicant company or organisation:	
Legal Type:	Foundation <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Company <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Government Organization NGO <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (Please Indicate) _____
Legal address:	
Postal and Physical address:	
Founding date of the company or organization (MM/YY):	
Lead or Head of the company or organization (name, surname, phone, email):	
Focal person responsible for the project: (name, surname, position, phone, email)	
Mission and Objective of Organization/ Company	
Representation within the organization/ company by persons with disability. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many persons with disability are within the organization or company? 2. How many persons with disability are in leadership positions within the organization or company? 	

A2. GENERAL INFO ON THE PARTNER COMPANY IF ANY.

Please note that you can apply to the Innovation Challenge with a partner company that can be a sub-investor, implementor, service provider, etc.

<i>Name of partner company:</i>	
Legal Type:	Foundation <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Company <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Government Organization NGO <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Private Equity <input type="checkbox"/>
Postal and Physical Address:	
Founding date of the company (MM/YY):	
Supervisor of partner company (name, surname, phone, email):	
Person responsible for the project: (name, surname, position, phone, email)	
Documentation such as MOU showing proof of the relationship between the applicant and the partner company:	Included as attachment <input type="checkbox"/>

B. INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT

B1. Project title:

Enter the full name of the innovation or project

B2. Project location:

Enter the location in Kenya where you propose to implement the project.

B3. Project description:

Describe the Innovation or Solution in terms of

- a. Target Population- who are the target beneficiaries of the solution?

b. Rationale and relevance to target population. How will the target population use and benefit from this solution?

c. Relevance to the themes; Which thematic area does this solution respond to? Tick all that are applicable. You can select multiple options.

- 1) Access to Technology
- 2) Access to Information
- 3) Access to Healthcare
- 4) Access to Education
- 5) Access to Opportunities
- 6) Access for Financial Products

Please provide more details elaborating on your answer.

d. To what extent is the idea or solution new, unique and innovative?

e. To what extent is the solution easy and practical to use for the target population?

f. Identification and Involvement of Key Stakeholders. Which stakeholders are involved or will be involved in the development of the solution? To what extent have persons of disability been consulted or engaged in the development of the solution?

- g. Replicability and scalability of solution- Can the solution be produced in mass or for a large population?

- h. Open source technology – Is your project fully open source? We want these solutions to be easily and quickly replicated so your solution must not use proprietary software or hardware that is difficult to obtain and/or use as well as have any complex data protection or data privacy issues.

B4. Project Timeline:

Please provide a work plan on how the solution or project will be developed indicating the process, activities and the timeline.

B5. How the amount awarded will be used?

Please state how the award money will be spent in case your application is selected among the winners. Please list any purchases or costs that will be met by the award.

B6. Personnel

Personnel involved in the development of the solution. (Attach CVs/ Resumes for the leadership and core technical team to be involved in the development of the solution)

B7. Recommendations

Provide 2 recommendation letters from organizations or companies familiar with your work and who can speak to your capability in developing or implementing the solution.

Appendix 7.2: Technical Evaluation Criteria

Summary of Technical Proposal Evaluation Forms		Score Weight	Points Obtainable	Company / Other Entity				
				A	B	C	D	E
1.	Expertise of Firm / Organisation submitting Proposal	20%	200					
2.	Proposed Work Plan and Approach	50%	500					
3.	Personnel	30%	300					
Total			1000					

Technical Proposal Evaluation Form 1		Points obtainable	Company / Other Entity				
			A	B	C	D	E
Expertise of firm / organization submitting proposal							
1.1	Reputation of Organization and Staff (Competence / Reliability)	30					
1.2	Previous work experience in inclusive design, innovation, development or advocacy for People Living with Disability or other relevant areas of expertise	15					
1.3	General Organizational Capability which is likely to affect implementation. To what extent is the organization or company capable of carrying out the work or implementing the idea (size of the company, articulation of idea, engagement of stakeholders)	20					

Technical Proposal Evaluation Form 1		Points obtainable	Company / Other Entity				
			A	B	C	D	E
1.4	Extent to which any work would be subcontracted (subcontracting carries additional risks which may affect project implementation, but properly done it offers a chance to access specialized skills.	15					
1.5	Quality assurance procedures, warranty	20					
1.6	Relevance of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specialized Knowledge - Experience on Similar Innovation or Inclusive Design Projects - Experience working on PWD issues 	100					
Total		200					

Technical Proposal Evaluation Form 2		Points Obtainable	Company / Other Entity				
			A	B	C	D	E
Proposed Work Plan and Approach							
2.1	To what degree does the applicant understand the task?	100					
2.2	Have the important aspects of the task been addressed in sufficient detail?	100					
2.3	Relevance and usability of the innovation to persons with disability	100					
2.4	Is the development of the idea or solution practical, logical, possible?	100					
2.5	User engagement and involvement. To what extent have the end users been engaged, consulted and involved in the development of the solution?	100					
Total Part 2		500					

Technical Proposal Evaluation Form 3		Points Obtainable	Company / Other Entity				
			A	B	C	D	E
3.1	Team Leader						
	Sub-Score						

Technical Proposal Evaluation Form 3			Points Obtainabl e	Company / Other Entity				
				A	B	C	D	E
	General Qualification							
	Suitability for the Project							
	- General Qualifications	50						
	- Adequacy for the assignment in the area of specialization	50						
	- Specific Qualifications (education and experience relevant to the required areas of expertise)	60						
	Total			160				
3.2	Core Team Members							
			Sub-Score					
	General Qualification							
	Suitability for the Project							
	- General Qualifications	25						
	- Adequacy for the assignment in the area of specialization	25						
	- Specific Qualifications (education and experience relevant to the required areas of expertise)	40						
	Total			140				
	Total Part 3			300				