

# TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE & SCALING SUPPORT - Information Guide

## Features of the Fund

<b>Product</b>	<b>Technical Assistance and Scaling Grant</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	To strengthen and expand proven financial solutions that increase access to affordable, appropriate, and sustainable financial services for unbanked and underbanked populations in Nigeria.
<b>Size of Grant</b>	Up to \$30,000
<b>Eligible Expenditure</b>	<p>EFInA grant funding can be used to cover the costs of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geographic Expansion to underserved regions</li> <li>• Beneficiary Expansion</li> <li>• Service Expansion</li> <li>• Embedded Capability Building (Financial and digital literacy) for underserved beneficiaries</li> </ul>
<b>Non-Eligible Expenditure</b>	<p>EFInA funds CANNOT be used for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subsidising the organisation's general operations and staff-related costs</li> <li>• On-lending to customers</li> <li>• Office relocation, branch infrastructure, general fixed assets</li> <li>• Advertising/marketing not directly tied to the funded project or financial literacy</li> <li>• Obtaining a business operations licence</li> <li>• Acquiring an equity stake in a new or existing business</li> <li>• Debt servicing or repayment of existing liabilities</li> <li>• Dividends, shareholder distributions, or profit payments</li> <li>• Political, lobbying, or religious activities</li> <li>• Retrospective financing of completed activities</li> <li>• Investment or speculative financial activities</li> <li>• Costs incurred outside the approved project period</li> <li>• Taxes, fines, penalties, or legal settlements</li> <li>• Foreign exchange losses or hedging costs</li> <li>• Donations, sponsorships, or charitable contributions</li> </ul>
<b>Maximum Term of Project</b>	12 months from the first disbursement of the Grant

<b>Funding Conditions</b>	The Grant is payable in quarterly tranches with each payment linked to the achievement of pre-agreed Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and milestones outlined in the detailed project plan and Grant Agreement. For grants with shorter time frames (less than 12 months), payments will be made in two equal instalments, one upon commencement of the project and the other upon completion.
<b>Monitoring and Evaluation</b>	<p>Monitoring and Evaluation is an on-going process throughout the tenure of the Grant. The grantee's Programme Manager and EFInA's Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Manager are responsible for ensuring that the overall objectives of the Grant are met as well as ensuring project governance and relationship management. The M&amp;E process will involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Baseline assessment prior to implementation</li> <li>▪ Pre-defined KPIs and milestone targets</li> <li>▪ Bi-weekly and/or monthly progress updates</li> <li>▪ Quarterly field visits and review meetings by EFInA</li> <li>▪ Periodic technical and financial reports in EFInA-approved format</li> <li>▪ Mid-term review (where applicable)</li> <li>▪ Data quality assurance and verification checks</li> <li>▪ Risk monitoring and mitigation tracking</li> <li>▪ An end-of-project evaluation report including lessons learned, challenges, sustainability plan, and key achievements</li> <li>▪ Potential independent audits or third-party evaluations</li> </ul> <p>Changes to the project must be communicated to, and approved by EFInA through a pre-agreed Project Change Control process included in the Grant Agreement</p>
<b>Applicant's Contribution</b>	All applicants will be expected to match at least 25% of the Grant awarded by EFInA. The grantee's matching funds may be used to acquire fixed assets or fund project staff at a disclosed rate and on a basis acceptable to EFInA for the project. EFInA will also consider other forms of grantee contributions.
<b>Applications Timing</b>	The Technical Assistance and Scaling Grant will be initiated through the issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP), which will be shared with eligible and prospective applicants. Interested and qualified Fintechs may submit proposals in response to the RFP in accordance

	with the stated eligibility criteria, application requirements, and submission guidelines.
<b>Approval Process</b>	A Grant Review Committee evaluates all successful proposals.
<b>Selection Criteria</b>	<p>Submitted proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Innovation - 10%</li> <li>• Viable Project Idea (Business Case) - 30%</li> <li>• Developmental Impact – 20%</li> <li>• Capacity to implement – 20%</li> <li>• Consumer Protection/ Financial literacy – 10%</li> <li>• Sustainability – 10%</li> </ul>
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	<p>Selected grantees will be required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submit monthly progress updates</li> <li>• Submit quarterly performance reports</li> <li>• Provide financial accountability reports</li> <li>• Participate in monitoring visits</li> </ul>