



RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AGENCY

PUBLIC NOTICE

Invitation to Stakeholders' Workshop for Upcoming Second Call For Expression of Interest For Rural Electrification Fund Grant

1. BACKGROUND

a. The Electric Power Sector Reform Act (EPSRA) 2005, Section 88 (11), stipulates that the Rural Electrification Agency (REA) shall set-up and administer the Rural Electrification Fund (REF). Section 91 (1)(2)(3) of the EPSRA also mandates the REA, in consultation with the Minister to;

- i. Establish objective and transparent criteria for the Geographical Allocation of Resources from the REF as well as transparent procedure for making disbursements, including;
- ii. Establishment of Criteria for Allocation of Resources from REF and
- iii. The Selection Criteria and the Quantum of Disbursement

b. In compliance with the aforementioned sections of the EPSRA, REA developed the REF Operational Guidelines 2017. In preparing the Guidelines, REA used the following documents as a basis:

- Electric Power Sector Reform Act (2005);
- Rural Electrification Policy Paper (2009);
- Rural Electrification Strategy and Implementation Plan (2016);
- Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) Mini Grid Regulation 2016;
- Rural Electrification Operational Guidelines (2017);
- Other related legislation, policies and regulations as developed by the Federal Government of Nigeria; and
- Wider international experience with REAs/REFs (especially Tanzania, Uganda and Bangladesh), and other rural electrification best practices across the globe.

c. In view of the above, the Rural Electrification Fund (REF) is set to provide grants to support public/private partnerships in deploying Hybrid Mini-grids, and Solar Home Systems (SHS) across Nigeria, in order to meet the Federal Government of Nigeria's target of 75% and 90% electricity access in 2020 and 2030 respectively.

To this end the REA would be calling for submission of Expression of Interest in April 2020. Thus, interested and eligible beneficiaries are invited to attend the Stakeholders' Workshop as scheduled in 4. The Stakeholders Workshop is designed to sensitise project developers and other stakeholders on the nature of the Call.

2. ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

a. Infrastructure Projects:

- Interconnected mini-grid
- Isolated mini-grid

b. Non-Infrastructure Projects:

- Stand-alone systems, i.e. Solar Home Systems

3. GRANT AMOUNT

Grant amount will be dependent on project cost, size, and need as specified in the REF Operational Guidelines.

4. INVITATION FOR STAKEHOLDERS' WORKSHOP

The Stakeholders' Workshop will hold on the 30th of March 2020 in Abuja. For more details, eligible and interested companies are invited to sign-up for the Stakeholders' Workshop by registering before midnight on the 23rd of March 2020 [via this link shorturl.at/fxINT](http://shorturl.at/fxINT) or on REA website: www.rea.gov.ng

5. EXPECTED STAKEHOLDERS

- Members of National Assembly
- State Governors (Nigerian Governors' Forum)
- Federal Ministry of Power (FMP)
- Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC)
- Federal Ministry of Environment (FME)
- Nigerian Electricity Management Services Agency (NEMSA)
- State Commissioners in charge of rural electrification
- State Commissioners responsible for Local Governments
- Representatives of MDAs responsible for rural electrification in various states
- Electricity Distribution Companies (DisCOs)
- Mini-grid developers and Solar Home System Providers
- Mini-grid and Solar Home System financiers
- Civil Society Organisations
- State Coordinators of SDGs

6. Enquiries All Enquiries and requests for clarification regarding this invitation may be directed to:

Executive Director (Rural Electrification Fund)

The Rural Electrification Agency
Corporate Headquarters
22, Freetown Street
Wuse 2, Abuja
Ref.info@rea.gov.ng

Signed
Management