



South Africa Siyasebenza

Jobs Fund 11th Funding Round

Launch: 29 May 2023

Applications Close: 17 July 2023



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The Jobs Fund is pleased to announce its 11th Funding Round:

BREAKING BARRIERS: FUTURE PROOFING SOUTH AFRICA'S EMPLOYMENT OPTIONS

CALL TO ACTION

The Jobs Fund is calling on experienced Private and Public Sector organisations, and NPO intermediaries to submit applications for its 11th funding round.

The world of work is rapidly changing and, to remain competitive and grow our economy, we must be ready to embrace these changes. The global economic context demands that we empower our workforce with the right skills to respond to these new challenges, including advancing artificial intelligence.

There are many factors, including structural constraints, that hamper our ability to grow the economy, however, in the very least when addressing our employment challenge, we must focus on breaking barriers on both the demand and supply side of the employment equation.

In South Africa we have a significant imbalance in the supply of skills required for the future, while at the same time suppressed investment constrains demand for new jobs.

To contribute to addressing these challenges, the Jobs Fund would like to partner with future focused organisations that share its intent to find innovative solutions to South Africa's employment challenges.

This is an invitation to work with us to break barriers to labour market entry by stimulating new demand in growth sectors and improving the supply of appropriately skilled labour.

The current Call for Proposals will be implemented using Challenge Fund principles, this means only the best proposals will be considered for funding.

ABOUT THE JOBS FUND

The Jobs Fund offers a targeted programme of support for effective labour market interventions that facilitate job creation in the short to medium term and identify scalable and replicable job creation models.

Barriers to job creation are tackled through partnering with experienced intermediaries that leverage their networks, expertise and funding to access and provide support to the targeted beneficiaries, through **four funding windows: 1) Enterprise Development, 2) Support for Workseekers, 3) Infrastructure Development and 4) Institutional Capacity Building**. Both the supply and demand sides of the labour market are considered.

Project partners are required to match the grant funding allocated, generally on a 1:1 basis. This risk-sharing sharing via the matched funding principle brings together private, public and civil society in partnerships that enable each to achieve their goals and mandates.

Since 2011, the Jobs Fund has successfully closed 10 funding rounds and contracted 163 projects. As at 31 March 2023, these projects have:

- Created 195,511 permanent jobs & placements and 106,771 shorter term jobs.
- Provided skills development for 306,571 beneficiaries.
- Supported 72,035 SMMEs and emerging farmers.

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The Jobs Fund will target funding toward initiatives that focus on interventions that present innovative solutions for:

- Stimulating demand for new jobs including enterprise/infrastructure development. The outcome of these interventions must result in growth and sustainability for the supported enterprises and where enabling infrastructure has been provided it should support ongoing job creation.
- Skilling/Upskilling, matching beneficiaries to jobs and facilitating new pathways to jobs. The outcome of these interventions must result in a new job being created and/or placement into a job.

Competitive projects focused on women and youth will be prioritised.

Although no sectors are specifically excluded, applicants must demonstrate in their proposals that demand does exist in the market for their proposed intervention and that it will result in job creation and social impact during the 2-year implementation period. Furthermore, it must show a clear path to sustainability over the medium to long term.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

The Jobs Fund will only consider applications for a minimum Grant amount of R5 million. Applicants to also note that, within 2 years, the initiative must be fully implemented, the grant fully disbursed and the target



number of jobs and other project-specific outcomes achieved. Post the two-year implementation phase, project performance will be monitored for a period of 1 year.

Applicants must demonstrate that they are able to raise cash matched funding, at a minimum of 1:1 for private and public sector organisations and 1:0.5 for NPOs, in the following ways: 1) Self-funded matched funding – a formal undertaking to contribute matched funding and the ability to raise such funding by the applicant; 2) Matched funding from third parties – formal written proof that matched funding will be made available.

APPLICATION DETAILS

The Jobs Fund allocates funding through a competitive process. All applications must be submitted online on the Grant Management System which can be accessed via the [Jobs Fund website](#) from the launch date.

The Term Sheet, which will be published on the website on 29 May 2023, contains further detail on the funding round, the appraisal process and the eligibility criteria.

In the interim, please note the following:

- Private, public and NPO sectors are invited to submit applications and collaboration is encouraged.
- Applications are firstly assessed against the eligibility criteria as outlined in the Term Sheet. If these are not met, your application will not be considered.
- After the eligibility assessment the application will be competitively assessed against impact criteria which include, amongst others, ability to scale and contribution to systemic change.
- Thereafter, a decision is taken as to which proposals should be allocated grant funding. The Fund's independent Investment Committee makes the final decision on the allocation of grant funding. Applicants are then notified of the outcome of the assessment process.
- This funding round opens on 29 May 2023 and closes on 17 July 2023. No applications will be accepted after the deadline.



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