

CEI Africa

Clean Energy & Energy
Inclusion for Africa

I. INTRODUCTION

This Call for Applications #1 (Call 1) initiates the first funding cycle of the RBF Window of Clean Energy and Energy Inclusion Fund for Africa, (CEI Africa). Call 1 consists of three application modules:

Module 1

Company Pre-Qualifications for Green Mini Grid (GMG) developers operating in one or more of these countries: Kenya, Madagascar, DRC, Sierra Leone, Mali and Benin.

Module 2

Site Applications for GMGs to be built in Kenya

Module 3

Requests for Technical Assistance for GMG developers in Kenya, Madagascar, DRC, Sierra Leone, Mali and Benin.

Modules 1 and 3 are open on a rolling basis. However, GMG developers wishing to participate in Module 2 for Kenya are requested to complete their Module 1 applications by **November 22, 2022**. The Module 2 deadline for applications is **January 31, 2022**.

All applicants must be registered on the CEI Africa portal of the Odyssey Energy Solutions platform, which is where all applications must be filed. The portal registration may be accessed at this link: <https://cei-africa.com/rbf-registration-form/>

Prospective applicants are directed to read carefully the instructions posted on the CEI Africa portal on Odyssey as well as the following documents which may be found and downloaded from there:

- Operating Manual
- Grant Agreement [**Note:** This is yet to be uploaded but a template grant agreement will be uploaded before the Module 1 application deadline for applicants to review]
- FAQs
- TA Program Announcement
- ESG Policy
- Compliance Policy

This Call for Applications summary highlights some of the most salient points to provide overall guidance, but comprehensive details governing the RBF Grants and TA Program must be accessed from the above five documents. Without reading closely all requirements applicants risk not being approved for funding.

II. Call 1 Summary Points

- Call 1 covers only Site Applications in Kenya to allow for testing and refinement of the application process before expansion to other countries next year. Any company submitting a Site Application for Kenya must first submit and be approved under the Company Qualifications module. Review of applications under Module 1 from companies operating in Kenya will be prioritized.
- A second Call for Applications (Call 2) is planned for early in Q1 2023 for Site Applications for output based RBF grants for GMGs to be built in Kenya, DRC, Mali, Benin, Madagascar and Sierra Leone. A third Call for Applications (Call 3) is planned to be released by end of Q1 2023 for outcome based PUE strategies for GMGs already operating in those six countries. This schedule is tentative and CEI Africa reserves the right to change the schedule or the countries targeted based on developing market factors. It is also possible that additional countries may be added during 2023.
- All companies wishing to apply for output based RBF grants for GMGs, for Technical Assistance and for outcome based grants for PUE strategies for GMGs MUST first be pre-qualified through the Company Pre-Qualifications module.
- In order to Pre-Qualify, companies must provide evidence of:
 - Legal status as a for profit entity
 - At least one operating GMG which meets the technical standards set forth in the Operating Manual
 - Financial capabilities and financial management capacity as set forth in the Operating Manual
 - Meeting minimum workforce gender balance requirements as set forth in the Operating Manual or presenting a plan to achieve such
- Companies unable to meet the pre-qualification standards may apply for Technical Assistance support to address the identified deficiencies.
- The RBF Grants from CEI Africa and TA to support RBF Grant applicants have thus far been budgeted at Euro 21M for all countries. This amount will cover all grant awards, TA and the fund management fee.
- While under CEI Africa's RBF Window the only budget limitation per country is that total RBF grant awards for any country may not exceed 60% of the total RBF allocation (i.e. Euro 12.6M), for Call 1 we will not award more than Euro 5M in total RBF grants. Future calls across several countries will be on a first come-first serve basis until the total RBF Grant budget is exhausted. Applicants from Kenya that do not receive funding under Call 1 may reapply under Call 2.
- No single company (determined as the ultimate owner) may receive RBF grants totaling more than 20% of the full RBF Grant allocation of CEI Africa (i.e. at present funding the maximum total for any single company is Euro 4.2M across all Calls)

- A total of Euro 1M will be available for Technical Assistance grants for GMG developers in Kenya, Madagascar, DRC, Sierra Leone, Mali and Benin. TA grants will be awarded on a first come-first serve basis. There is no deadline for applications.
- A minimum of 1000 connections must be applied for.
- Maximum subsidy amount of USD 500 per connection.
- Individual GMGs must be grouped together under an SPV or AssetCo structure in order to qualify. TA may be provided to support the establishment of SPVs or AssetCos with legal and financial advisory.
- RBF Grant applicants for specific sites must provide evidence of having secured balance of financing. Applicants may simultaneously seek construction debt financing through CEI Africa's Crowd Lending Window. Review of applications for debt financing and related due diligence will be undertaken coterminous with the review of the Site Applications under each Call. Applicants should notify CEI Africa's RBF Window Manager, Daniel Kitwa (dkitwa@greenmaxcap.com) as soon as possible to request that a debt financing application process be commenced.

A Pre-Application Webinar will be held to explain the Module 1: Company Qualifications and the Module 3: Requests for Technical Assistance on **Wednesday, 16th November, 2022; 4-5:30pm EAT**_____.

Please register here: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4Doyi4gsR5CeRC2qaCTN5g

A second Pre-Application Webinar will be held on **Monday, 28th November, 2022; 4-5:30pm EAT** to explain the Module 2: Site Application protocols for GMGs in Kenya. Please register here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81697212291>

Please submit your questions in writing to Daniel Kitwa; dkitwa@greenmaxcap.com. All inquiries will be answered in a timely manner with responses posted to the Odyssey site to allow access for all registered Applicants.