

# ANDE Catalyst Fund for Impact Measurement - Africa

**Open Date: November 14, 2017**

**Proposals Due: February 5, 2018**

**Awards Announced: April 2018**

## I. Introduction

The Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs (ANDE) invites proposals focused on impact measurement in Africa from ANDE members.

The overall goal of the Catalyst Fund is to increase the productivity and effectiveness of ANDE members and encourage increased collaboration between organizations, while creating tools and insights that can improve the SGB sector.

With this challenge fund round, ANDE is keen to support organizations to test measurement tools, frameworks, and analytical approaches, and who are willing to learn from and inform ANDE members based on their experience in order to move impact assessment forward for the field as a whole.

## II. Guidelines

ANDE members may apply to the Catalyst Fund for projects of up to 12 months with a maximum total request of US\$30,000. Joint submissions from ANDE members, submissions which demonstrate the broader benefit to the sector, and submissions which incorporate multiple players along the “impact chain” are strongly encouraged. Non-ANDE members may be part of a collaborative grant request; however the lead organization must be an ANDE member. ANDE members may participate in more than one proposal. Annual membership dues must be current in order to be eligible and organizations must be ANDE members for the duration of the granting period.

This round of funding focused on impact measurement totals \$150,000, and is generously funded by Department for International Development’s (DFID) Impact Programme. ANDE seeks to fund approximately 3 proposals through this RFP, in addition to a separate funding window that will support two projects from the Metrics Learning Labs in East Africa and South Africa.

In 2017 and 2018, ANDE is partnering with DFID to build the capacity of impact investors, social entrepreneurs, and entrepreneurial support organizations working in sub-Saharan Africa to measure their social and environmental performance. By doing this, the project aims to catalyze greater local impact assessment within the impact investing and entrepreneurship sectors. The Catalyst Fund for Impact Measurement in Africa will support practitioners developing analytical approaches, testing technologies or methodologies, and developing case studies or resource guides. Specifically, proposals can focus in these areas:

- Focus on tools, methods, analytical approaches, etc. that will be useful for the broader field
- Jump-start impact measurement within an organization, and provide some catalytic funding to launch or add rigor to a measurement approach that will continue post-project

- Incorporate collaboration, sharing lessons with the field, and disseminating results for field building
- May be consultant or researcher led, but must include significant active collaboration with or participation from practitioners, including impact investors, capacity development providers, or small and growing businesses.
- We also encourage projects that engage the Metrics Learning Labs or build from conversations started there.

### III. Geography & Impact

Projects must focus on activities in sub-Saharan Africa. Proposals taking place outside of this region will not be considered.

Successful proposals will consider the penetration of the idea/project learning into the ANDE community and the SGB sector as a whole. We will also consider the impact on the efficiency and productivity of the organizations involved and how they intend to leverage the funds (whether through partnerships, matched funding, etc.) for expanded impact. Specific metrics will be defined in the grant agreements.

### IV. Application Timeline and Process

November 14, 2017	RFP Released
December 5, 2017	Webinar to answer applicant questions
January 19, 2017	Deadline to send clarifying questions (as needed)
February 5, 2018	Submission deadline
April 2, 2018	Winners Notified

### V. Proposal Structure

To apply for a Catalyst Fund grant, please provide a brief proposal (**no more than 9 pages, including cover sheet and appendices**) that clearly includes the following, in this order:

1. Cover sheet (1 page):

- Title of proposal
- Organizations applying
- Amount of request (USD\$30,000 maximum)
- Timeframe of proposed project or program (12 month maximum)
- 1-4 sentence brief description of the request

2. Organizational Overview/Information (1 page):

- Proposal's main contact name, title, and contact details
- A brief description of your organization(s) and why it is well suited to carry out the proposed project

3. A narrative description of the proposed project/program (3-5 pages), including:
  - The problem being addressed
  - How the project will address the identified problem or need, including specific goals for the effort
  - How the project fits this ANDE Catalyst Fund priorities (testing tools/approaches and sharing learning with the broader SGB sector, ultimately to catalyze more rigorous and useful measurement for the sector)
  - Who will implement/participate in the proposed effort and their qualifications
  - How the project or program will create value for the sector and/or SGBs
  - The expected outputs and outcomes that will result from this initiative and how they will be measured and captured. How and when will the success of this project be evaluated?
  - How the project findings/results will be shared with ANDE and the overall sector. This should include a clear dissemination plan and steps on how the ANDE network will be leveraged
4. If relevant, a list of other project funders (including prospective and committed)
5. Total proposed project budget with a line item breakout
  - Include total projected cost of project, and indicate which portion the Catalyst Fund would support
  - If funding request is for entire budget, please indicate that
6. Timeline of the project activities

**VI. Evaluation Criteria**

<b>Clarity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are objectives clearly articulated?</li> <li>• Is there a well-defined roadmap to achieve objectives?</li> </ul>
<b>Feasibility and Internal Capacity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How feasible are the objectives and roadmap?</li> <li>• Is the timing, sequencing, and resourcing of the effort reasonable?</li> <li>• Has the organization demonstrated its ability to achieve the milestones laid out in the proposal? Is the team assigned to implementation qualified and of sufficient size? Does the organization have the means to manage the implementation?</li> <li>• Are the funds provided being leveraged (through partnerships, matching funds, etc.) to ensure maximum impact?</li> </ul>
<b>Relevance of Measurement Approach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How will this project benefit the implementing partners, in the short and long term?</li> <li>• Is the tool or approach being tested one that could be widely adopted across the sector?</li> <li>• Is this tool or approach currently under-utilized in the sector, or in the region?</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How well does this solution align with needs and interests of Learning Lab members?</li><li>• Is collaboration/communication between ANDE members and other sector actors being fostered?</li></ul>
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Please submit proposals to [genevieve.edens@aspenninst.org](mailto:genevieve.edens@aspenninst.org)  
no later than 11:59pm ET on **February 5, 2018**.