



Innovate
UK



ENERGY CATALYST ROUND 8 BROKERAGE VISIT TO NIGERIA

Mission dates:

Sunday 17 - Friday 22 May 2020

Closing date for applications:

Friday 17 January 2020

ENERGY CATALYST (Round 8)

1.1bn people globally have no access to modern energy provision and a further 1bn have only intermittent access. Innovate UK's Energy Catalyst programme aims to support businesses to develop innovative, sustainable energy technologies and business models to accelerate clean energy transition in developing and emerging economies. A key focus is to address the clean energy access challenge in Sub-Saharan Africa and South/South East Asia.

Energy Catalyst Round 8 will launch in June 2020 and is likely to follow similar scope and eligibility to Round 7 which had an early, mid and late stream. These brokerage visits form part of the collaboration-building to enable businesses to develop equitable partnerships between the UK and overseas organisations.

Energy Catalyst is currently funded by the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) and Department for International Development (DfID) as part of their Transforming Energy Access programme who have invested more than £60m.

AIM OF THIS VISIT

The key objectives of the international brokerage trips are to help organisations applying for the Energy Catalyst Round 8 to gain an understanding of the energy access issues in Sub-Saharan Africa and South/South East Asia and find links to potential partners who would be interested in submitting an Energy Catalyst Application.

Indicative list of 2020 GCRF missions: Ghana, Malawi, Nepal, Nigeria, Rwanda, S. Africa, Senegal, Togo, Uganda, Vietnam, Zambia.

There are three key parts to the visit:

- **Getting Ready:** Pre-visit briefing to provide background information on the market and training on how to improve your business and technology pitch for in-country brokering. Hints and tips session on applying to Innovate UK.
- **The Visit:** Access to NGOs, local businesses, academics and governments who will be able to provide information about local opportunities. They may also become potential partners to apply into Energy Catalyst Round 8.
- **Helping you make the best of the opportunity:** Companies will work with a designated advisor throughout a structured programme encompassing three main phases.

WHY NIGERIA?

Nigeria has very similar business and legal practices to the UK. English is the official language of Nigeria. There are several ethnic tribes with their own dialects, Yoruba, Igbo and Hausa being three of the major groups.

Nigeria is the home of Africa's largest economy and is the continent's biggest oil producer. It also has a growing population of 190.9m – the largest in Africa. With an abundance of natural resources and a growing middle class, Nigeria's economic potential is considerable.

Nigeria is also not just about oil and gas. There are many opportunities as the country seeks to diversify into other sectors, such as infrastructure, agriculture, healthcare, ICT and renewable energy.

ENERGY SECTOR IN NIGERIA

With a population of over 190m which is projected to reach more than 350m by 2050, energy is a crucial issue in Nigeria. According to the World Bank, 59.3% of Nigerian households have access to electricity. With the predicted population increase, Nigeria needs to increase its electricity output tenfold. Providing quality access to energy (including electricity) is a major concern. One method of tackling this is to diversify the energy market through renewables. Over the past year, Nigeria has invested more than US\$20bn (£15.6bn) in solar power projects. (Source: World Energy Council).

ELIGIBILITY

To qualify, organisations must be interested in applying for Energy Catalyst Round 8. They must also be working within technology that addresses all three areas of the energy trilemma and aiming to increase energy access in Sub-Saharan Africa or South Asia. They must also fall into one of the categories below.

- UK-based micro or SME business (given priority)
- Research technology organisation (RTO)
- Academic organisation
- Charity
- Public sector organisation

This programme employs the **De Minimis exemption regulation** (public support with a limit of €200,000 or £172,000).

Eligibility is also subject to financial checks.

Companies that have joined previous GCRF missions may only apply if they can demonstrate:

- A positive impact of their previous participation in applying for the Energy Catalyst Round 7
- Clear additional benefit and impact through the application process

The maximum number of GCRF missions an organisation can attend is two.

BENEFITS OF THE MISSION

- Pitching to Nigerian companies and organisations to find potential partners
- Group meetings with key industry players to help understand the energy landscape and energy access issues
- Group site visits and potential links to local companies, renewable energy plants and villages that use outstanding renewable energy technologies
- Pre-mission workshop in London on Monday 11 May 2020 providing market information and pitching training
- Your organisation's profile in the mission brochure
- In-market help and advice

DRAFT PROGRAMME

DATE	ACTIVITY
Sunday 17 May 2020	Arrive Abuja
Monday 18 - Friday 22 May 2020	Activities to include: pitching sessions, meetings with government, key industry players, NGOs and academia, site and rural visits.
Friday 22 May 2020	Depart Lagos

A more detailed programme will be provided if your application is successful.

COSTS

On acceptance to the mission, a commitment fee of £500 will be taken from you. This will be returned on completion of the mission and feedback form.

Non-attendance after formal acceptance will result in forfeit of the commitment fee.

TRAVEL

This visit is part of GCRF. For approved organisations, Innovate UK will fund flights, visas, five nights' accommodation, in-country transport and group meals.

GCRF does not cover travel and health insurance for the mission. **This must be obtained individually.**

Please note that there are mandatory vaccinations for visiting this country and there is a high risk of malaria as well as Zika virus transmission. You will need to contact your GP or travel nurse to find out whether your existing vaccinations are up-to-date and whether you require additional ones.

HOW TO APPLY

To express an interest in participating, [click here](#). It is a competitive process. Places are limited and applications will be evaluated by a panel of experts from the organisers. You will be notified of the outcome by Monday 27 January 2020.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information on the Energy Catalyst Round 8, please contact:

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For any additional information related to the mission, please contact: **Vanessa Vlotides**, Head of International Business team, London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, T: +44 (0)20 7203 1838, E: GCRFNigeria@londonchamber.co.uk.