



Ireme Invest - Climate Smart Agriculture Edition

Frequently Asked Questions

About the Rwanda Adaptation Accelerator Program

Ireme Invest is inviting entrepreneurs, businesses and cooperatives that provide agricultural adaptation solutions to apply for support and funding. By joining the program, you can gain access to tailored technical assistance and resources to accelerate your ventures and boost your capacity while creating positive environmental and social impact in the agricultural sector.

As such, Ireme Invest, in partnership with The Alliance of Biodiversity and CIAT (Alliance) and funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, plans to run the Rwanda Adaptation accelerator Program. Adaptation refers to adjustments in ecological, social or economic systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli and their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities. The Alliance serves as a key technical partner in the program, integrating science-based and data-driven solutions and frameworks to de-risk agrifood investments. These tools enable the quantification of climate and environmental risks and impacts to inform investment opportunities and corresponding risk mitigation practices throughout the investment lifecycle.

1. How do we apply?

Apply online: www.iremeinvest.rw/apply/. Applications are open until Thursday 29th June 2024 at 17:00. Hardcopies submitted physically or softcopies via email will not be accepted

2. Who is eligible to apply?

Solutions aimed at agricultural adaptation are all eligible. This program focuses on SMEs and cooperatives that provide agricultural adaptation solutions in Rwanda

3. What kind of solutions are we looking for?

Ireme Invest is going to prioritize applications that focus on the following agricultural adaptation solutions:

- Resilient practices for livestock
- Nature-based solutions and supporting practices
- Sustainable on-farm practices for smallholders
- Water technologies
- Climate and weather services
- Value addition and efficient processing
- Seeds, Crop production and food systems
- Sustainable, regenerative agriculture/CSA



- Agri-business (infrastructure, equipment, processes)
- Sustainable textiles, straw
- Eco-tourism

4. Will the participants receive grant funding?

All 30 selected participants will have an opportunity to submit their project proposals for review and selection. Up to 10 of the participants will be selected to receive grant funding of up to 100,000,000 RWF.

5. Can I apply directly to access the grant funding without being part of the program?

It is mandatory to go through the program (the workshops and coaching sessions). Only participants that have been selected and are participating in the program will be eligible to access the grant funding.

6. How long will the program last and when can we submit our project proposals for funding?

The Program will be in 2 phases as indicated below:

- **Phase one:** In phase one, 30 SMEs will be selected to join a three month incubation programme. Benefits of the programme include expert mentoring, workshops, and coaching and the opportunity to submit a proposal and be among 10 programme participants to receive funding.
- **Phase Two:** In phase two, ten entrepreneurs and businesses with the most compelling proposals will receive up to Rwf 100 million each in grant funding depending on the maturity or nature of the business or idea. These SMEs will also receive 3-months additional and tailored business support, and the opportunity to connect with investors in the sector at the Ireme Invest Adaptation Accelerator Program Demo Day.

7. What are the benefits of this program?

- Access to business and agricultural adaptation focused training and workshops
- Individualized coaching sessions
- Opportunity to apply for grant funding of up to 100,000,000 RWF

8. Do we have to be in Rwanda?

Yes, we are looking for solutions that are implemented in Rwanda. Additionally, you will have to be in Rwanda to attend the workshops and coaching sessions.

9. Do we have to be registered?

Yes, the organization needs to be registered in Rwanda and the official certificate of registration needs to be provided.



10. How do we define Agricultural adaptation?

Agricultural adaptation refers to the process of adjusting farming practices, techniques, and systems in response to changes or challenges in the environment, climate, market conditions, or other factors. It involves implementing strategies to minimize the negative impacts of these changes on agricultural productivity, resilience, and sustainability. Agricultural adaptation may include measures such as altering crop varieties, improving irrigation systems, implementing conservation practices, diversifying crops, adopting new technologies, and enhancing soil management practices to better suit changing conditions and optimize agricultural outcomes. Overall, agricultural adaptation aims to enhance the resilience of farming systems and enable them to thrive in a changing and often unpredictable environment.

11. When will we get a notification if we get shortlisted?

Applicants will receive an email confirmation upon submission of their application. The review process will then begin and take approximately four weeks. Ultimately, 30 successful companies will be selected to join the program.

12. Is an organization eligible to apply if it is currently participating in similar programs?

If you are currently part of another accelerator program, we suggest that you focus on that program only.

13. In which language is the program?

Please submit your application in English (Official documents that are issued in French don't have to get translated)

Further questions?

Feel free to reach out to us: application@greenfund.rw

Also, have look at our website to find out more about us and our services: <https://iremeinvest.rw/>