

Questions and Answers from the Online Launch in Nigeria on 27th May 2021

21/06/2021

This is a collection of answers to the questions asked during the Online Launch of Funding Window 1 in Nigeria, grouped by topic.

#	Question	Answer
	Eligible Applicants	
1.	I am from a big TVET institution. Why do I have to partner with a private sector entity to be eligible to apply?	A key objective of SIFA is to offer employment-oriented skills training. Therefore, we want to ensure that you partner with industry so they can support the training delivery and training design, provide internships etc., to ensure that the skills they need are the ones you are teaching, and to ensure that at the end of the training, your students are ready for employment. This is a key requirement - if you do not have a Primary Partner from the private sector, your application will be disqualified.
2.	Please what are the roles of the Primary Partner in this Partnership with the Training Institution?	<i>Please refer to question 1 above.</i> Please note that the private sector entity which is the Primary or Secondary Partner cannot act as a contractor for works or a supplier of goods and services to the project with SIFA funding, as this would be a conflict of interest within the scope of the SIFA program implementation framework.
3.	How many Primary Partners are required?	It is mandatory for the Lead Partner to have one Primary Partner, and in addition you can optionally have one Secondary Partner.
4.	Good morning, I am attending from [...]. We are a not-for-profit organization providing TVET and would like to apply as a lead partner. How many primary partners are we opened to have? One or two?	It is mandatory for the Lead Partner to have one Primary Partner, and in addition you can optionally have one Secondary Partner. As an NGO, you can apply as Lead Partner if you are an accredited training provider engaged in skills development.
5.	What if a private sector primary partner has the capacity to create an ecosystem that delivers the trainings and also create the pool for the job opportunities, why do they need to partner with a lead?	A private sector entity cannot be a Lead Partner unless it is also an accredited training provider, even if it has the capacity to create a learning environment. The Lead must be an accredited training provider to ensure that the SIFA grant is invested in training facility improvements and sustainable quality-assured training provision. However, the private sector Primary Partner can support the Lead to deliver employment-oriented skills trainings.

#	Question	Answer
6.	As a government-owned training institute, do we equally need a partner institution to also apply?	Yes, as a Lead Partner, you must have a Primary Partner from industry or private sector. As a government training institution, if you are not legally autonomous, you will also need to provide a letter from the ministry responsible for your institution supporting your application. If you are legally autonomous (as some polytechnics are), then you do not need to satisfy this requirement.
7.	The Industrial Training Fund is a Federal Parastatal. Do we also need a Primary Partner?	Yes, if you are an accredited training provider (and not only a funder) then you will also need a Primary Partner from the private sector. <i>Please see question 6 above.</i>
8.	Kindly clarify the inclusion of private sector companies - is it of training or industry partners?	Concerning the inclusion of private sector companies, the focus is on industry partners, or employer organisations that are also involved in training provision. It is about companies that are engaged in manufacturing, services and all the activities and enterprises that support economic activities in the country – not private training providers. Therefore, when we talk about private sector as a Primary Partner, we talk about industry and not a private training institution. A private training institution can come in as a Secondary Partner, but cannot be a Primary Partner.
9.	The Partnership between TVET Trainer and Private Sector - what are the criteria for the Private Company. Can a Private Sector Cooperative with over 1000 members be acceptable?	Regarding cooperatives, chambers of commerce, or industry organisations, they must also be involved in skills development in one way or another to be eligible as Primary Partner. If there is no clear role for them as Primary Partner, they can come in as Secondary Partner.
10.	Does this mean a TVET Institution that places its students in jobs still needs an employer as a senior partner? Is this a manufacturing company or government institution?	The TVET institution as training provider is the Lead Partner, and the employer organisation that receives its students can very well be the Primary Partner. So, if you have a relationship like that which already works, and you think that this partner can support you in your proposed project, then you can of course use this existing partnership to apply. But the training provider is always the Lead Partner (the senior in the consortium, who will eventually sign the application and potential grant agreement), and the employer would be the Primary Partner.
11.	Do I need to have a secondary partner in addition to the primary partner from the private sector or industry?	No, it is not mandatory for Applicants to have a Secondary Partner. Only the Primary Partner is mandatory. However, in some cases it might be useful to bring on board a Secondary Partner to strengthen your application.

#	Question	Answer
		In any case, you will always have to demonstrate the specific role and contribution of your chosen partner(s) in your proposed project.
12.	Primary and secondary partners ... which companies are examples of these categories of partnerships, especially in the Digital Skills Ecosystem?	Most modern manufacturing plants and service industries such as telecommunication and ICT companies operate in a digital skills environment. For a list of eligible entities, please check page 9 of the Concept Note Application Guide, available to download from the SIFA website at www.skillsafrica.org/apply .
13.	Just for confirmation, the applicant is the Lead Partner (that will be the grantee) and the Primary Partner might not be Applicant but an implementation Partner?	<p>The Primary Partner supports training in one way or another, and can also contribute to the counterpart contribution to the grant. The Primary Partner is a private sector entity that supports the Lead Partner in the design and delivery of training, including helping to provide internships, advising on the curriculum or contributing to the implementation activities of your project.</p> <p>The role of the Primary Partner is key because it will help you achieve the important objective of offering <i>employment-oriented</i> training – not just training for the sake of training. Trainees must be able to use the acquired skills in the labour market either as employee or as creator of jobs.</p>
14.	I work to run a private company that's a training institution. We also run a TECH Hub NGO as our corporate social responsibility. Can our private company serve as a Lead Company and our NGO serve as a primary partner?	<p>The entity that offers training is the one that should be the Lead Partner. If your TECH Hub NGO offers training, then it can be a Lead Partner, provided it is accredited as a training provider.</p> <p>The important requirement is that the Lead Partner must be an accredited training provider. SIFA is a skills development programme and the provision of employment-related skills training by the Lead Partner is a key objective.</p> <p>If you are an accredited TVET institution or TVET provider, public or private, then you can apply as Lead Partner, but make sure that you have a Primary Partner from the private sector.</p>
15.	If a training association is the applicant, can a member organisation of the training association be a primary partner	Yes, this is possible, if by “training association” you mean an employer or industry organisation that is involved in skills development. A member company of the employer association qualifies as a Primary Partner, provided it is involved in industrial, manufacturing or similar activities (<i>see also question 8 above</i>).
16.	Can members of a training association have all her members as group primary partners?	No, this is not possible. The Primary Partner must be a single private sector entity.

#	Question	Answer
17.	We are a training institution in Electricity Smart Meter Technology, Installation and Management, while our Sponsor is our Parent Company which manufactures electricity smart meters. My question is, could our Parent Company be our Primary Partner?	Yes, this is possible if the training institution is accredited. Your parent company can then be the Primary Partner.
18.	I am a TVET institution, a project of an NGO. Can the NGO be the Lead partner	An NGO can be a Lead Partner if it is accredited to offer skills training by the appropriate national authority. The requirement to have a Primary Partner from the private sector is still mandatory in this case as well.
19.	We are a non-profit company specific to welding personnel qualification and certification. What roles has been factored for bodies like us [...]? Can we be a secondary partner to our list of accredited training bodies who apply for this SIFA project?	If you are an accredited training provider, you can apply as either Lead Partner or Secondary Partner.
20.	Just to clarify, if I am within the private sector, involved in training, would my partner come from the same space or industry?	Not necessarily, although it could make sense that the Primary Partner comes from the same industry for which the Lead Partner provides training. That way, the partnership could ensure that the training is oriented towards the needs of that particular industry. However, you should choose your Primary Partner based on your project idea. If you intend to offer training in another sector, then choosing a partner from that sector could be better. As a training provider, you must be accredited. <i>Please also see question 1 above.</i>
21.	Can an SME apply?	Yes, a small or medium sized enterprise can apply as Primary Partner. It must be in partnership with an accredited training provider as Lead Partner.
22.	We offer digital skills training like: Mobile app development, Web development, Graphics Designs (UI/UX). Who can we partner with before we can apply?	If you are an accredited training provider and apply as Lead Partner, your Primary Partner must be from the private sector. Your partner could be involved in the industry/sectors for which you provide training. However, this is not mandatory, but rather depends on the kind of private sector support you need for your project idea <i>Please also see question 1 above.</i>
23.	Please, what if Co-Applicant is an Accredited Training provider but the Lead Applicant is not?	The Lead Applicant must be an accredited training provider, while the Primary Partner (or “co-applicant”) must be a private sector company or entity. If this requirement is not fulfilled, the application will be disqualified.
24.	Can a TVET institution of 2 years apply or jointly make a bid with a TVET of 30 years standing?	The requirement is that a TVET provider as the Lead Partner must have experience in skills training. You can

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		<p>have another training institution as a Secondary Partner, but not as a Primary Partner – the Primary Partner must come from the private sector, it must be an industry or employer organisation, or similar.</p> <p>So yes, if your institution is two years old and you have demonstrated your ability to provide quality employment-oriented training, you can apply – but your Primary Partner must be from industry / private sector, and the older TVET provider can be your Secondary Partner.</p>
25.	Can the Primary Partner be a government entity or parastatal?	Yes, if the parastatal operates in the industry sector (e.g., the Nigeria Electric Power Authority or Nigeria Telecom are examples of such parastatals). Parastatals can be eligible as Primary Partner so long as they are involved in industrial activities.
26.	Can the primary partner be a government parastatal?	<i>See above</i>
27.	Can a government parastatal be the primary partner of a TVET institution?	<i>See above</i>
28.	Can a government parastatal like a TVET institution be a lead or primary partner?	<p>A government-owned TVET institution can be a Lead Partner. For a government parastatal to be a Primary Partner, it must operate in the industry sector.</p> <p><i>See question 25 above.</i></p>
29.	[...] Can the secondary partner be a Government Institution like a state government institution?	Yes, this is possible.
30.	Can a computer skills acquisition training institution owned by a State Government be a Lead applicant and request for funding or additional equipment for the institution?	Yes, this is possible.
31.	I will like to know if a Library is qualified to be classified as a training institute.	No, a library is not considered a training provider, but rather a resource facility for learning. If you would like to improve your library equipment and facilities, it can be part of your project proposal, but a library cannot be a Lead Partner.
32.	Please I would like to know if Public Research Institutions are classified as TVET.	If you are involved in research only, then you are not considered as a TVET training provider. However, if you are also involved in training provision of accredited courses, then you can be a Lead Partner. On the other hand, if you are an incubation centre or involved in product development, then you can be a Primary Partner and apply jointly with an accredited training provider as Lead Partner.

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33.	Can an industry training association be an applicant? If yes, who will be their primary partner?	Yes, an industry association involved in skills development can be a Lead Applicant. They must have a Primary Partner from the private sector – <i>please see question 1</i> above, and check the Concept Note Application Guide, available to download from the SIFA website at www.skillsafrica.org/apply .
34.	Hey I have a question, so I work with a food network TV company and we aim to embark on food system and processing training for students across Nigeria and West Africa. Can we apply for SIFA funding?	If you are an accredited training provider, you can apply for SIFA Funding as Lead Partner, together with a relevant Primary Partner. Under SIFA Funding Window 1, the Lead Partner must be an accredited training provider with experience in skills development, not start-ups. However, if you are a food system and processing company, then you can apply as a Primary Partner jointly with a Lead Partner.
35.	Hello, my name is [...] & I represent the Asian African Chamber of Commerce & Industry as a Director. How can we be associated with you to work together for the betterment of Africa?	As a Chamber of Commerce & Industry, you can apply for SIFA funding as Primary Partner. You need to partner with an accredited training provider as Lead Applicant.
36.	For instance, what will be the role of sector specific qualification bodies in for example welding?	A sector specific qualification and certification body can be a Secondary Partner to a Lead Partner who offers training in the sector concerned as an accredited training provider.
37.	Normally here in North Eastern part of Nigeria we don't have many private industries due to the nature of business activities here. How can we be eligible to apply for funding?	As a Lead Partner, you need to have a Primary Partner from the private sector as an eligibility requirement. The private sector encompasses a wide range of enterprises from agriculture to SMEs and industry-oriented parastatals. So, your choice of Primary Partner is not limited to large private sector companies or industrial concerns.
Eligible Projects		
38.	Can I apply for a grant to procure only training equipment?	You may apply for a grant for training equipment only, but you must justify the need for this training equipment and demonstrate that you have appropriate infrastructure to house the equipment, and that you have competent trainers to provide employment-oriented training with this equipment and that you do not require any other didactic intervention. The key requirement is that your project proposal must include either an infrastructure intervention and/or procurement of equipment.
39.	Do I have to construct a building or renovate a building to get the grant?	The key eligibility requirement is that your project proposal must include either a construction activity and/or procurement of equipment. Thus, you do not have to construct or renovate a building, but if you apply for training equipment only, you must justify the need for the training equipment

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		<p>and demonstrate that you have appropriate physical infrastructure to house the equipment.</p> <p><i>Please also see question 38 above.</i></p>
40.	<p>While discussing submission conditions by one of the presenters, I seem to have heard that curriculum design and learner scholarships are included in this funding window. (I have poor internet communication.)</p> <p>My first question is that I seem to have heard that curriculum design and learner scholarships were NOT included.</p>	<p>Curriculum design, learner scholarships, and training of trainers can be funded under SIFA Funding Window I, but only in combination with infrastructure measures and/or procurement of training equipment, and only up to 5% of the total project cost.</p> <p>For more details, please check the Concept Note Application Guide available to download from the SIFA website at www.skillsafrica.org/apply.</p>
41.	<p>Can an applicant apply for more than one of the technical and didactic interventions?</p>	<p>Yes, each consortium of a Lead Applicant and a Primary Partner can submit one application. In the application, you can request funding for all five technical and didactic interventions, namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Construction, rehabilitation or expansion of learning infrastructure 2. Procurement of training equipment 3. Training of Trainers 4. Curriculum Design 5. Learner Scholarships <p>Please note that activities 3, 4 and 5 can be funded only in combination with both or either of the above core activities 1 and 2, and the total grant amount for 3, 4 and 5 (combined) cannot exceed 5% of the total project cost.</p> <p>The maximum total grant amount you can request in your application is limited to EUR 3 million, and you must commit to a counterpart contribution of at least 10% of the total project cost.</p> <p>For more details, please check the Concept Note Application Guide available to download from the SIFA website at www.skillsafrica.org/apply.</p>
42.	<p>From your presentation, you hammered on the first two intervention activities for inclusion in the project proposals. Are they the areas we should be more focused on?</p>	<p>The key eligibility requirement is that your project proposal must include either a physical infrastructure intervention, and/or procurement of training equipment.</p> <p><i>Please see question 41 above.</i></p>
43.	<p>Good morning. Can a TVET organization (e.g., a shoe manufacturing company) apply specifically for funding to cover infrastructural/equipment expansion only? [...]</p>	<p>Yes, a TVET institution (NOT a shoe manufacturing company) can apply for (a) infrastructure expansion only or (b) equipment only, but in both cases you must demonstrate that you have (a) the facilities to house the equipment, or (b) in the case of infrastructure</p>

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		interventions only, that you already have the necessary equipment to fully use the planned facility.
44.	At the moment, we are in partnership with a particular body of artisans in Nigeria. We are giving them NSQ training in various trades. But we hope to support them with materials testing lab and some workshop equipment to enable optimally utilize what they are learning from us and to produce better quality products. Can our submission be made in the training equipment window?	If you as Lead Partner are an accredited training provider, you and your Primary Partner can apply for procurement of training equipment. However, please note that you cannot sell your own equipment to the project using SIFA funding. <i>Please see also question 2 above.</i>
45.	For a TVET organisation that requires training of trainers as part of its proposal, can it source for the trainers from anywhere?	Yes, this is possible. However, training of trainers can only be funded in combination with either an infrastructure intervention or procurement of training equipment or both. Applications for ONLY training of trainers are not eligible. <i>Please also see question 41 above.</i>
46.	Are there any specific sectors of the economy or skills development areas that SIFA will prioritise in the selection process?	For SIFA it is important to work within the national human resource development agenda. What are the priority sectors for Nigeria? What does Nigeria hope to achieve through these sectors? Where are the skills gaps and shortages in the Nigerian economy? If your application is able to demonstrate that for Nigeria, based on facts and figures from government data, that energy (for example) is an important sector, and you want to provide skills training for renewable energy production or similar, this could be ranked higher. Thus, it depends on what priority areas there are for Nigeria and for which you think you can offer support in terms of bridging skills gaps and enhancing employability. Therefore, SIFA does not prescribe specific sectors for applicants. However, it is advisable for applicants to demonstrate that their proposal addresses the skills needs of a priority sector in the country and thus improving the employment prospects of the trainees.
47.	Automation is expected to contribute significantly to the future of work- Is there any special consideration for this kind of sectors that can easily and quickly not only employ, but create ecosystem that can push millions of youths out of poverty & improve GDP of rural areas	<i>See above.</i>
48.	Also, can we clearly state the sectors that are of interest. I play in the fashion technology sector. Is this sector considered	<i>See above.</i>
49.	I work with a private training provider and we would like to partner with a private company and outsourcing firm to bring together expertise to	<i>See above.</i>

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	deliver the objective of the SIFA project. Is the partnership limited to a particular sector?	
50.	Please can a project on production or manufacturing be funded?	If you have a project that includes training for a specific manufacturing activity, yes – but it must be training oriented. SIFA does not fund enterprises that are involved in manufacturing. For example, if you are a company manufacturing bicycles, SIFA will not give you money to continue manufacturing bicycles. What SIFA aims to do is to provide funding to train people to acquire skills for employment in the bicycle factory. Skills development for enhanced employability is at the core of the SIFA programme, so your proposal needs to be aligned with this objective.
51.	Must the project be from an existing national program or can be an existing state TVET programme proposing a national programme?	At the state and national levels, there are priority economic sectors for which the state or national government would need skilled workers. Therefore, it does not matter if the project is at the state or national level, or if it has started somewhere else – the key factor is that you are developing a new proposal for a project that you think can respond to the skills needs of the economy or individuals – this is important for people in search of skills to be able to go into wage employment or self-employment, create jobs and employ others.
52.	Can the proposal have a national coverage or one can go for the scope he could cover?	The scope of your project depends on your capabilities and the proposed interventions of your project idea. However please note that the proposal assessment criteria include “Regional impact and replicability”. Thus, you should explain the regional impact of your project and how the project could be replicated in neighbouring countries of the region.
53.	Should the concept note have a national coverage as a condition for selection or can it cover a limited scope?	<i>See above.</i>
54.	Must the skills being provided have a certified awarding body before they can be eligible for SIFA funding? For any National Skill Qualification training, it is necessary to have a training body, awarding body and sector skills council. At the moment some trades do not have a recognised awarding bodies by the regulator (NBTE).	For SIFA, the key requirement is that the proposed skills training programme must be accredited. In this regard, SIFA will only fund skills development programmes that are accredited by the relevant national accreditation and regulatory body.
55.	[...] If I heard right, I would like to be guided as to the challenge we have of planning to provide skills training in women-dominated trades like 'hair dressing and beauty therapy'. In this there is no National Occupational Standards in Nigeria and we therefore planned to apply for funding to	If you intend to apply as a Lead Partner, then the first requirement is that your training institution must be accredited. Secondly, the training curriculum must be accredited by the relevant national accreditation body. Applicants are free to develop new curriculum to address the skills needs of young people, including

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	develop it before the training commences. Can you advise please?	<p>women and girls. However, applicants must demonstrate that the proposed curriculum can be developed and accredited before training starts. SIFA can provide funding for curriculum design as one of the technical and didactic interventions eligible for funding, provided it is combined with a construction activity and or procurement of training equipment.</p> <p><i>See also question 41 above.</i></p>
56.	<p>Good morning. My name is [...]. The National Board for Technical Education [NBTE] is a regulatory body for Polytechnic Education in Nigeria. NBTE introduces new curricula from time to time towards meeting the technological challenges in Nigeria. Recently there are a number of such new curricula approved by NBTE for which Polytechnics that have the financial capacity to fund can establish such programmes. At my Federal Polytechnic, the Management of the Institution is eager to establish one of such new programmes which is highly capital intensive. My question therefore is "Can we prepare a proposal under the Funding Window 1 for the procurement of training equipment for workshops and laboratories to enable the institution establish the new programme?"</p>	<p>Yes, as a Federal Polytechnic, you can apply as Lead Partner for a SIFA grant for procurement of training equipment for the establishment of a new training programme. However, as with all Funding Window 1 applications, you will need to have a private sector entity as Primary Partner.</p>
57.	<p>Can we prepare a proposal under the Funding Window 1 for the procurement of training equipment for workshops and laboratories to enable the Management of my Federal Polytechnic, establish a programme approved by NBTE (National Board for Technical Education)?</p>	<p>Yes, this is possible.</p> <p><i>See above.</i></p>
58.	<p>We have a skills acquisition project here in my Polytechnic initiated by an institution in the USA but lacks funding. Can SIFA consider such a project?</p>	<p>It is not possible to give a definite answer unless you provide further information on the nature of the collaboration with the US institution. If the project lacks funding, you may wish to repackage it as a new project (if possible) and apply for SIFA funding to implement it.</p>
	Counterpart Contribution	
59.	<p>Hello Sir, I want to ask if we can add our immediate past free training that was done in October and November 2020 which was done free for the Society and country under our Industry, Can we quantify the training as part of our Counterpart 10% contribution?</p>	<p>If a training has happened in the past, then it cannot be part of your application, and will not be eligible as counterpart contribution. The counterpart contribution is intended to be something that comes with your application, not something you have done in the past.</p> <p>For details on the counterpart contribution, please check the Concept Note Application Guide available to download from the SIFA website at www.skillsafrica.org/apply.</p>

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60.	Can you elaborate on the counterpart contribution and the amount involved?	<p>The counterpart contribution must be at least 10% of the total project cost. In the budget, it is recommended to include a higher percentage of counterpart contribution, as not all elements might be approved as eligible during Due Diligence verification.</p> <p>EUR 3 million is the maximum amount of the SIFA grant only. The counterpart contribution is additional to the EUR 3 million.</p> <p>For details on the counterpart contribution, please check the Concept Note Application Guide available to download from the SIFA website at www.skillsafrica.org/apply.</p>
61.	Please, about the nature of the Applicant's contribution. Can it include: land, facilities, patent, etc?	<p>There are various measures and interventions that can count as counterpart contribution, including for example payment of taxes on imported training equipment. For details and examples please check the Concept Note Application Guide available to download from the SIFA website at www.skillsafrica.org/apply.</p> <p>If you acquire land specifically for the project, then that can be a counterpart contribution - provided it was acquired after the launch event in the context of the project proposal. But you cannot use an existing property or land as a counterpart contribution. It must be something that you are putting into the basket as your commitment to the project. So, it is the project first, then you have the add-on, and that add-on can be land if you need land in order to build a new facility. Then this land can become a counterpart contribution.</p>
62.	<p>Can payment for the land purchased by us for the Construction be part of the Co-Financing of Invoices under options available in the Counterpart funding?</p> <p>Can the cost of relevant drawings be calculated as part of co-financing?</p>	<p>For land, <i>please see question 61 above.</i></p> <p>For drawings: Yes, but only after the project is selected for funding and after signature of the Implementation Agreement.</p>
General / Other		
63.	What about ensuring that 30% women will be enrolled? How do I do that?	<p>SIFA puts a premium on getting women to be trained, as well as youth and vulnerable groups. In your proposal, there are certain things you can do to ensure a lot of women can get enrolled in your training programme. This could be for example affirmative actions in terms of admission criteria that favour young women if they are qualified at the same level as young men and you have to choose between them. If you have facilities for ladies such as washrooms, changing rooms in the workshops, hostel facilities etc., this can be helpful. Another example would be facilities for nursing mothers where their babies are taken care of while</p>

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		<p>their mothers are in training. All this could help to improve the participation rate of women in training.</p> <p>For more details, please check the Concept Note Application Guide.</p>
64.	Whenever it comes to training and similar initiatives, those in the urban areas and cities always reap the benefits, leaving people in rural areas out. Will this initiative be such? Or will it be aimed to reach remote, rural dwellers equally?	SIFA aims to reach everyone irrespective of urban or rural setting, without discrimination. What is important is that you are doing skills development, and that you have a Primary Partner willing to support you in implementing your project. If you are in the rural area and you have a real good proposal, this could be an advantage, because those in the rural areas might have less access to skills development but equally deserve to acquire employment-oriented skills for improved livelihoods.
65.	Please confirm the number of companies/organisations that will benefit from this grant.	Under Funding Window 1 in Nigeria, SIFA intends to shortlist the three best Concept Note proposals, which will be invited to submit Full Proposals at the second stage of the application process. At least two successful Full Proposal applications can receive funding.
66.	[...]. Hello, at the end of the day, how many TVET/Training institutions will benefit from this funding.	<i>See above.</i>
67.	I am [...]. My question is, how many proposals can be submitted?	<p>If you are a training provider, you know your needs and we expect you to put them in one single application. Dividing it into several applications (e.g., one for construction, another for equipment) does not increase your chances to receive funding.</p> <p>When you are logged in to your account in SmartME, you can click on the call for proposals for Nigeria to create a draft application. In principle, you can create several draft applications for the same call for proposals. However, an application can only be submitted once. Once it is submitted, it cannot be modified anymore. Therefore, creating several draft applications does not help, unless you intend to submit applications for different projects. If we notice that you submit two applications for the same project, we will only evaluate one of them (the one that appears to be more complete and more responsive to the proposal assessment criteria).</p>
68.	Please, is it clear how many projects the Funding Window I can support?	In Nigeria, at least two projects will be funded under SIFA Funding Window I.
69.	Can one TVET institution with multiple Faculties submit 2 or more different applications emanating from different faculties on different skills training programmes?	Yes, this is possible.

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70.	<p>Good morning. The Industrial Training Fund has 5 functional training centres and more are being built across the country. Should we apply for all the training centres in one proposal or separate proposals.</p>	<p>If you are an organisation involved in TVET provision, then you can apply as one entity and mention all the different centres that you want to include in your project, but they cannot be the Lead Applicant. You as Applicant (Industrial Training Fund) will be the Lead Partner, and the training centres can be included as beneficiaries of your project concept. In your proposal, you should specify which centre(s) your project aims to support. So, for the Industrial Training Fund, if you are involved in training, then you can apply for funding to support the training centres that you have identified.</p> <p>On the other hand, each of the training centres can apply individually as a Lead Partner if they fulfil all the eligibility criteria as specified in the Concept Note Application Guide, available for download at www.skillsafrica.org/apply.</p>
71.	<p>Please explain the assessment process? What are the phases in the process?</p>	<p>Submitted Concept Notes will first be screened for eligibility - proposals not fulfilling the Eligibility Criteria will be rejected. Eligible Concept Notes are then evaluated and scored against the Assessment Criteria. The three highest-ranked proposals will be shortlisted and invited to submit Full Proposals.</p> <p>For more details about the application process and the Eligibility and Assessment Criteria, please check the SIFA website and the Concept Note Application Guide, available to download at www.skillsafrica.org/apply.</p>
72.	<p>Can we have list of partners?</p>	<p>To support potential applicants to build partnerships, SIFA is providing a matchmaking space where interested parties can subscribe and view a list of potential partners. This will be available on the SIFA website in the section "Apply" (www.skillsafrica.org/apply) where you find all the relevant links about the Nigeria launch. You will find a button "Meet Your Partner", which leads to the registration form. You can fill this form if you are looking for a partner. Once we have some registrations, we will publish this information as a list under the same button, so you can view potential partners and contact them directly, and/or register yourself to be contacted by others.</p> <p>This is a free tool SIFA offers to facilitate partnership building, but it is of course not mandatory and applicants are free to build partnerships of their own in other ways.</p>
73.	<p>When will SIFA Funding Window 1 be implemented?</p>	<p>Implementation of selected projects under Funding Window 1 will start after signing of the Implementation Agreement with AUDA-NEPAD with the winning Applicants.</p>

#	Question	Answer
		<p>For details about the application process, please check the Concept Note Application Guide, available to download at www.skillsafrica.org/apply.</p>
74.	<p>Will the video of this launch event be available to participants?</p>	<p>Yes, all videos of the launch (speeches, technical presentations, Q&A session) will be available on the SIFA website in the section about the Nigeria launch at www.skillsafrica.org/apply, for you to watch any time at your convenience.</p> <p>A summary of the questions and answers of the launch Q&A session will also be published on the website, as we might not be able to answer all questions during the live session of the launch programme.</p> <p>For any further questions, please check the Concept Note Application Guide available to download at www.skillsafrica.org/apply. If you cannot find the answer to your question, you can send your question via the Contact form on the website, and in case of technical problems in SmartME, you may send a support request in the Support section of the SmartME system.</p>