



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS TITLE: Creating Employment Opportunities for Low-income Women (Mothers) Through Public Private Childcare Service.

1. Background

The Livelihoods Improvement for Women and Youth (LIWAY) is a nine-year programme (July 2017 to June 2026) funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands. The programme is implemented by a consortium of partners composed of SNV Netherlands Development Organization, Mercy Corps, TechnoServe, and Save the Children International. LIWAY aims to contribute to sustainable poverty reduction and social stability in Addis Ababa by increasing incomes through improved wages and self-employment opportunities, primarily for poor women and youth. The objective is to increase the incomes of 2570,000 poor people in Addis Ababa, of which at least 128,500 (50%) are women (young and adult) and 192,750 (75%) are youth (female and male).

Mercy Corps-LIWAY is leading the labour market system by focusing on three major structural barriers to the engagement of our target group –appropriate and accessible infrastructure, affordable, and flexible childcare services, and trust of employers in young and migrant workers to get better jobs and thereby increased income. The labor market designed multiple interventions and is testing them in partnership with several private and public partners to achieve sustainable results at scale.

Li-WAY has conducted market assessment and one of the major findings is, high female unemployment is hugely contributed by domestic responsibility and primarily childcare. Thus, due this primary responsibility, women are constrained from searching for work, accepting work, or remaining in work. Rough estimates from Li-WAY program market assessment study indicated that average young man looks for work 5 (five) days per week, while a young woman only looks for work 2 days a week. Domestic duties, principally childcare, limit women's opportunities to participate in the labour force.

LIWAY program is designed and implemented following a market systems development approach to stimulate sustainable systemic change at scale. This will involve multiple partnerships with private sector and government actors.

2. Objective of Call for Applications

The objective of this call for applications is to: work with experienced private childcare service providers that have childcare furnishing equipment and materials in hand but, have stopped their services due to different reasons (like COVID, illness, financial constraints, high rental cost, etc..) and other active, experienced and willing childcare service providers participants, to provide accessible, affordable, and quality childcare services in public institutions(like schools, factories, and recreational areas) for the institution employees and low-income women in the surrounding to remain or enter in the labour force either through wage or self-employment.

LIWAY is seeking Applications from experienced private childcare service providers that have childcare furnishing equipment and materials in hand but, have stopped their services due to different reasons (like COVID, illness, financial constraints, high rental cost, etc..) and other active, experienced, and willing childcare service providers located in Addis Ababa who are willing to partner with public entities and avail a childcare service for the institutions employees and the (low-income women) surrounding community. Partnership agreements will be negotiated with selected private childcare service providers based on the criteria described below. If the proposed activities require financial investment, companies will also be expected to provide co-investment (in-cash or in-kind) to support their proposed activities.

proposals must be submitted in accordance with the format described below and received no later than **10/5/2023**.

3. Examples of activities that could be supported.

Proposed activities should be based on a sustainable business model. The applicant is responsible for organizing and managing activities with technical and/or financial support from LIWAY. Examples of activities that could be supported include, **but are not limited to**, the following:

1. How to effectively mobilize available resources-like mapping community/public assets, fundraising, income generation activities (EX- movable childcare services on different tread fairs and events).
2. How to design the public private partnership structure and guide activities and understand the basic framework.
3. How to construct and focus on the three goals- strengthening childcare demand, boosting the enabling environment for childcare service and establishing an effective supply chain through an expansion and marketing plan, strategies and promotions.
4. Buy down the cost of establishing new partnership and relationship, training, and business linkages.
5. On development of monitoring and evaluation tools/systems for the performance of the partnership and quality of the childcare service.
6. Engagement on advocacy works, for government to decentralize decision-making (availing institutional public spaces, providing the childcare services to low-income families nearby, women accessing the institutions childcare service thought their husbands), and establish results-based accountability systems to better align public and private-actors practices and to be more "user-friendly" to private-childcare service providers.
7. To collaboratively identify and influence policies and practices that are barriers for expanding and improving childcare services through/for private service providers, and advocate for changes in policies/procedures and sustainably address barriers to entry and functionality of PPP childcare service.

This list is non-exhaustive. It is simply to provide examples of private childcare service providers, initiatives that could be supported by the LIWAY program. Any additional ideas or a combination of these activities is encouraged, and all ideas will be considered for LIWAY support except for procurement of furnishing materials.

4. The application processes.

The table below shows the process timeframe for this Call for Applications.

Date	Item	Details
May 02, 2023	Information Meeting	All are welcome to learn about the opportunity and ask questions.
May 10, 2023	Applications due	Interested private childcare service providers must submit a completed application, complete with all relevant documentation, by no later than this date.
May 15, 2023	Evaluation of applications	This is the expected date for completion of the eligibility and evaluation process, which will be conducted by LIWAY selection committees. The evaluation process may include an interview with the applicant. Before final selection or rejection, the LIWAY team may conduct negotiations with the applicant to adjust / improve the application to align with LIWAY objectives more closely. This will also include a Financial Review, which may also be subject to negotiation / revisions.
June 01, 2023	Expected date for signing of Subaward agreement	Following a negotiation process, final agreements between the selected applicants and LIWAY will be signed, and project implementation will begin.

4.1. Information meeting

The information meeting will provide an opportunity for interested applicants to learn more about the opportunity and the process. The following are the details for the Information Meeting:

- **Date:** 02, May 2023
- **Time:** 9am – 11am
- **Location:** Mercy Corps office, Addis Ababa

- **Contact number for more information:** 0913-98-82-13 (Firework Teka)

4.2. Preparation of Applications

The application template is provided below and must be completed by the date listed above. Completed applications will be accepted in English or Amharic and must be no more than six (6) pages in length (not including budget, proof of registration, or other required attachments).

A soft copy of the application form will be emailed to interested applicants on request.

LIWAY will evaluate all Applications based on the criteria described below. **All applicants that meet the criteria will be considered, however LIWAY reserves the right to not accept any applicant if none are qualified.**

4.3. Who Can Apply

For this Call for Applications, LIWAY is interested in partnering with:

- Experienced private childcare service providers that have childcare furnishing equipment and materials in hand but, have stopped their services due to different reasons (like COVID, illness, financial constraints, high rental cost, etc..) and other active, experienced, and willing childcare service providers participants.

4.4. Eligibility and Evaluation Criteria

Eligible applicants for this opportunity must:

- Be registered private childcare service provider in Addis Ababa willing to partner with public institutions to provide childcare service for the institution's employees and low-income women in the surrounding community.
- Must **provide an investment (Cost Share) in the proposed initiative (in cash or in-kind).**

Upon submission, the LIWAY Team will evaluate all applications using the following criteria:

- Completeness of the application.
- Eligibility of the applicants per the above criteria,
- Clear understanding of public private childcare service,
- Alignment with LIWAY objectives.
- Expected scale of positive impact of the proposed activities.
- Sustainability of the expected impact/activities.
- Value of impact compared to the cost of the activities.

4.5. Submission process

Interested applicants should submit a soft copy/hard copy of the Application and required documentation as follows:

- By 5PM, 10/5/2023
- Please also be sure to include all the requested documents listed in the Application Form template below.

5. Conditions

Issuance of this solicitation in no way constitutes a commitment by LIWAY to execute any agreement or to pay any costs incurred by any applicant in submitting an application.

Please note that LIWAY **will fully respect the confidentiality** of all private actors (childcare service providers) involved in the program. If selected, LIWAY will establish an agreement with the private childcare service provider that describes the objective of collaboration and that clearly defines each party's respective responsibilities, roles, and obligations.

PROPOSAL APPLICATION FORM

Section 1: Project Information & Executive summary

1. Project title:	
2. Name of applicant organization:	
3. Signatory/organization representative position:	
4. Contact information for the applicant organization and the signatory.	Address: Phone: Email: Fax:
5. Project duration:	
6. Address:	
The aim of the project -Please provide a brief summary the aim of the project in 300 words or less in this box:	

Section II: Project Description

<p>1. Situational Assessment</p> <p>Please, state the problem(s) you are seeking to address and the population with which you propose to work and the local issues and conditions in your project area. Your situational assessment should be supported by recent data, literature, and other verifiable information.</p>
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2. Solution and Technical Approach

Please, state your proposed solution(s), based on the information you provided in the situational assessment and your description of the problem you are seeking to address.

Section III: Project Conformity to the LI-WAY program

1. Sustainability

Please describe how you plan to ensure that your activities continue at a high-quality level beyond the period of funding.

Section IV. Institutional Capabilities and Past Performance

1. Organizational Capacity/Management and Staffing

Please provide a detailed but concise description of your previous or ongoing experience implementing similar activities and how the proposed project will be effectively managed. Specifically, identify the key personnel required to implement the project.

2. Explain why the proposed innovation requires support from LIWAY

3. Role of the Beneficiary

Please provide general description of who will benefit from the proposed program and the proposed impact on them. Describe how the activities will change the environment or people. Please describe how the Innovation Fund will benefit people. Estimate the number of beneficiaries and gender.

Section VIII: Project Monitoring and Evaluation

1. Monitoring and Evaluation Narrative

Please provide a brief narrative describing the method(s) of data collection and storage that will be utilized for the project. Describe how you will review data and monitor results to determine whether desired results are being achieved and whether implementation is on track

Section VIII: Budget

4.1	Estimated cost of the entire activities (ETB)	
4.2	Total request for financing from LIWAY (ETB and %)	
4.3	Total financing covered by the applicant (ETB and %)	

Supporting documentation

(If they are not available, please provide the equivalent information.)

- Copy of registration documents
- Copy of tax registration
- All relevant supporting documents and certifications
- Please include details of the budget, as shown in Annex 1

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION PRESENTED IN THE PROPOSAL IS ACCURATE AND COMPLETE.

Date _____

Name _____

Title _____

Signature _____

ANNEX 1 – Budget template

Please include a budget detailing the costs of the proposed innovation / activities, in the format below.

	Description	Quantity	Unit cost	Total Cost	LIWAY Share (%)	Applicant Share (%)
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						

Technical and financial should be sent separately to

et-tender-questions@mercycorps.org

OR

To Mercy corps Addis Ababa office, Yeka Sub-City, Kebele 08, House No. 377; Hayahulet, Tel. 011-1-110777, P. O. Box 14319 with reference “Creating Employment Opportunities for Low-income Women (Mothers) Through Public Private Childcare Service” till 10th of May 2023 5:00 PM.

Applications sent by other email accounts will not be considered.

Please find the call for application with the proposal format from - www.mercycorps.org/tenders

OR from Mercy corps Addis Ababa office address mentioned above as of April 26th, 2023, from 8:00AM to 5:00 PM