



**ASPEN NETWORK
OF DEVELOPMENT
ENTREPRENEURS**

Accelerating Women Climate Entrepreneurs (AWCE) Fund

Call for Concept Notes

Office hours session

Thursday 22nd July 2021
3:00pm-4:00pm EAT



Global Affairs
Canada

Affaires mondiales
Canada

Webinar Guide



- Thank you for joining us
- The meeting will be recorded
- The meeting recording and this PowerPoint will be uploaded on our AWCE Fund website page (As additional resources)
- Be sure to put your questions in the **Q&A** at the bottom of your zoom screen
 - We will respond to questions we received via email, and encourage you to add questions in the Q&A box
 - We will respond verbally for most of the questions
 - For simple questions we may respond on Q&A chat
 - Any questions we can't cover today, we will add to our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



Agenda

Objective of the session / intros	3 mins
Webinar guide	2 mins
Overview of AWCE Fund, Applicant resources & Communications	10 mins
Spotlight #1: Eligible organizations	5 mins
Spotlight #2: Concept note submission formats and content	3 mins
Spotlight #2: Selection process	2 mins
Spotlight #4: Reasons you may be un-successful	5 mins
Q&A	30 mins

Our objective is to provide any clarification and guidance needed and facilitate the application process, especially for local organizations with more limited capacity or experience in applying for international opportunities such as AWCE Fund.

Overview of ANDE – Accelerating Women Climate Entrepreneurs (AWCE) Fund



ANDE Funds

History: Catalyst and Challenge Funds have run since 2009

Target: SGB sector – To support service providers

AWCE Fund

Aligned to ANDE strategic priorities contributing to SDGs 5-Gender Equality & 13-Climate and Environmental Action

Aim: increasing investments to support women climate entrepreneurs in SGBs in Sub-Saharan Africa

AWCE Fund

Funding support: GAC

Target regions: Sub-Saharan Africa

Eligible organization type:

- Non-profit entrepreneur support organizations. Both ANDE members and Non-members

Funding type: Grant

Project size: US \$30,000 – US \$ 65,500

Number of grants: 3 – 6 projects (winners) to be funded

Timeline

Concept note issuance: Wednesday, July 14, 2021

Deadline for concept notes (3 weeks to submit): Wednesday, August 4th, 2021

Proposal issuance to finalists: Tuesday, August 31, 2021

Proposal due (3 weeks to submit): Tuesday, September 21, 2021

Awards announced: By November 2021

Implementation: 11 Months



Applicant Resources

Resources > Funding: AWCE Fund website page: <https://www.andeglobal.org/awce/>

- [Call for concept notes](#)
- [Online application form](#)
- [Application template \(PowerPoint\)](#)
- [Application template \(Word\)](#)
- [Application template \(Video\)](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)

Communications



- Register for our newsletters - <https://www.andeglobal.org/stay-connected/>
 - Global Newsletters
 - Regional Newsletters
- Follow us on Social Media (Facebook/LinkedIn/ Twitter) - Global channels
 - **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/AspenANDE>
 - **LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/aspenande/>
 - **Twitter:** [@AspenANDE](https://twitter.com/AspenANDE)
- Regional channels (mainly ANDE EA/SA/WA)
 - EA- LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/ande-east-africa/> | Twitter: [@ANDEEastAfrica](https://twitter.com/ANDEEastAfrica)
 - SA – LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/ande-south-africa> | Twitter: [@ANDE_ZA](https://twitter.com/ANDE_ZA)
 - WA – LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/ande-west-africa> | Twitter: [@ANDEWestAfrica](https://twitter.com/ANDEWestAfrica)
- AWCE Website page
<https://www.andeglobal.org/awce/>



Eligible organizations

Organizations eligible to apply

- Non-profit entrepreneur support organizations, such as:
Incubators, accelerators, investors, capacity development providers, non-governmental organizations, operating (non-grantmaking) foundations, and research and advisory service providers, are qualified to apply.

Ineligible organizations

- For profit institutions, government agencies, donor finance institutions and grantmaking foundations are not qualified to apply.



Q&A - Eligible organizations

- Do the companies/organizations applying for AWCE Fund have to be non-profit?
Yes, Non-profit entrepreneur support organizations qualify, such as:
Incubators, accelerators, investors, capacity development providers, non-governmental organizations, operating (non-grantmaking) foundations, and research and advisory service providers, are qualified to apply.
- Do the companies/organizations that the applicant intends to support have to be non-profit?
No, they can be both non-profit and/or for-profit – i.e. Women Climate Entrepreneurs (WCEs) within Sub-Saharan Africa. WCEs are women entrepreneurs whose locally available, contextually-appropriate goods and services prioritize or significantly contribute to mitigate and/or adapt to climate change
- Can AWCE Fund support projects in two different countries e.g. South Africa & Uganda?
Yes, for example, if your project supports entrepreneurs in South Africa & Uganda since both are within Sub-Saharan Africa, they qualify. Note that submissions should be for 1 project which may cover multiple countries.

Q&A



Concept note submission formats and content

- How should I submit the concept note application? Can I submit via email?
Submissions will **only** be accepted via our [online application form](#), available on the [AWCE Fund page on the website](#). Use the provided templates (Word/PowerPoint/Video) to guide the concept note you will prepare.
- [Application template \(PowerPoint\)](#)
- [Application template \(Word\)](#)
- [Application template \(Video\)](#)



Selection process

Due to volume of applications, we will not be able to respond to each unsuccessful applicant with reasons why they were unsuccessful. ANDE will notify those who are not successful.

- Step 1: Pre-screening – ANDE internal project team screens for concepts to ensure submissions meet basic qualifying criteria;
- Step 2: Using a scoring matrix an internal review committee identifies the top 12-15 applicants which are invited to submit full proposals;
- Step 3: An external selection committee (includes 3rd party experts, our partners and funder) reviews proposals to make final decisions;
- 3-6 winners announced Nov 2021



Reasons you may be un-successful

- First we will award only 3-6 applicants; that means even some very good proposals may not get the opportunity
However, some funders may reach out to us (ANDE) for contacts and linkages to support some of the good, but unsuccessful ones
- Other reasons:
 - Not following the submission guidelines including simple things like not adhering to the max number of pages, or the grant limit requested (30,000-65,500USD),
 - Not being a non-profit organization, No clear understanding of the problem, Not focused on supporting women climate entrepreneurs, not focused on AWCE priority sectors of Agriculture, Sustainable Energy, and Water and Sanitation etc.
 - Not innovative (this is relative because it is compared with other submissions). Note: ANDE encourages Concept Notes that build on or learn from existing gender responsive interventions relevant to climate action.



Q&A

- If our organization wins this year, can we apply for a grant in the following year either for a new project or to scale-up of the awarded project?
No, to enhance inclusivity and spread our support, we cannot award the same org. that has won an ANDE grant within the same year.
- Please elaborate on: “Cost-sharing is permitted” under FAQs - “Section II. Guidelines to Consider”.
This means if say your budget is US \$ 100,000 you can apply for an ANDE grant of between 30,000-65,000 USD; then provide a note on how the rest will be funded (e.g. being funded by another institution) - prospective and committed funders, is required.
- Which expenses are eligible and not eligible for AWCE Fund? Please give us examples based on the previous accepted and rejected projects?
 - Eligible - e.g. Staff expenses, Events and Communications, Workshop costs, Event promotions, Video production, Report publication etc.
 - Non-eligible - e.g. subawards or grants to SGBs/ funding SGBs directly; unallowable entertainment and equipment such as laptops



Q&A

- Can the total project budget equal the amount requested from AWCE?
Yes! The budget can be exactly 65,500 USD. *But has to be within the range (30,000- 65,500 USD).*
- How will the funding be disbursed?
80% after signing contract; and 20% after completing the project.
- Can we submit a concept note for a different project/initiative we are undertaking e.g. for Pilot Project Funding?
Yes, as long as it meets the criteria e.g. 3 pages, for a project to support women climate entrepreneurs within AWCE priority sectors of Agriculture, Sustainable Energy, and Water and Sanitation etc.

Q&A



- Do proposals for research initiatives qualify?

A purely research driven proposal would not qualify because we are looking to fund the piloting of interventions that tackle the investment gap for women climate entrepreneurs in SGB's in Sub-Saharan Africa.

- Can we apply for the project on our own or must we partner with another organization?

Yes, you can apply on your own; no requirement to partner; however, partnership is allowed and applicants must specify partners in the submission form.

- Is there French-language support or French-language application materials for this opportunity?

Concept notes will only be accepted in English. For this particular grant we are a limited on French among the project personnel.

- How can we become an ANDE member?

ANDE Website > Membership > Become a member

<https://www.andeglobal.org/become-a-member/>



Other Q&A – Open session



Thank You!