Green people’s energy
Proposed procedure for the Small Projects Fund

The application procedure for the Small Projects Fund consists of a pre-phase with a project outline (4 pages) and a main phase with a detailed full proposal.

Project outlines are submitted by email (buergerenergie@giz.de) and reviewed on a continuous basis. The outlines are evaluated at regular intervals (currently three times a year) and applicants then receive a rejection letter or an invitation to submit a full proposal.

Applicants and proposals must meet the following conditions and criteria.

Conditions to be met by the applicant and co-applicant

- The applicant must have a fixed location (registered office) in the target country and have been active there in projects with a similar context for at least three years.
- The applicant must be a legal entity with legal capacity as an organisation or institution and act for the public benefit.
- The intended use of funds by the project must qualify as achieving a tax-privileged purpose (e.g. for the public benefit).
- If the applicant plans to manage funds independently, an appropriate accounting system with qualified personnel must be in place. If the organisation does not have an appropriate accounting system, book-keeping may be carried out via a partnership with another appropriate organisation.
- There must be no allegations of corruption or investigations against the applicant’s executives or management. The applicants and activities involved must not breach the United Nations’ or European Union’s sanctions regime.
- Only complete applications will be considered.

Criteria to be met by the project

- The project’s target region must be in sub-Saharan Africa. Projects will be supported primarily in the initiative’s focus countries (Benin, Côte d’Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique, Namibia, Senegal, Uganda and Zambia). As a guideline, 75% of projects will be implemented in focus countries.
In addition to the focus countries, projects can also be funded in countries with a GIZ country office. This includes: Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Togo.
- The project must be in the area of decentralised energy supply. Installation of plants and systems can be funded only if the use of technology is a means to an end (e.g. construction of a plant for training purposes). Cooperation is a key element of the initiative and must be integrated into the project.
- The project must meet a local need. The local target group must be clearly defined and involved as actively as possible.
- Goals and activities must be clearly defined and measurable.
- The project must aim to achieve sustainable impact and results and be capable of self-sustaining beyond the funding period. Standalone feasibility studies and needs analyses cannot be financed by the Small Projects Fund.
- Project management must be clearly defined, efficient, independent and effective.
- The budget must be plausible and appropriate to the project’s aims.
– **Contributions from the Small Projects Fund** can cover up to 80% of the total project costs and must not exceed EUR 200,000. In-kind contributions by the applicants are accepted as contributions.

– All elements to be funded must be clearly laid out. All **construction measures** must be documented in detail.

– Any funding support is contingent on the approval of the **German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)**.