Global Gateway

Guidelines

Call for Expressions of Interest

Local implementation of the Innovation Hub & Toolkit model in Tanzania and Uganda

REGIONAL TEACHERS INITIATIVE FOR AFRICA – FACILITY
WINDOW 2 – DIGITAL INNOVATION FOR EDUCATION SCALING PROJECT



EXPERTISE FRANCE GROUPE AFD · FINNISH NATIONAL AGENCY FOR EDUCATION · Enabel · vvob education for development · APEFE · estdev From the people of Estonia

Global Projects

Contracting Authority: ENABEL

Call for Expressions of Interest under the project:

Regional Teachers Initiative for Africa – Facility BEL23004

Guidelines for Applicants

Reference: BEL23004

Deadline for Submitting Expression of Interest: 11 January 2027

Important

This Call is a mapping and initial readiness exercise to inform a future Call for Proposals. It does not select implementing partners or award funding. No detailed project proposal or budget is required.

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1. Background and purpose

1.1. The Digital Innovation for Education Scaling Project

Enabel, Belgium's agency for international cooperation, implements the **Digital Innovation for Education (DI4E) Scaling Project** under the **Regional Teachers Initiative for Africa (RTIA)**, funded by the European Union and Belgium. RTIA seeks to improve learning outcomes in Africa by strengthening the availability, competencies and professional development of teachers.

Within DI4E, the **Innovation Hub & Toolkit model** aims to strengthen teachers' digital competencies and foster innovative responses to local educational challenges, particularly in rural and remote areas. It combines three interconnected components:

1. **Infrastructure, tools & resources**: accessible spaces, digital equipment – including Mobile Digital Toolkits – and relevant learning resources, supported by power and connectivity or offline solutions.
2. **Continuous tailored support**: hands-on training, coaching and peer learning to help teachers apply and adapt new practices.
3. **Experimentation & innovation**: opportunities to collaboratively develop, test and refine solutions to local educational challenges.

Together, these components create a **continuous teacher support cycle**, connecting learning and preparation at the Hub with classroom application, feedback and adaptation. Mobile Digital Toolkits extend access to equipment and resources into schools, bridging the Hub and the classroom.

Further information about the model is provided in **Annex B**.

1.2. The purpose of this Call

Through this Call for Expressions of Interest, Enabel seeks to **identify organisations with relevant experience in initiatives similar to the Innovation Hub & Toolkit, and an interest in exploring the potential operation of the model in Tanzania and/or Uganda**.

This Call for Expressions of Interest will not lead to any contractual commitment. Any potential contractual engagement would take place through a subsequent open Call for Proposals. However, the Expressions of Interest received may help Enabel identify and refine priority areas for the upcoming Call for Proposals.

The objectives are to:

- Identify interested organisations and their priority implementation locations.

- Understand their relevant experience, local connections and initial capacities.
- Map resources already available or potentially mobilisable, alongside support needs.
- Inform the design of a future Call for Proposals, including its implementation arrangements and potential support package.

The future Call for Proposals is **targeted for March 2027**, subject to approvals and available funding.

At this stage, organisations are asked only to complete the short form in **Annex A. An existing Hub and full operational readiness are not required.** Participation does not establish eligibility or confer preferential access to the future Call, which will have its own application and selection procedure.

1.1 A partnership approach being explored

DI4E is exploring **social franchising** as an approach to replicating and scaling the developed model. Under this approach, **organisations operating in Tanzania and/or Uganda could take on the role of franchisees**, implementing the Innovation Hub & Toolkit model in line with shared quality standards and with agreed support and learning arrangements.

Enabel would initially act as the **temporary franchisor**, coordinating support and quality assurance. Depending on the arrangements defined through the future Call for Proposals, support could include **technical guidance**, **operational tools and resources**, **capacity building**, **peer learning**, **equipment** or **financial support**. Local operators (the "franchisees") would bring their **knowledge of the local education context**, **relationships with relevant actors**, **implementation experience**, and **available or potentially mobilisable capacities and resources**. Organisations are not expected to have all these elements in place at this stage.

The exact support package, conditions and responsibilities remain to be defined and will be informed by this mapping exercise. **No funding is offered, and no co-financing commitment is requested through this Call for Expressions of Interest**.

The proposed partnership approach will be explained during the **information session** mentioned in Section 3.3.

2. Who can express interest?

Expressions of interest are welcome from public institutions, teacher training institutions, schools, universities, NGOs, civil-society organisations, foundations, networks, social enterprises and other private organisations with a **clear educational or social purpose**.

This Call is intended for organisations interested in potentially operating the model in **Tanzania, Uganda or both countries**.

Organisations **with or without an existing Hub** may respond. They should distinguish resources already available, resources that could realistically be mobilised and support that would be needed.

These profiles and readiness areas guide the mapping; they do not replace the eligibility conditions of any future Call for Proposals.

3. How to express interest

3.1. Complete the short Form

Complete **Annex A – Expression of Interest and Initial Readiness Form** in English, using concise responses or bullet points.

The completed form covers four areas:

1. Motivation and interest in locally operating the model.
2. Organisational profile and local grounding.
3. Relevant experience.
4. Initial readiness and potential resources.

No supporting attachments, separate motivation letter, detailed project proposal, budget, financial statements or full capacity assessment are required at this stage. Evidence of legal status, declarations or other supporting information will be requested later through the Call for Proposals process, where applicable.

3.2. Submission checklist

Before submitting, check that you have included:

- Completed Sections A1-A4 of Annex A.
- Completed the organisation's confirmation in Section A5.
- Provided the name and email address of a contact person.

3.3. Submission and questions

Submission deadline: **11 January 2027** at **10:00 Tanzania/Uganda time (EAT)**.

Submit the completed Annex A by email to esra.nurja@enabel.be, with a copy to lotte.vanpraet@enabel.be.

An online **information session** will take place on **26 November 2026 at 11:00 Tanzania/Uganda time (EAT)**. Register here: Registration Form – Info session - Call for Expressions of Interest.

Questions may be sent to esra.nurja@enabel.be. Answers of general interest will be published on Enabel's website so that all interested organisations have access to the same information.

Late or substantially incomplete submissions may not be considered.

4. Review and next steps

Enabel will review expressions of interest to map potential local operators in Tanzania and/or Uganda and understand their readiness, resources and support needs. **The findings will inform the design of the future Call for Proposals.**

Review. Enabel will check submissions against the scope and submission requirements of this Call and review the form's four areas: motivation, organisational profile and local grounding, relevant experience, and initial readiness and resources. **No competitive ranking or minimum readiness score will apply.** An existing Hub is not required, and support needs will not, in themselves, lead to exclusion or imply a commitment to provide support.

Follow-up. Enabel may request clarifications or invite organisations to discussions. Applicants will be treated consistently, review findings will be documented, and all applicants will be informed of the mapping outcome and anticipated next steps.

Separate future procedure. Any subsequent selection or funding will follow a separate procedure with its own eligibility, assessment and verification requirements, subject to applicable Enabel and donor rules, approvals and available resources. Participation in this mapping or follow-up discussions does not guarantee eligibility, selection, funding, equipment or partnership, or confer preferential access to the future Call for Proposals.

5. Indicative timeline

Step	Indicative timing
Publication of the Call	10 November 2026
Online information session	26 November 2026, 11:00 EAT
Deadline for expressions of interest	11 January 2027, 10:00 EAT
Review and follow-up clarifications, where	From the week of 11 January 2027, after

needed	the submission deadline
Consolidation of mapping findings to inform the future Call for Proposals	Following completion of the review
Communication to applicants on the mapping outcome and anticipated next steps	Following consolidation
Potential launch of a separate Call for Proposals	Target: March 2027

Dates are indicative. Any changes will be communicated through Enabel's website.

6. Supporting documents

- **Annex A – Expression of Interest and Initial Readiness Form:** to be completed and submitted.
- **Annex B – Understanding the Innovation Hub & Toolkit model:** for information only.

Annex A – Expression of Interest and Initial Readiness Form

Complete this form in **English**, using short responses or bullet points. Maximum length: **six pages, including the instructions and pre-filled form**. Use the portrait layout and expand the response spaces as needed within this limit. No supporting attachments, detailed project proposal or budget are required.

This form will help Enabel identify potentially interested organisations and understand their experience, initial readiness, resources and support needs. **The findings will inform a future Call for Proposals; this is not a partner-selection or funding application.**

An existing Hub is not required. However, organisations are expected to demonstrate relevant experience in areas related to the Innovation Hub & Toolkit model, such as teacher support, education, digital learning or the operation of comparable initiatives. Clearly distinguish between capacities and resources already available, those that could realistically be mobilised, and areas where additional support would be needed.

A1. Interest in the potential franchisee role

Why is your organisation potentially interested in operating the Innovation Hub & Toolkit model? Briefly explain how this fits your mission and priorities in your priority implementation location(s).

Response:
[Insert response]

A2. Organisational profile and implementation context

Information requested: Your response

Organisation name:

Organisation type, country of establishment and legal status or formal recognition:

Main address and website, if available:

Contact person: name, role and email address:

Intended implementation country: Tanzania, Uganda or both:

Existing presence, activities or operational arrangements in the intended country or countries:

Knowledge of the local education context and relationships with relevant actors:

Main groups currently served, including links with teachers, student teachers, teacher educators or schools:

A3. Relevant experience

Provide one short example of experience relevant to operating the model. State the activity, location and period; your organisation's responsibilities; and one main result or lesson.

Response:
[Insert response]

A4. Initial readiness and potential resources

For each area, enter an **X** in the relevant column or columns. **More than one column may apply.** Use the full-width comments space on the following page to explain what is available, what could realistically be mobilised and your priority support needs.

These are **mapping areas, not minimum eligibility requirements or commitments to contribute resources**. Identifying a support need does not mean Enabel will finance or provide it.

Readiness area	Already available	Could be mobilised	Support needed
Space, equipment and resources: safe, accessible premises; digital equipment and Mobile Digital Toolkits; power; connectivity or offline access; relevant learning resources.			
Coordination and support team: a coordinator, teacher facilitators or Teacher Champions, and access to technical support.			
Teacher support and experimentation: links with teachers and schools; capacity for training, coaching and peer learning; opportunities to develop and test responses to local teaching challenges.			
Resources for ongoing operations: potential financial or in-kind resources and partnerships for staff time, teacher support, power, connectivity, equipment upkeep and Toolkit transport.			
Inclusion and reach: experience or links with underserved groups or contexts, such as learners with special educational needs, hard-to-reach communities or refugee settings.			

Brief comments on available resources, mobilisation prospects and priority support needs:

[Insert response]

A5. Organisation's confirmation

On behalf of the organisation, I confirm that:

- ☐ The information provided is accurate to the best of my knowledge, and I am authorised to submit it.
- ☐ The organisation is interested in potential implementation in Tanzania and/or Uganda.
- ☐ I understand that this is a mapping and initial readiness exercise, not selection as a franchisee or an application for funding.
- ☐ I understand that participation does not confer preferential access or automatic eligibility for the future Call for Proposals.
- ☐ The organisation is willing to provide clarifications or supporting information if requested as part of any subsequent process.
- ☐ Resources mentioned in this form indicate current availability or potential mobilisation and do not constitute a binding co-financing commitment.

Name:

Role:

Organisation:

Date:

Annex B – Innovation Hub and Toolkit model reference document

This annex explains the Innovation Hub & Toolkit model to help organisations assess their interest and describe their initial readiness in Annex A. **It is for information only, not an additional eligibility checklist or a commitment of support.** Organisations do not need an existing Hub or all resources in place to respond to this Call.

B1. What the model aims to achieve

The model aims to strengthen teachers' digital competencies and confidence and help them apply, adapt and develop teaching practices that respond to local educational challenges, particularly in rural and remote areas. Its longer-term objective is to improve teaching quality and contribute to better student learning outcomes. **It is more than an equipped room or a one-off training course:** it connects access to technology with ongoing support, peer learning and classroom experimentation.

B2. A Hub and Toolkits working together

The **Innovation Hub** is a safe, accessible physical space where teachers access digital resources, prepare lessons, receive support and work with peers. It can use existing premises, such as a school, teacher resource centre or teacher training institution. **Mobile Digital Toolkits** are portable digital equipment and resources that extend these opportunities into schools, helping teachers apply new approaches in their own classrooms, including where connectivity is limited. The Hub and Toolkits form one integrated service, not two separate activities.

B3. Three interconnected components

1. **Infrastructure, tools & resources:** a suitable space, functional digital equipment, Mobile Digital Toolkits and relevant learning resources, with sufficient power and connectivity or offline access.
2. **Continuous tailored support:** hands-on training, mentoring, coaching and peer learning based on teachers' needs, connecting professional learning with classroom use.

3. **Experimentation & innovation:** opportunities for teachers to jointly develop, test and refine ideas, teaching approaches or simple prototypes addressing local educational challenges.

B4. How teachers use the model

The model is designed around a **continuous teacher support cycle**. For example, a teacher identifies a classroom challenge, prepares an activity with support at the Hub, tries it in class using a Toolkit, reflects on the experience with a facilitator or peers, and adapts and tests it again. Teachers can enter and revisit this cycle according to their experience and needs. The focus is on purposeful pedagogical use of technology, not simply learning to operate equipment.

B5. What local delivery involves

Operating the model involves organising regular teacher-support services and maintaining links with participating schools and relevant education actors. A **Hub Manager or coordinator** organises activities and equipment access; **Teacher Champions or teacher facilitators** support preparation, peer learning and classroom follow-up; and designated technical support addresses equipment issues. Practical arrangements also cover Toolkit booking and transport, secure storage, maintenance and feedback on service use and teaching practices.

There is **no single prescribed building, equipment package or budget**: arrangements can be adapted to local conditions while retaining the three core components and the connection between the Hub and classroom practice. Continuity requires planning for staff time, teacher support, power, connectivity or offline access, equipment upkeep and Toolkit transport, drawing on local partnerships and financial or in-kind resources.

For this Call for Expressions of interest, organisations should use Annex A to describe their interest, relevant experience, available or potentially mobilisable resources, and support needs. Any future implementation requirements and support arrangements will be defined through the separate Call for Proposals.