



# Women Entrepreneurship for Africa

**Sector: Women Economic Empowerment** 

#### **Main Action and Specific Sectors**

The Women Entrepreneurship for Africa (WE4A) Programme supports women entrepreneurs across Africa by increasing access to finance as well as technical support for businesses to grow. WE4A wants to empower and improve the business capacity of communities in Sub-Saharan Africa comprising of women, youth, and the informal, in order to increase their chances of raising funding to scale from the private sector investors.

- Gender Equality
- Business skills development and Business creation
- Access to finance

#### WE4A (2021-2023)

The programme is co-financed by the European Union (<u>EU</u>) and the Organization of African, Caribbean, and Pacific States (<u>OACPS</u>) and implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (<u>GIZ</u>) and the Tony Elumelu Foundation (<u>TEF</u>).

**CORE BUSINESSES:** It supports the TEF Entrepreneurship Programme and increases market opportunities for TEF Alumni in some of the Employment and Skills for Development in Africa (<u>E4D</u>) countries GIZ programme.

- 1. Train on Gender sensitive entrepreneurship and seed Capital for African women entrepreneurs.
- 2. Connect the African women entrepreneurs to private sector initiatives and technical assistance.
- 3. Secure African women entrepreneurs second stage financing to be fully bankable and to capitalize on the employment potential of their businesses.

Discover more about the **WE4A Programme**:

- OACPS Private Sector Development Platform, click <u>here</u>.
- Programme Factsheet, click <u>here</u>.
- TEF web page, click <u>here</u>.

#### **Component 1**

TEF Entrepreneurship Programme

#### **Component 2**

Technical support and business linkages

## **Component 3**

2nd Stage Financing

## How to Benefit from the Action and the Knowledge Generated by WE4A?

- Gender sensitive online entrepreneurship training and seed capital for OACPS African women entrepreneurs provided by TEF.
  - **TEF Entrepreneurship Programme** is the largest African Philanthropic Initiative to empower African Entrepreneurs and Entrepreneurship. Read more about the programme and how to get involved by clicking <u>here</u>.
  - To access programme information, apply for the 2022 TEF Entrepreneurship Programme (5,000\$ funding, mentorship and training) and find knowledge resources, the registration to the TEFConnect Platform is required. Click <a href="here">here</a> to join the platform.
  - o For 2021, all applicants have been shortlisted into four buckets to begin the training phase:
    - 4.31% Preparatory
    - 37.9% Start-up
    - 23.81% Innovator
    - 37.98% Advanced
- Support to link African women entrepreneurs to private sector networks and providing necessary technical assistance in selected E4D countries (Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda).
  - Linkages to existing E4D programmes.
  - o Tailor-made Technical Assistance addressing commonly expressed needs of the enterprises.
  - Three key intervention areas have been identified so far as potentially benefitting the alumni:
    - Technical support
    - Access to markets and business networks
    - Access to finance
  - Read more about the **E4D implementation** by clicking <u>here</u> and the **Factsheet 2021** by clicking <u>here</u>.





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- Acceleration and growth program, including direct 2nd stage financing for 120 OACPS African women entrepreneurs from the TEF alumni network.
  - Running the growth and acceleration programs of WE4A is the Swiss Association for Entrepreneurship in Emerging Markets (SAFEEM). The virtual Acceleration Program seeks to provide 120 female entrepreneurs from the TEF alumni network, with access to €10.000 in grant funding that will be paired with 3 months of technical support.
    - More information about the programme by clicking <u>here</u>.
    - Check out the selected startups by cluster:
      - Agriculture 1 Check the selected companies by clicking <a href="here">here</a>.
      - Agriculture 2 Check the selected companies by clicking <a href="here">here</a>.
      - Consumer Products Check the selected companies by clicking <a href="here">here</a>.
      - **Eco-Friendly** Check the selected companies by clicking <u>here</u>.
      - Education and Training Check the selected companies by clicking <a href="here">here</a>.
      - **Health** Check the selected companies by clicking <u>here</u>.
      - Market Places Check the selected companies by clicking <a href="here">here</a>.
      - Services Check the selected companies by clicking <a href="here">here</a>.