

# IGF FAQs

## Where can I learn more about the IGF?

If you'd like to see how your idea might complement existing IA programs or services, or just to learn more about what else is available, please visit [www.initiativeafrica.net](http://www.initiativeafrica.net)

## When is the next application deadline?

The IGF application call is open twice each calendar year ( starting with January 1 and ending with December 31); once in July and once in February.

## Who can apply?

The IGF is open to all BMOs, economic, business, professional associations and chambers of commerce and sectoral associations. Women and youth focused business associations are encouraged to apply.

## What types of activities might be funded?

The IGF was created in the spirit of service to the business community. It will support new innovative projects, presentations, activities, events, or campaigns that promote business growth and well-being in Ethiopia. Applications will be reviewed <sup>in</sup> by the PEER Working Groups, representatives from IA, CIPE, PACCI and ECCSA, the Chairs of two BMOs and IGF Sponsors.



## How do I apply?

When the application cycle opens, simply answer the application questions and provide an itemized budget. Click the log-in text in the side-bar to start your application. You can save it and edit it multiple times before submitting. To add a layer of protection against the various issues that can arise while working in a web browser, please prepare responses ahead of time and paste answers directly into the relevant fields. You can find the IGF application and evaluation criteria on IA's website.

## Still have more questions?

Attend one of our information sessions which will be communicated via our website.



## Contact us:

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Initiative Africa

# APPLY FOR THE INNOVATIVE GRANT FUND [IGF]

An Embassy of Sweden financed grant program to strengthen the capacity of Business Support Associations.

*Through the IGF, Initiative Africa is implementing innovative solutions to enable Chambers of Commerce and Business Membership Organizations (BMOs) to access the finance they need to support enterprises and grow businesses.*

Project Duration  
**2020 - 2022**



Traders in Merkato



## Why Business Membership Organizations (BMOs) ?

We believe that BMOs are a platform for promoting a better investment climate in Ethiopia.

In order to be a strong and reputable representative of the private sector, vis-à-vis the public sector, BMOs should have the capacity to advocate the interests and concerns of their members; be strong organizations with a proper governance structure; and respond to their members needs by delivering required services and information.

## Our team of innovators

Our team is experienced in solving major programming or institutional problems of Business Membership Organizations. We understand that BMOs are a channel to reach a large number of enterprises. Based on this premise, IA uses the IGF to support the effectiveness of BMOs while developing activities to build their capacity as professional advocates as well as demand-driven service providers.

## About Initiative Africa and the EMEA project

Initiative Africa (IA) is a Non Governmental Organization established in Ethiopia in 2004 to empower citizens to be agents of positive transformation within their local communities.

IA is committed to systematic, institutional and individual capacity building of membership organizations to enhance the development of policies and methodologies that promote economic and social welfare, defend the environment, uphold gender equity, civil rights, justice and fair treatment to all citizens.

We do this through supporting local groups and organizations in their development, civic education training, cultural activities, entrepreneurship development, and creating opportunities to meet and build bridges in even contentious situations.

## Innovative Grant Fund (IGF)

The IGF is part of a larger project called "Empowering Marginal Economic Actors through Policy Reform from the Bottom Up".

The project is run by a consortium of partners comprising Initiative Africa (IA), Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE) and Pan African Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PACCI). The aim is to improve efficiency and productivity of Business Membership Organizations (BMOs) in Ethiopia

## Empowering Marginal Economic Actors through Policy Reform from the Bottom-Up (EMEA) project.

The aim is to assist in improving the effectiveness of Chambers of Commerce and Business Membership Organizations (BMO) and deliver on the SDGs.

The consortium understands that BMOs are a channel through which a large number of enterprises could be reached. BMOs can also be effective providers or facilitators of selected enterprise support services that can work concurrently at the policy level.

Based on this premise, the role of IA is to administer the IGF in support of activities that build the capacity of BMOs as professional advocates and as demand-driven service providers over the next two years.

### EMEA Consortium Partners

