

## Young Africa Works in Kenya Project Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What is *Young Africa Works* in Kenya Programme?

KCB Foundation in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation's *Young Africa Works* are jointly implementing an innovative 5-Year (2019 -2024) nationwide project that seeks to create over 1.5 million job opportunities in Kenya. This project will be implemented under the *Zijajiri* programme of the KCB Foundation.

The programme targets to reach applicants within the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises spread across 3 economic sectors of:

- a) Agriculture
- b) Manufacturing
- c) Construction

### 2. What are the Project Objectives?

This project aims to deliver on four specific and measurable objectives that are also constituent of the *Zijajiri* programme implemented by the KCB Foundation:

- A. Technical Training. Provide training to MSMEs in agriculture, construction or manufacturing with a combination of quality technical training, life skills and entrepreneurial skills that they need to leap from incubation to the next stage of their growth and development trajectory.
- B. Business Development Services. Providing businesses created within business development services. This is to address the business management capacity gaps. This support will be given in the form of consultancy services provided by the trio, i.e. the marketer, accountant and lawyer under KCB Foundation Consulting Services firm.
- C. Access to Capital. Enhancing the levels of access and usage of financial products and services across different sectors and enterprise categories for businesses. Capital will be to fund manufacturing and construction of green houses, purchase inputs, support operations like cash and wages etc.
- D. Market Linkages. Establishing linkages for the beneficiaries in the MSME category into structured engagements with produce off-takers and service consumer contracts.

### 3. What are the requirements for each of the sectors?

#### The beneficiary profile for Agribusiness

- Be aged between 18 and 35 years
- Have a National ID
- Be able to read and write
- Commit to attend a 3-month training in the participating technical training institutions provided
- Be able to register a business that will be owned by two beneficiaries\*

- Have a clean CRB report. Those without should demonstrate commitment to attain this status within a month upon joining the programme.
- Be able to demonstrate that you can directly manage the business as owner operators.
- Beneficiaries will be expected to raise 10% of the project amount towards set-up of their entire business\*\*

\*\* Each registered business will represent one greenhouse owned by two beneficiaries. Preference will be given to the beneficiaries who come already paired.

\*\*Set up of an 8 M by 24 M greenhouse hydroponic unit, inputs and utilities costs of KShs. 882,000. KCB Foundation will provide a priced loan of KShs. 800,000 towards setup of this business. Each Greenhouse unit will be owned by two beneficiaries who will raise a total of 10% of the project amount – meaning two combined beneficiaries are to raise KShs. 88,200 which is KShs. 44,100 per person.

### **The beneficiary profile for Manufacturing**

- Be aged between 18 and 35 years
- Have a National ID
- Be able to read and write
- Have experience in metal work
- Have an interest in making things/manufacturing with an entrepreneurship ambition
- Willingness to show capability to run a business and create jobs

### **The beneficiary profile for Construction**

- Semi-skilled construction artisans between the ages of 18 and 35 years
- Have a National ID
- Recent graduates from a recognised technical training institution, preferably with work experience of less than 1 year
- We are offering training and employment opportunities to artisans in the following trades: Masonry, Carpentry, Steel-fixing, Plumbing and Electrical works
- Successful candidates will demonstrate strong interest in the construction industry and a willingness to go through further on-the-job training.

#### **4. Are there any training costs?**

Training will be at no cost.

#### **5. When is a beneficiary required to pay for the greenhouse construction?**

Beneficiaries are encouraged to start saving for this cost immediately they start training so that by end of training they are ready for the next phase; construction of greenhouses.

#### **6. How does one enrol into the programme?**

- We reach out to potential beneficiaries through various media platforms, including mass media and social media.
- Those interested are advised to obtain application forms from the project website [www.nikowaks.com](http://www.nikowaks.com) or at respective KCB branches. They can also WhatsApp us on 0711 087087

- In embracing technology and to enhance efficiency and in line with COVID-19 safety regulations, we have embarked on online recruitment where potential beneficiaries will be able to place their applications through our online portal that will be embedded onto our project website [www.nikowaks.com](http://www.nikowaks.com)

**7. When and where are the interviews being conducted?**

- We will be conducting telephone interviews in view of COVID-19 safety regulations on social distancing. The dates will be communicated.
- One can directly contact the below in case of additional information / clarification:
- Miramar International College (MIC) in Kikuyu: +254 741 361 749 / +254 705 826 144
- Gearbox at Avon Centre along Enterprise Road, Industrial Area, Nairobi: +254 780 830 483
- Arc Skills Kenya at Gems Cambridge, Magadi Road: +254 792 543 096 / +254 710 429 601
- Filamujuani at Hope Center, Amboseli Road, Lavington, Nairobi: +254 786 946 382

**8. Are there any special attributes you expect from applicants?**

The criteria listed above need to be met. Additionally, the project aims to have 70% of beneficiaries being women. Women are therefore especially encouraged to apply.

**9. Can young people who are working apply?**

The project aims to recruit young people in the age range of 18 – 35 years who are currently not working and will be available to attend the training in hydroponic farming for three months, and thereafter to run the greenhouse on a fulltime basis with a partner.

**10. Who does KCB Foundation work with in implementing the Young Africa Works project?**

The Young Africa Works Project is a partnership between the Mastercard Foundation and KCB Foundation. There are anchor partners who play various roles in the project. These are Miramar International College, Gearbox and Arc Skills. Other partners are Latia and Filamujuani.

**11. In which locations will greenhouses be located?**

Current locations and those to be soon mobilised for greenhouses include Ngong-Kibiko, Ruiru, Limuru and Ongata Rongai. As the programme rolls out in coming months, we will move to other locations around the country.

**12. What is soil-less farming and how does it compare to traditional farming?**

Soil-less farming is also known as hydroponic farming. It is the growing of crops without using soil to provide nutrients and water to the crops. Instead these are fed directly to the crops through pipes. The crops are held in place by a medium such as pumice or coconut shell shavings.

**13. What is soil-less farming and how does it compare to traditional farming?**

Hydroponic farms eliminate reliance on favourable weather as a factor of production since water and nutrients are delivered directly to the crops.