

**FACESHEET FOR  
REQUEST FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (RCE)**

**PROGRAM/ACTIVITY DATA:**

**Title:** Power Africa – a Presidential Initiative

**Mechanism:** PASA No. AFR-P-00-07-00001-00

**Implementing Partner(s):** Milken Institute

**Funding Period:** FY 2013

**Amount:** \$400,000 USAID (estimated)

**Total:** \$961,780 (estimated)

**RCE Prepared by:** Gary M. Imhoff (gimhoff@usaid.gov)

**Date:** September 2, 2014

**RCE Expiration:** 31 December 2016

**PATA/ POC:** Cameron Khosrowshahi (ckhosrowshahi@usaid.gov)

**IEE Amendment (Y/N):** N

**Country/Region:** Africa

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:**

The GDA partnership with the Milken Institute supports program objectives inherent under the Power Africa initiative and this request for Categorical Exclusion (RCE) covers planned USAID-financed activities under the program.

A description of the GDA Partnership is included as Annex A to this RCE.

The goal of a partnership with Milken will be to advance the following objectives:

- ✓ Expose investors and businesses to a new narrative on Africa (and other developing markets as appropriate) and provide them with different investment opportunities and potential partnerships;
- ✓ Delve into the "how" of investing in Africa, share (and potentially play a role in designing) tangible investment structures, and facilitate a feedback process from global investors throughout the development process;
- ✓ Serve as a resource (by aggregating existing information or engaging in original research) that identifies best practices and policy recommendations that facilitate better coordination between the public and private sectors and reduce barriers for investment among governments, DFIs, multinationals and other global investors; and,
- ✓ Catalyze investment in Africa (and other developing markets as appropriate);

- ✓ Use the best practices from the partnership to expand into other developing markets to explore financing models that could be applicable in other areas.

The planned activities include technical assistance, training and other professional development services which are classified as a categorical exclusion pursuant to 22 CFR 216.2(c)(1) and (2). This RCE does **not** cover any infrastructure activities that could have a biophysical impact on the environment (i.e., natural resources or human health) including but not limited to building, water or sanitation system, road/sidewalk/pathway construction or rehabilitation.

The Financial Innovations Lab (Lab) financed by this activity will discuss models and best practices for energy infrastructure financing. This Lab will include expertise on environmental sustainability, clean energy and environmental regulatory requirements.

**Revisions:**

If additional activities not described in this document are added to this program, such as a sub-grants program, which potentially could fund biophysical activities, an Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) must be prepared, and approved by the Africa Bureau Environmental Officer prior to implementation of such activities.

Pursuant to 22 CFR 216.2(c)(3), if new information becomes available which indicates that any of the proposed actions to be funded by this activity may have an effect on the Environment, then the threshold decision for those actions listed above will be reviewed and revised and an IEE-amendment or EA will be prepared for and cleared by the governing Bureau Environmental Officer.

**USAID APPROVAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION(S) RECOMMENDED:**

**Clearance:**

AFR/PATA Coordinator: Andrew Herscowitz e-mail Date: 3 September 2014

**Concurrence:**

AFR Environmental Officer: Brian Hirsch:  Date: 3 September 2014

**AFR BEO File Name:** PATA – Milken Institute GDA RCE.doc

**Additional Clearance:**

AFR/SD/EGEA MEO: Tim Resch signature Date: 2 September 2014  
AFR/PATA/PRO : Karen M. Poe signature Date: 2 September 2014  
AFR/PATA: Cameron Khosrowshahi signature Date: 2 September 2014

Attachments:

Annex A – Description of Activities

Annex B – “Green Meeting” Checklist

## **Annex A**

### **DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**

The Milken Institute proposes to use its existing platform, network, and processes during a 15-month period to focus on promoting foreign investment and influencing deal structuring in Africa around infrastructure finance and the energy sector. Through various workshops and research conducted at Innovations Labs, the Institute will reveal to the private sector tangible business and investment opportunities; develop potential financial models and policy solutions; and, catalyze new partnerships and investments in the energy sector in sub-Saharan Africa. By collaborating directly with USAID, the Milken Institute and their partners under this proposal believe they can offer a fresh audience of investors, their financial expertise, and the full extent of their convening power to make this partnership successful.

The proposal includes a phased approach as outlined:

#### **Phase One - Research and Industry Mapping (One Month)**

The Institute and its partners will conduct research on industry and country/region-specific trends and will engage experts and leaders in the field.

#### **Phase Two - New Financing Models for Energy Infrastructure Developed (One Month)**

Approximately 30-35 experts and decision-makers, including investors, infrastructure and energy developers, government leaders and development finance institutions, will be brought together as a Financial Innovations Lab (Lab) to discuss models and best practices for energy infrastructure financing. This Lab will include expertise on environmental sustainability, clean energy and environmental regulatory requirements.

#### **Phase Three - Report Preparation and Follow-up (Four Months)**

A report will be prepared that summarizes the recommendations from PHASE TWO and outlines next steps toward implementation. The report will be used as the basis for further discussions. In addition, follow up meetings with stakeholders will be convened to further refine the models developed during PHASE TWO.

#### **Phase Four - Industry Outreach and Follow-Up (Four Months)**

A Corporate Investor Roundtable will be convened during the Institute's annual Global Conference, with organized public and private panel sessions that would discuss the outcomes from the first Financial Innovations Lab, and set-up the conversation for the second Financial Innovations Lab.

#### **Phase Five – Second Financial Innovations Lab Related to Structuring an Energy Infrastructure Fund (One Month)**

Participants will focus on the most viable and desirable model agreed upon during earlier phases and flesh-out the structure and identify potential investment opportunities that could benefit from inclusion in a portfolio.

#### **Phase Six - Final Reporting and Next Steps (Four Months)**

A second Lab report will be developed, based on the outcomes from the Second Financial Innovations Lab. The Institute will convene follow-up meetings with stakeholders to continue to build momentum around the implementation of the new model(s).

#### **PROPOSAL SUMMARY**

Through this proposed 15-month, \$961,780 partnership with the Milken Institute, Liquidnet and Symbion Energy, USAID will have an opportunity to inform potential investors of opportunities in the energy sector in sub-Saharan Africa and introduce them to financial models and policy solutions to encourage investment. In addition, this partnership has the potential to spawn new partnerships designed to help meet Power Africa's recently-expanded program objectives. Expected outputs include two financial Innovation Labs (one on New Financing Models for Energy Infrastructure and the second on Structuring an Energy Fund), and related recommendations and implementation plans; one Corporate Investor Roundtable; and, additional follow up-meetings.

## Annex B

### **Green Meeting Planning Checklist: Setting Environmental Priorities**

In this checklist, environmentally aware meetings and events are those planned in such a way as to eliminate, reduce, or recycle waste. While focusing on municipal solid waste, this checklist also touches on other environmental concerns. It is intended to heighten the environmental consciousness of event planners and demonstrate the advantages of conducting environmentally aware events.

Consider the following as you select your environmental priorities:

#### ***Preventing and Reducing Waste***

- Focus on reducing waste, given limited in-country recycling facilities
- Use double-sided printing, recycled content -where available- for promotional materials and handouts.
- Avoid mass distribution of handouts. Allow attendees to request copies or provide digital copies via CD, thumb drive, or website.
- Provide reusable name badges.
- Purchase large volume plastic bottles of water to dispense into glasses at each table, instead of individual sized plastic bottles
- Other actions: \_\_\_\_\_

#### ***Recycling and Managing Waste***

- Where facilities exist, collect paper and recyclable beverage containers in meeting areas.
- Collect cardboard and paper in exhibit areas.
- Collect cardboard, beverage containers, steel cans, and plastics in food vending areas.
- Separate out organic waste for composting, Provide composting guidelines for conference venues
- If reusables are not used, encourage use of recyclable beverage containers.
- Other actions: \_\_\_\_\_

#### ***Conserving Energy and Reducing Traffic***

- Seek naturally lighted meeting and exhibit spaces.
- Provide shuttle service from hotels to the event site.
- Choose meeting sites that have on-site housing
- Other actions: \_\_\_\_\_

#### ***Contracting Food Service and Lodging***

- Plan food service needs carefully to avoid unnecessary waste.
- Consider use of durable food service items instead of disposables.
- Donate excess food to charitable organizations, including planning ahead via SOW/contract with the conference venue to ensure this happens.
- Work with hotel on non-replacement of linens, soaps, etc.
- Other actions: \_\_\_\_\_

#### ***Buying Environmentally Aware Products***

- Use recycled paper for promotional materials and handouts, where available.
- Consider selling or providing refillable containers for beverages.
- Provide reusable containers for handouts or samples (pocket or file folders, cloth bags).
- Where reusable items are not feasible, select products that are made from recovered materials and that also can be recycled.

Other actions: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Educating Participants and Exhibitors***

- Request the use of recycled and recyclable handouts or giveaways.
- Request that unused items be collected for use at another event.
- Encourage participants to recycle materials at the event.
- Reward participation by communicating environmental savings achieved.
- Other actions: \_\_\_\_\_

(Checklist adopted from the US EPA guidance "*It's Easy Being Green! A Guide To Planning And Conducting Environmentally Aware Meetings And Events*", EPA530-K-96-002, September 1996, <http://www.greenbiz.com/files/document/O16F2392.pdf> )

- ✓ Use the best practices from the partnership to expand into other developing markets to explore financing models that could be applicable in other areas.

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*prior to implementation of such activities*

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E3 Environmental Officer: \_\_\_\_\_

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AFR/PATA/PRO : Karen M. Poe Karen Poe Date : 2 September 2014  
AFR/PATA: Cameron Khosrowshahi \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 2 September 2014

**Attachments:**

- Annex A – Description of Activities
- Annex B – “Green Meeting” Checklist



Karen Poe &lt;kpoe@usaid.gov&gt;

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**Milken Institute GDA-Request for Categorical Exclusion (RCE)**

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**Karen Poe** <kpoe@usaid.gov>

Tue, Sep 2, 2014 at 5:26 PM

To: Andy Herscowitz &lt;aherscowitz@usaid.gov&gt;

Cc: Don Niss &lt;dniss@usaid.gov&gt;, Steve Shira &lt;sshira@usaid.gov&gt;, Cameron Khosrowshahi &lt;ckhosrowshahi@usaid.gov&gt;

Andy,

Attached for your clearance is the Request for Categorical Exclusion for the Milken Institute GDA.

Thanks, Karen

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Karen M Poe  
USAID AFR/AA/PATA  
PATA Program TeamRRB 4.6-25  
202-712-1067

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 **Milken Institute GDA RCE.pdf**  
1186K**Andrew Herscowitz** <aherscowitz@usaid.gov>

Wed, Sep 3, 2014 at 1:28 AM

To: Karen Poe &lt;kpoe@usaid.gov&gt;

Cc: Don Niss &lt;dniss@usaid.gov&gt;, Steve Shira &lt;sshira@usaid.gov&gt;, Cameron Khosrowshahi &lt;ckhosrowshahi@usaid.gov&gt;

I clear.

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