

Grant Guidelines

Provision of grants is an important component in the Foundation's capacity-building interventions. Through grant making the Foundation channels financial support to capacity building to strengthen the core public sector and its interface with the private sector and civil society, and to support regional initiatives in the area of specialized training, policy analysis, applied policy research, negotiation and policy advocacy. Grants are mainly provided to support core projects and programs. However, the Foundation also provides seed support for the emergence of suitable institutional frameworks for country-level coordination of capacity-building activities.

Strengthening capacity for economic policy analysis and management is a key driver to the strategic objective of enhancing the enabling environment, participatory development, and improving the efficiency of the public sector. This focus enables the nurturing of change processes affecting public policies and legislative frameworks. The key instruments used to achieve this goal are support to policy units located in public and private sector and training programs.

The other competence areas are supported by programs aimed at strengthening management capacity and accountability of key public sector institutions/agencies involved in public resources management, delivery of services and supply of socio-economic data. Strengthening of statistical services is vital for generating reliable data on socioeconomic indicators at macro, meso and micro-levels to enable policy targeting and evaluation of impacts of poverty reduction programs. ACBF intervenes in capacity building using three funding mechanisms:

- **Direct Funding**

- **Co-financing**

In most instances, the Foundation requires that the recipient organization seeks additional funds from other sources to match the Foundation's grant. The Foundation believes that co-financing is an important instrument in leveraging additional support for the projects in its portfolio, as well as in harmonizing donor activities with capacity-building programs. The Foundation recognizes that its assistance is intended to serve as a catalyst for supplementary support from other sources. The Foundation's policy on co-financing is thus intended to create a network of partnership among donors and beneficiaries of assistance so as to supplement its support to capacity-building efforts in Africa.

- **Parallel Funding**

Following a call for proposals initiated by the Foundation or letter requesting financial support from the Foundation, the Foundation's program staff may ask the grant seeker to submit a formal proposal. To this end, the Foundation provides guidelines indicating elements that should be included in the proposal.

ACBF's Project Cycle – key steps:

1. Project/Program Origination and Identification
2. Project/Program Preparation
3. Project/Program Appraisal
4. Project presentation to the Board
5. Grant Negotiation and Signing
6. Project Implementation and Supervision (SM, MTR)

Proposals requesting for ACBF Grants should be sent to:

The Executive Secretary
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