



National
Pathway
Management
Network
**Innovation
Fund**
Call for
Proposals
29 October - 25
November 2021



employment & labour

Department:
Employment and Labour
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



PRESIDENTIAL
EMPLOYMENT
STIMULUS



PRESIDENTIAL
YOUTH
EMPLOYMENT
INTERVENTION



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PRESIDENTIAL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INTERVENTION

The Presidential Youth Employment Intervention (PYEI) is a part of the Presidential Employment Stimulus Programme. PYEI is a multi-sector action plan/ programme directed at addressing South Africa's chronic youth unemployment challenge. Of the 1.2 million young people entering the labour market each year, more than 65% remain outside of employment, education, and training. Those young people who manage to access opportunities tend to zigzag on often broken pathways, falling in and out of education and short-term work so that they cannot realise their potential to participate in the economy.

The PYEI has identified several priority interventions to accelerate youth pathways into the economy over the next five years, including the establishment of a National Pathway Management Network (NPMN), delivery of agile workforce development, support for youth self-employment and enterprise in the township and rural economy, the strengthening of workplace experience, and the Presidential Youth Service programme.

Given the devastating impact of COVID-19 on the economy and employment, there is an even more urgent need to implement these priority interventions – particularly in a context where existing approaches have failed to halt the rise of youth unemployment. Implementing the PYEI forms an integral part of the post-COVID-19 recovery agenda and will help put South Africa on a path towards “a new economy and a new society.”

Various partners across government are responsible for implementing the different components of the PYEI. The National Department of Employment and Labour (DEL) is responsible for the National Pathway Management Network and the Jobs Fund, through the Government Technical Advisory Centre (GTAC), has been appointed as the Fund Manager for PYEI and has established the Presidential Youth Employment Fund (PYEF).

The Department of Employment and Labour and the National Treasury's Jobs Fund are pleased to announce the opening of the Presidential Youth Employment Intervention (PYEI)'s National Pathway Management Network Innovation Fund funding round. This Innovation Fund is supported by the Presidential Employment Stimulus. The Presidential Youth Employment Fund (PYEF) invites proposals from private, public, and non-profit entities to participate in the National Pathway Management Network.

NATIONAL PATHWAY MANAGEMENT NETWORK INNOVATION FUND

The NPMN is a “network of networks” aimed at facilitating the successful transition of young people into and through the labour market. The NPMN is providing active support to the entry, and retention, of young people into the labour market while providing greater alignment between the various networks and systems that exist to ensure access to a shared set of opportunities and services. Part of this initiative is the creation of an Innovation Fund, a grant initiative seeking to identify and support innovative solutions to the barriers faced by young people to meaningfully participate in the labour market and the wider economy.

Operating on Challenge Fund principles, the NPMN Innovation Fund will support initiatives focussed on resolving barriers related to the 3 key focus areas of the NPMN:

1. **Demand Activation:** Identify appropriate opportunities for young people through establishing real market demand and developing enabling partnerships within the wider ecosystem.

2. **Demand & Supply Linkages:** Link young people to appropriate opportunities with Opportunity Holders i.e. employers through a streamlined process that effectively matches young person to Opportunity Holder across the networks.
3. **Enabling Youth:** Improve young people's access to view and secure both learning and earning opportunities available in the market/network.

The Innovation Fund will assist in capacitating successful applicants to pilot and/or operationalise and scale innovative models across the country in support of the NPMN.

Applications must demonstrate how the proposed project will contribute to achieving scale in terms of expanding geographical footprint, partnering with more organisations, and (or) working with more young people.

While the solutions being sought relate to the entire economic spectrum, the PYEI is focused on priority economic sectors as follows:

- Digital and technology;
- Tourism and Hospitality;
- Agricultural Value Chains
- Installation, Repair and Maintenance
- Social Services (including ECD, healthcare and elderly care)

HOW TO QUALIFY FOR FUNDING

This funding round is open to Private, Public and Non-State Sector organisations that meet the eligibility criteria outlined below. Project partners must demonstrate an understanding of the objectives of the NPMN, demonstrate the capacity to plan, implement and manage a project of the size and nature proposed.

Institutional criteria

At a minimum, applicants and applications must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:

- In the case of an NPO (NGO, CBO or FBO), such organisation must have been registered with the relevant department (e.g. Department of Social Development). All requisite certificates and proof of registration will be required.
- For-Profit Private Sector Applicants must be registered with the Department of Employment and Labour in terms of the published regulations related to the Employment Services Act No 4 of 2014.
- Public Entities applying for funding are subject to all applicable eligibility criteria. In addition, the proposed initiative must be distinguished from other similar initiatives previously or currently being funded with public funds.
- Must be in full compliance with administrative requirements (including Tax Compliance Status).
- Must have audited Annual Financial Statements (AFS) covering at least 3 years.
- Must have a track record of more than three years of technical experience in the area of interest.

Funding criteria

The NPMN Innovation Fund will make funding available as follows:

- The minimum grant request available per Applicant is R3 million;
- The maximum grant request available per Applicant is R15 million;
- Minimum Matched funding requirements are as follows:
 - Public Sector 1: 0.5
 - Non-State Sector 1: 0.5
 - Private Sector 1: 1.0

HOW TO APPLY

The Presidential Youth Employment Fund allocates grant funding through a competitive, one stage process. All applications must be submitted online using the link found on the Jobs Fund website: www.jobsfund.org.za

Application process



NOTE

- This funding round opens 29 October 2021 and closes 25 November 2021 at 15:00. No applications will be accepted after the deadline.
- Due diligence is conducted to verify validity of proposals, targets and applicant details.
- Applicant administration systems must support good governance and robust monitoring and evaluation must be built into project design.
- FICA compliance is essential.

CONTACT DETAILS

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