



JOINT UN-GOVERNMENT PROJECT [CAMEROON]

YOUTH CONNEKT CAMEROON



SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN CAMEROON

CALL FOR PROJECTS

ON THE SELECTION OF 100 YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS IN THE RENEWABLE ENERGY AND WASTE RECYCLING SECTOR

Organization : United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Project : Youth Connekt Cameroon

Context and justification

The Cameroonian population, estimated on 1 July 2020 at 24,910,305 (INS), is characterized by its youth and a trend towards urbanization whose effects are structuring on the economic activity and unemployment of the entire population. Indeed, 77.8% are under 35 years of age and 63.4% are under 25 years of age. This demographic weight of youth undoubtedly makes them an essential link for the construction of an emerging nation as projected in Vision 2035. However, the many challenges faced by young people reduce their active participation in the development effort. Indeed, unemployment, underemployment, low schooling, delinquency, drug addiction, early pregnancy, STIs/AIDS, low civic engagement, to which is added today radicalization, are obstacles to the realization of the ideal of a fulfilled youth and at the service of development.

Officially launched on 09 December 2019, the Youth Connekt Cameroun is a joint Government-United Nations system project that aims to strengthen the connection of young people to opportunities in order to increase their empowerment and boost their participation in development. It is an innovative approach that aims to stimulate a dynamic of transformation and acceleration of the emergence of Cameroon through a multisectoral approach centered on the young. The main areas of intervention of the project are: strengthening the employability of young people, strengthening civic education and citizen participation of young people, strengthening sexual education and reproductive health of young people, reducing the gender gap and strengthening the intra- and intergenerational interconnection of young people. This project is implemented by the Ministry of Youth and Civic Education in partnership with the agencies of the United Nations System under the leadership of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and with the support of partners from the private sector and civil society.

As part of the PTA 2021, support is planned for the development of youth entrepreneurship in promising sectors such as renewable energies and waste recycling.

Renewable energies today represent a significant opportunity to strengthen the supply of electricity from hydroelectric and thermal sources. For the Government, it is more urgent than ever to increase

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and vary energy production from 1% to 25% by 2030, including hydropower, biomass, solar photovoltaic energy and wind energy. Thanks to this improved production, many households, especially those in rural areas, will have better access to energy for their daily activities. Like the renewable energy sector, waste recycling is a sector with multiple opportunities. Better yet, it is an activity that meets the objectives of the circular economy (extract-produce-consume-recycle) in a world where natural resources are dwindling. Rightly or wrongly, it is a poorly developed sector in Cameroon; This creates a loss of revenue as recycling is an industry that creates jobs, generates foreign exchange for the state and provides other products that are useful at national level.

In short, the Renewable energy and waste recycling are an important food for wealth creation and job opportunities for Cameroon. With very little capital, many companies especially those carried by young people have developed around these sectors. It's to support these very promising initiatives that the project Youth Connekt Cameroon launches this public call for the selection of 100 Micros, Petites and Moyennes Entreprises (MSMEs) worn by young people and exercising in the renewable energy and waste recycling aend of strengthening their capacitys invest, create jobs, and exploit growth opportunities Existing.

Presentation and objectives of this call

Youth Connekt for greening is a platform for expressing the creativity of young people in the renewable energy sector and waste recycling with the aim of creating added value for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and contributing to the reduction of unemployment. It is a national competition which aims to detect, coach and support financially and materially innovative business projects of 100 young people (men and women) in the renewable energy and waste recycling sector.

This activity is implemented with the support of the following stakeholders:

- The Government: Ministry of Youth and Civic Education (MINJEC), Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training (MINEFOP), Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises (MINPMEESA), APME. Other sectoral ministries will also provide support, including the Ministry for the Advancement of Women and the Family, the Ministry of Scientific Research and Innovation, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications and many others.
- The private sector, notably through the PUENE Foundation;
- Networks and structures supporting young people, in particular the CMPJ and the agencies of the United Nations system involved in the project.

Support will be delivered through the mobilization of technical assistance and a contribution to promising investment projects (small grant or material support) with a clear business plan. This support will be defined on the basis of the results of an examination of the needs of enterprises which will serve as a basis for further refining the intervention.

Eligibility criteria: who can meet?

This call targets young Cameroonians of both sexes (women and men), residing on the national territory at the time of the call according to the following criteria:

Status of the promoter: This call for projects is intended for members or promoters of TPME (Very Small, Small and Medium Enterprises) or associations in the renewable energy and high-potential waste recycling sector (provide the statutes of the MSMT or association and the letter of designation of the promoter or responsible if any)

Age of the promoter: The company must be carried by a young man or woman between the ages of 18 and 35 (attach a copy of the promoter's identity card);

Age of the company/association: have a proven existence of 6 months to 3 years. Companies with an existence of 4 years and more are not allowed to apply

Priority sectors of activity: Priority will be given to MSMEs operating in the following sectors:

- Renewable energies (solar energy panels and lamps, wind turbine kits, biomass, biogas etc.)
- Recycling and transformation of waste into derived products (organic fertilizers and biopesticides, customization, tire processing, oven / fireplace and ecological coal, biodegradable packaging etc.)

Coordination of the action: The promoter/project manager or the bidding company must not be the beneficiary of support in progress or during the last 6 months in order to avoid duplication (provide a signed letter of declaration on honour);

NB: Only MSMEs/structures/associations that have met the eligibility criteria will be selected for the technical evaluation of the projects. Pay attention to all the required documentation and provide it.

Evaluation criteria

No	Evaluation criteria	Rating
Entrepreneurial profile of the promoter and his team		/30
	The entrepreneur or one of the designated members of the team has sufficient and relevant knowledge, skills or experience related to the field of activity of the company. Proof (attestation, certificate, diploma) of academic or professional training in the chosen field or proof of at least 10 months' practical experience in the field	15
	The contractor has the necessary training and/or experience to effectively perform tasks as an entrepreneur and/or manager.	10

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	Provide proof (attestation, certificate, diploma) of academic or professional training in management or justify a practical experience of at least 12 months (photos; list of customers; delivery note etc.)	
	The entrepreneur has the entrepreneurial attitude and values including a great motivation to carry out the project Provide a cover letter and a letter of recommendation	05
Assessment of the business project in relation to the objectives of the call		/70
	Overall assessment of the project (clarity 5pts, relevance 3pts, coherence 2pts)	10
	Innovative nature of the project (including the use of innovative technologies and processes) Technological innovation; Marketing or organizational = 10 pts Combination of at least 2 types of innovation = 15 pts Solution without innovation = 5 pts	15
	Capacity of the project to create jobs Moins of 3 jobs 0pts; from 3 to 7 jobs = 7pts; 10 and over = 10pts	10
	Market analysis Clearly defined Market (3pts); consistent and realistic sales/revenue volume assumptions (2pts); current and future trends in product/service demand analysed (5pts) and competition analysed (main competitor practices, strengths and weaknesses) 5pts	15
	Feasibility of the project Technical (accessibility of raw materials) 5pts, Financial (realistic production cost) 2pts, Regulatory and Environmental (compliance with environmental standards - clean energy, waste recycling, etc.) 3 pts	10
	Sustainability of the project (even without the grant) Turnover 3 pts, clear investment plan 2 pts, existing production assets 5pts etc.	10
	TOTAL	/100

Particular attention will be paid to projects relating to the use of innovative technologies and to enterprises employing a strong female workforce.

NB: After evaluation of all applications, only companies with an average of 70/100 will be considered to establish the final selection. A ranking in order of merit will be established in order to select the top 100.

Selection procedures

Applications submitted to UNDP will be subject to a discharge and a deposit number. They will then be evaluated by a Selection Committee composed of the youth Connekt project stakeholders.

Proponents may be asked during the processing phase of the files to provide additional clarifications. In the event of a request for additional information or changes to be made to the Project, the promoter will have a maximum period of two (02) days to provide the requested additions or the improved version of the file. Other supporting documents for certain criteria (age, residence, etc.) will be required before finalizing the selection process. In addition, the Committee may decide, prior to the final selection decision, to make a site visit to the projects. The final acceptance of the project by the Selection Committee will be notified by e-mail to the promoter by UNDP/Youth Connekt. Only successful promoters will be contacted.

Constitution of the Nomination File

The application file must include the following documents:

1. Request for support addressed to the UNDP Resident Representative for the purpose of the request; and signed by the Head of the structure;
2. Standard form for request for support (annexed) duly completed;
3. Documents of creation and existence of the structure (company or association) associated with a letter of designation of the project leader;
4. Business plan of the company (if existing);
5. Evidence of the activity (photos of the product, photos of the workplace, the team etc.)
6. CV of the promoter and 2 key personnel or team members (if existing) accompanied by a photocopy of the valid ID;
7. Any other useful documents.

Submission of applications

Applications must be submitted in a paper envelope (03 copies) to the UNDP main office at the following address:

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

N° 1232 Mellopolis Building,

Rue 1794, Ekoudou, Bastos B.P. 836,

Yaoundé Republic of Cameroon

Phone : (237) 222 20 08 00 / 222 20 08 01

Web Contacts: <http://www.cm.undp.org>

Applications must bear the words "**Youth Connekt 2021 Call for Projects**". Incomplete or out-of-time applications are not accepted.

Deadline for applications: **22 October 2021** at 14:00a.m. (Cameroon time). Any application submitted after the deadline date and time will be considered void and will not be considered.

*Female applications are strongly encouraged

Any questions of clarification relating to this call for tenders must be sent by e-mail to the following address: youthconnektcameroun@gmail.com taking care to copy the following addresses: audrey.moneyang@undp.org, and sandrine.noutsas@undp.org

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Timeline

- **Phase I:** Launch of the call for projects and receipt of projects – 8 to 22/10 at 14:00

Activity I.1: Launch of the call for projects

Activity I.2: Receipt of projects

- Phase II: Analysis and selection of projects by the committee – from 25 to 29/10

Activity II.1: Project Analysis

Action II.2 : Decision of the Commission, validation and online posting of projects

- Phase III: Capacity building and provision of the requested support to beneficiaries – Mid-November – end of December

Activity III.1: Capacity-building in the different regions

Activité III.2: provision to the beneficiaries of the support requested

Annexe:

1. Application Form

www.infosconcourseducation.com

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General information about the promoter and the structure	
Presentation of the promoter: (Full name, age, Gender, contacts and Email, city of residence) <i>*Provide the CNI</i>	
Presentation of the company: Company name, trade name, date of creation, type of company, location <i>*Provide supporting documents</i>	
Sector of activity (energy or recycling) and products already available <i>*Provide supporting documents</i>	
Team overview (names, age and gender of key employees) <i>*Provide supporting documents</i>	
Assessment of the business project in relation to the objectives of the call	
Briefly describe your business plan	
How is your project innovative?	
Do you already create jobs or are you planning to create? with this project?	
Briefly present your market (target; sales/revenue volume; trends in demand for the product or service; competition etc)	
How do you get your raw material? Can your business be expanded to other parts of the country?	
Does your project involve risks for the environment? Justify	
Would you say that your project is viable with or without the support of Youth Connekt?	

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<p>If yes, indicate your current production capacity, turnover, investment plan, existing production assets, etc. If not, justify the answer</p>	
<p>Entrepreneurial profile of the promoter and his team</p>	
<p>Does the promoter or any of the team members have technical knowledge (including training) or proven experience in the field of activity where you work? <i>*Provide supporting documents</i></p>	
<p>Does the promoter or any of the team members have the knowledge (including training) or proven experience in business management? <i>*Provide supporting documents 'k</i></p>	
<p>Does the promoter and/or team possess the psychological mindsets, personality traits, attitude and entrepreneurial values including a high motivation to carry out the project? If yes, please describe and provide 2 people references (phone and email)</p>	