



Call for Applications

2021 Training and Grants Program for Women's Cooperatives & Economic Empowerment Collectives (formal & informal sectors)

The Michael Imoudu National Institute For Labour Studies (MINILS) in collaboration with the dRPC

As part of its contribution to support recent initiatives at national and state level to strengthen women's cooperatives and economic collectives in Nigeria, the Michael Imoudu National Institute For Labour Studies (MINILS), in collaboration with the development Research and Projects Centre (dRPC), is calling for applications from women leaders of cooperatives and economic collectives to participate in the 2021 training and grants program. The training program on - **Advocacy and Communication for women's economic advancement** - is scheduled to take place in Abuja between 2nd to 7th August 2021. The MINILS will select 35 women leaders from formal and informal women's livelihood associations including - cooperative societies; associations of market women and women traders; associations of producers; and women's groups running micro, small and medium enterprises. The training will be practical and skills-oriented, with modules on: -

- 1) Identifying barriers and constraints to women's businesses;
- 2) Identifying advocacy targets and issues;
- 3) Constituency mobilization and coalition building for advocacy to duty bearers of the economy;
- 4) Advocacy strategies, tactics, messages and communication strategies;
- 5) Strengthening leadership and organizational management of women's economic collectives

At the end of the training workshop, participants will be supported to develop and implement an action plan to conduct an advocacy visit on a problem or issue of concern to the women's economic collective.

Application procedure

Women leaders of economic empowerment collectives are invited to apply for this opportunity by submitting a 2-page letter of application. The 2-page letter of application must provide the full name of the leader of the women's economic empowerment collective making the application and the year elected to be the leader, the phone or WhatsApp number of the leader of the collective making the application must also be provided. The 2-page application must also provide information on year the group was formed, the number of members, type of economic activities carried out and annual turn-over. The application must also provide information on registration status of the Women's Economic Empowerment group; as well as information on any business loan or line of credit obtained in the past 3 years. In addition, information on the name and contact details of 2 referees of high social standing in the community must be provided. Information on membership in any other collective, local, national or regional must also be provided.

Nomination by government MDAs and donor agencies

Officials with direct responsibility for coordinating the activities of WEEC in national or state government MDAs are also invited to nominate women leaders of women's economic empowerment collectives. Program Officers from donor agencies supporting WEECs are also invited to nominate WEEC leaders. Nominating officers, are required to submit a 2-page application with the nominating officer's full name, post in the Ministry, Department or Agency (MDA) or donor agency, email and phone number. Nominating officers must also provide the WEEC leader's contact details (name, phone number and address); reason for making the nomination; brief profile of the WEEC with information on year of formation, number of members and type of economic activity; information on registration status with LGA, state or national level bodies; and information on membership in any national or regional associations.

Submission of Applications/Nominations

ALL Applications and Nominations must be forwarded via email to the address: **paweddrpc@gmail.com** and must be received on or before 20th July 2021. All applications will be acknowledged. Printed copies of applications/nominations submitted via email can also be forwarded to the Office of the Director General: Michael Imoudu National Institute For Labour Studies (MINILS) KM 7, Ajase Ipo Road, PMB 1524, Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria

The Michael Imoudu National Institute for Labour Studies (MINILS) is a government-owned labour institute established in 1986 in Ilorin, Nigeria. It is one of the statutory bodies managed by the Federal Ministry of Labour. Named after popular labour leader, Michael Imoudu, who started his labour activities as a member of the Railway Workers Union during the colonial era, MINILS is an arm of the Federal Ministry of Labour. The development Research and Projects Centre (dRPC) is a non-profit organization with over 20 years of experience partnering with government agencies to address capacity gaps of underserved and vulnerable populations.

Absolutely NO payment is required for participation in this training program. This program is funded through the kind support of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation