

Rules and Regulations

1. Context and aims

Stream Accelerator Program is designed to support WASH SMEs expand their services to new clients, by means of accessing relevant growth capital and through business support activities. We are looking to support high-potential SMEs through professional business consulting and linkage with financial services available in the market.

Iceaddis is implementing this program in partnership with Aqua for All and Fair & Sustainable.

2. Publicity

The partners reserve the right to publish details of the entrants, shortlisted candidates, finalists, and/or accepted SMEs of the accelerator program on their website and in other promotional and publicity material as it considers appropriate. By entering, entrants agree that they will be willing and available to participate in publicity and promotional activities and events and/or press conferences and that the organizers shall be entitled to use entrants' names, photographs, and other relevant information in publicity throughout all media, free of charge.

3. Terms and conditions of entry

Entry to the accelerator program is free and open to teams or companies in Ethiopia with an innovative idea or product that can solve real-life problems within the WASH Sector.

Applicants must meet the following requirements at the date of the application to be eligible:

- Should already be in the market for a minimum of 3 years with practical experience of a WASH business
- Should have proof of legally registered documents of formation and establishment in Ethiopia
- The minimum age of founders is 18yr
- Must be able to commit and attend accelerator program activities

Female entrepreneurs and women-led SMEs are strongly encouraged to take part in the accelerator.

By entering the program, the participants agree to the rules and regulations of the stream accelerator program.

4. Definitions

The Stream Accelerator program application is open for submissions to existing growth stage SMEs engaged in the WASH sector. WASH SMEs refer to Small and Medium Enterprises operating in the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene sector. These businesses typically focus on providing products, services, or solutions related to water supply, sanitation facilities, and hygiene practices. WASH SMEs play a crucial role in addressing issues of water access, sanitation, and hygiene promotion, particularly in underserved communities and developing regions. This comprises but is not limited to SMEs operating in:

- Development of water supply systems and borehole drilling;
- Operation and maintenance of water supply systems;
- Household Water Treatment and Safe Storage (HWTS);
- Community water treatment systems;
- Water Purification Technology Providers;
- Reusable Sanitary Products;
- Rainwater harvesting;
- Water resources management;
- Toilet construction (household & public);
- Liquid waste management (construction, maintenance, waste to energy, etc.);

5. Submission

The submission deadline for the **Stream Accelerator Program** is May 27th, 2024 .

Applications can only be submitted through the relevant online form provided (Please visit: <http://iceaddis.com/stream>). The submissions should include a detailed description (through the application form)

Selection criteria:

- **Sustainability:** Existing sustainable business model with potential to scale
- **Innovation:** Innovative solution that has the potential to change the sector
- **Traction:** examines the SMEs ability to demonstrate traction in the market, including customer feedback, sales growth, partnerships, and operational milestones. We seek to identify SMEs that have gained significant traction and proven their viability, as evidenced by tangible results and milestones achieved.
- **Strong management team:** We search for entrepreneurs that can lead, take responsibility, and drive positive company culture.
- **Impact on Local WASH Ecosystem:** considers the social, environmental, and economic impact of the SME's products or services on communities, especially underserved areas. SMEs with innovative solutions that address critical WASH challenges, promote

sustainability, and enhance access to clean water and sanitation facilities are highly valued.

- **Willingness to have a financial contribution:** We consider factors such as the ability to contribute financially to program costs, the willingness to allocate resources for growth and development, and the understanding of the value proposition offered by the accelerator.
- **Green Aspects:** we evaluate the environmental sustainability of the SMEs operations, products, or services. We consider factors such as the use of renewable resources, energy efficiency, waste reduction, and carbon footprint minimization. SMEs with a strong commitment to environmental sustainability and a demonstrated track record of implementing green practices are given preference.
- **Clear Funding Needs:** applicant's clarity and transparency regarding their financial requirements and funding needs. Applicants are expected to articulate their financial needs clearly, including the amount of funds required, the purpose of the funds, and the expected outcomes or impact of the investment.

5.1 Languages for submission

The applicants can submit their entries in English and Amharic.

5.2 Special provisions

Compliance of submitted projects with these criteria will be verified as far as possible prior to presentation to the selection jury.

Partners cannot be held responsible for late submissions due to technical problems.

6. Selection Jury

The selection of the SMEs will be undertaken by the Selection Jury to be put forward for consideration by the Partners.

- The finalists will be selected based on stringent judging criteria.
- The Selection Jury reserves the right to take external advice and guidance from such other experts as they consider appropriate, including but not limited to advice relating to the originality of the submission and whether the submission infringes the intellectual property rights of a third party.
- The Jury's deliberations will be documented. The decision will be determined by a simple majority. The Jury's decisions are made independently, are supreme and beyond dispute.
- Members of the Selection Jury and the Jury shall disclose to the prize administration

team if they (a) have personal or financial interests in or be an employee, officer, director, or agent of any entity that is a registered participant in the Prize (including but not limited to a sponsor or financier of any such participant); or (b) have a familial or financial relationship with an individual who is a registered participant or participant sponsor, where upon such members will be recused from reviewing, assessing, or voting on any matter relating to the relevant participants.

- The selecting jury's decision shall be final and non-appealable.

Please find further information on the following website: <http://iceaddis.com/stream>