



## **SUPPORT TO INDUSTRIALISATION AND PRODUCTIVE SECTORS (SIPS)**

**Reference: SADC/3/5/2/197**

### **Summary of proceedings of the 1<sup>st</sup> Information session (virtual) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> SIPS Grant Call for Proposals held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021**

1. The SADC Secretariat organized the 1<sup>st</sup> virtual information session on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, at 10.00 – 11.50hrs
2. Meeting was attended virtually by 30 potential applicants drawn from SADC MS in the leather, ARV and Pharmaceutical value chains.
3. The session was chaired by Anneline Morgan, the Senior Programme Officer, Science Technology and Innovation (STI), department of IDT at the SADC Secretariat.
4. The purpose of the information session was to inform potential applicants on the SIPS grants, including guidelines on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals (CFP) and how to apply. The sessions also provided an opportunity to seek clarifications on several issues related to the publication of the CFP.
5. The Chair summarized issues from the CFP as listed below (Presentation attached);
  - General information on the SIPS Programme
  - Interventions and priority areas for the Call
  - Target beneficiaries and eligibility criteria
  - Grant size and contribution of the grantees
  - Number of applications and applicants per grant
  - Eligibility of lead and co-applicants
  - Eligibility of costs
  - Contributions in-kind
  - Ineligible costs
  - Ethics clauses and Code of Conduct

- Visibility
- How to apply and procedures to follow
- Indicative time table
- Evaluation and selection of applicants
- Pre-award checks

6. Key issues raised are shown in the table below;

Key Issues	Response
i. Whether profit making organizations are eligible	Profit making organizations eligible so long as the actions supported by the grants do not directly lead to profit making
ii. Eligibility of South African organizations and companies	South African applicants are eligible as long as the grant actions do not benefit South Africa itself but rather other SADC Member States.
iii. Whether Grant actions are limited to one member state	The Grant should involve at least two Member States
iv. Selection criteria on pairing of countries	The proposal should consider complementarities on the activities and relevance among the Member States involved.
v. Whether health textile is eligible for this grant	The themes under this call are the Leather and ARV and Pharma Value Chains
Vi. How many applicants are the grants targeting?	The total grants available is USD 3.1 Million so about 5-7 grants will be awarded considering the grants threshold of USD 400,000 to USD 600,000 per grant.
vi. Is the winning proposal from the first round available in the public domain?	The grants award will be publicized once the contract negotiations are finalized.
vii. Can the presentation be shared by emails	The Presentation will be shared and the participants were requested to submit email addresses.

7. Participants were advised to send or seek further clarifications from the SADC Secretariat through the following email; by 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2022. The responses to the queries will be given by 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2022.
8. The next information sessions are scheduled for 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2021 and 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2022.
9. The deadline for submission of proposal was stated as 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2022.

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