

Terms of Reference (TOR) for Private Sector Development Specialist – SDF Board of Directors

Introduction:

The Social Development Fund (SDF) is a government-owned development finance institution that supports inclusive and sustainable development in The Gambia by providing financial and technical assistance to Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), community-based organizations, and vulnerable groups. SDF focuses on expanding access to finance, promoting job creation, reducing poverty, and strengthening livelihoods across the country.

As part of its mission to support MSMEs and foster inclusive growth, the Social Development Fund (SDF) recognizes the importance of private sector engagement. To this end, SDF seeks to appoint a Private Sector Development Specialist to its Board of Directors.

Role and Responsibilities

The appointed Board Member will play a vital role in strengthening SDF's engagement with the private sector, fostering market-based solutions and sector insights to enhance SDF's support for enterprise development, innovation and sustainable job creation. Key responsibilities include:

- Provide strategic advice on how SDF can effectively support entrepreneurship, SME development, and private sector competitiveness.
- Identify barriers to private sector growth and recommend interventions to strengthen the enabling environment for MSMEs.
- Support the design and implementation of financing mechanisms tailored to the needs of informal and formal sector businesses.
- Facilitate partnerships with business associations, chambers of commerce, and financial institutions.
- Promote private sector participation in SDF programs through co-financing, technical support, or Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs).
- Advise on value chain development and market access strategies for supported enterprises.

Required Qualifications & Experience

The ideal candidate for this Board position should possess the following qualifications and competencies:

- A Master's degree in Business Administration, Economics, Development Studies, or a related field.
- At least 10 years of experience in private sector development, entrepreneurship, investment promotion, or SME finance.
- Proven experience working with MSMEs, business support organizations, or development partners.

- Demonstrated ability to link development finance to real sector outcomes (jobs, income, innovation).

Term of Service as Board of Director at SDF

- The appointment to the SDF Board of Directors shall be for a period of three (3) years, subject to renewal based on performance and institutional needs.

Interested and qualified candidates shall submit the following:

- A detailed CV
- A cover letter expressing interest and outlining relevant contributions they can bring to the SDF Board.
- Applications to be submitted at the SOE Commission Office at Old Jeshwang, Opposite Gambia Methodist Academy (GMA), or sent via email to: info@soec.gm or soecommission@gmail.com no later than **Friday, July 4th 2025**.