

## **Guidelines for Application of Funds under Funding Instrument F4: Supporting Small-Scale Initiatives**

The National Social Inclusion Foundation (NSIF) is a funding agency set up under the aegis of the Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity to support programmes and projects towards poverty alleviation and social inclusion.

The NSIF is the central body to receive and allocate public funds to NGOs. Its mission is “to empower and improve the wellbeing of people living in conditions of poverty and vulnerability through impactful and sustainable stakeholder partnerships”.

The primary focus of the NSIF is to generate better social outcomes for the poor and vulnerable groups while ensuring accountability and transparency in the use of public funds.

### **Supporting Small-Scale Initiatives**

Small actions can have big positive impact. Under its Funding Instrument F4: Supporting Small-Scale Initiatives, the NSIF will fund **micro and small-scale projects** aimed at improving the wellbeing of poor and vulnerable groups/communities and promoting social inclusion.

### **Eligibility**

NGOs/NPOs meeting the following criteria are eligible to apply for funding.

1. The applicant must be duly registered with the NSIF.
2. The applicant should **not** have been awarded funding from the NSIF under any other Funding Instrument for the year 2024-2025.
3. Collaborative partnerships of NGOs/NPOs may apply provided the lead applicant satisfies the above criteria. The lead organisation will bear accountability for stewardship of funds awarded by the NSIF.

## Funding Conditions

1. The amount of funding awarded to an organisation shall be for a maximum of **Rs700,000**.
2. **Only 1 project per organisation** will be considered for funding under this call.
3. Approved funding will be for a maximum of 12 months.
4. The Foundation will only fund expenditures directly incurred in the delivery of projects.
5. Management and administrative HR funded by the Foundation will not exceed 25% of the total amount approved.
6. The Foundation will **not** fund:
  - Items used by an organisation from its existing stock
  - Participation to conferences and workshops overseas
  - Construction of buildings
  - Purchase of vehicles
  - Provision of scholarships
  - Consultancy/Project write up fees

## Priority Areas

Projects should address the following ten priority areas of intervention:

- Socio-economic development as a means of Poverty Alleviation
- Educational support and training
- Social housing
- Supporting people with disabilities
- Dealing with health problems
- Family protection including gender-based violence
- Leisure and sports
- Environment and sustainable development
- Peace and nation-building
- Road safety and security

## Target Beneficiaries

- Individuals and families eligible under the Social Register of Mauritius
- Individuals and families recognised as vulnerable groups as defined below:
  - Children and/or adults living below the relative poverty line, as defined by Statistics Mauritius
  - Children and/or adults with disabilities and/or suffering from a severe disease
  - Abused children and/or adults
  - Neglected/abandoned children and orphans and children in alternative care
  - Street children, including children who:
    - live and sleep in the street; and
    - are in the street during the day but sleep in the family home;
  - Teenage mothers and children in single parent families
  - Children with parents in prison
  - Children suffering from family conflict
  - Children engaging in violent or delinquent behaviour and children in conflict with the law
  - Out-of-school and illiterate children
  - Illiterate adults
  - Children and/or adults suffering from substance abuse
  - Vulnerable elderly
  - And such other stigmatised, discriminated, most-at-risks group as may be determined by the Foundation

## Assessment

The assessment of project proposals shall be made according to the criteria set out below. Applicants may be asked to provide additional information as required during the assessment process.

### 1. Relevance

Project:

- 1.1 Aligns to the priority areas of the Foundation and beneficiaries appropriately targeted
- 1.2 Clearly identifies and addresses particular needs and problems of target group

### 2. Effectiveness

- 2.1 Activities well defined with realistic action plan and timeframes
- 2.2 Planned activities likely to achieve project objectives and expected results

<b>3. Efficiency</b> 3.1. Planned use of resources and budgeted items reflect proposed activities 3.2. Budgeted expenditures justified, appropriate and realistically estimated
<b>4. Impact</b> Project: 4.1. Likely to have a tangible impact on target group 4.2. Likely to have multiplier effects in the community and society
<b>5. Sustainability</b> 5.1. Organisation has adequate capabilities to implement project 5.2. Positive outcomes sustainable 5.3. Collaborative partnerships explored

### **Funding Contract Agreement, Monitoring and Disbursement of Funds**

Funded NGOs/NPOs will be required to sign a Funding Contract Agreement (FCA). The FCA is a legally binding document setting out the general terms and conditions of funding.

The Foundation will monitor the implementation of all approved projects. This will include:

- Field visits carried out by NSIF Programme Officers
- Submission of periodic activities and financial reports by the funded NGO/NPO

Disbursement of funds will be made in instalments. A first instalment is to be paid at signature of the FCA and subsequent instalments will be disbursed upon satisfactory monitoring performance.

### **Application**

- The deadline for submission of applications is **Monday 24 February 2025**.
- Applications should be made on the prescribed Application Form.
- All applications must be submitted by email to the following address [applications@nsif.mu](mailto:applications@nsif.mu).
- Late and/or incomplete applications and applications not submitted on the prescribed Application Form will not be considered.

### **Information and Guidance**

For any further information and guidance, please contact the NSIF Help Desk at [info@nsif.mu](mailto:info@nsif.mu) or 2602406.