



## OVERVIEW

Applications should be submitted to [info@rfisummit.org](mailto:info@rfisummit.org) and must be received by 23:59 (Central European Time) on 19 March 2018

**Objective:** Recognize and highlight a company whose technology can contribute significantly to the ability of financial institutions activity in one of the priority sectors

**Priority sectors (see below for details):** Agriculture, healthcare, sustainable cities and education

**Prize:** Winner will be invited to present their company in front of approximately 200 senior leaders from the responsible finance industry including banks, asset managers, asset owners, insurers, and related service providers

**Requirements:** We love innovation, but for the purpose of the SDG Challenge Awards, we are looking for more than pure innovation. The ability to pair innovation and execution is particularly important for the parameters of these awards because in order to unlock the financial sector's ability to finance a new business sector or use a new approach to financing an existing business sector, the technology has to demonstrate market acceptance. Therefore, all applicants should meet the following minimum requirements:

- Legally incorporated company;
- Being able to demonstrate at least 6 months of live testing that generated customer feedback;
- Demonstrated market traction in terms of either revenue or other activities such as partnerships signed, specific deliverables to customers, number of people impacts;
- Entrants are encouraged to provide a third party reference who will be able to, if the judges request, validate claims made by the nominee or third party making the nomination and,
- Business activities must be connected to a product or service that demonstrates relevance in the Priority Sectors and be useful to those who provide financing into the Priority Sectors' by improving one of the following:
  - Non-financial company operations
  - Data generation and/or collection
  - Company intelligence
  - Market intelligence
  - Reporting; or,
  - Any other aspect of the Priority Sector company's ability to access finance (including a FinTech service) as determined by the judges in their sole discretion.

**Judging panel:** The judging panel (members to be announced) will be appointed by mutual consent of the organizers of the RFI Summit 2018. There will be a maximum of 10 judges, with a majority of those judges being independent of the RFI Summit 2018 organizers. Individuals are independent if they are not connected to either the RFI Foundation or Swiss Arab Network as employees, management or directors. Judges who are solely connected to the organization as a result of their membership in one or both organization are considered independent as long as they do not actively volunteer for the



organizations in a capacity where their duties would be similar to an employee, manager or director. The judging panel will review, approve and, if deemed necessary, modify the screening criteria provided it will not undermine the independence of the judging panel.

#### **Judging criteria:**

- **Relevance:** Entries will be scored about their relevance to the financing of one or more of the Priority Sectors.
- **Adoption Potential for Financial Services Institutions:** Entries will be scored on the potential for their use to increase the flow of financing. The financing will be viewed broadly, with increase possible from many different types of financial institutions into the Priority Sectors.
- **Potential Impact:** Entries will be scored on their ability to support equitable, inclusive and sustainable access to finance in the Priority Sectors.

#### **Screening process:**

- **Initial screening:** All entries will be screened by two reviewers on the minimum criteria listed above as well as the judging criteria. All categories will use a Yes / Maybe / No response. For entries receiving a yes from both reviewers on all requirements or those where only one reviewer marked "Maybe" and the other marked "Yes", the entry will have their preliminary score calculated by assigning 1 point for each "Yes", 0.5 points for each "Maybe" and 0 points for each "No". For entries where one reviewer marks "Yes" and the other marks "Maybe", the entry will be treated as if both reviewers marked "Yes". If both reviewers mark "No" on any of the requirements, the entry will be excluded from further consideration. If one reviewer marks "Maybe" and one marks "No", or if both mark "Maybe", the reviewers will be asked to deliberate together to decide to include or exclude the entry from further consideration.
- **Short-list creation:** All of the entries which are not excluded will have their scores added up and ranked from least to greatest. The top 5 highest scores in each Priority Sector will be shortlisted. In case of a tie, any entry with a score equal to the highest score will be included in the shortlist.
- **Judges review:** Judges will appoint a chairperson who shall be an independent member of the judging panel, as defined above, to run the Judges panel meetings (via phone) and to serve as a tie-breaking vote. The judges will each be appointed to 2 of the 4 Priority Sectors (provided that there will not be fewer than 4 members judging each Priority Sector). Judges will review the shortlisted entries on a 1 to 10 scale from lowest to highest for each category. The chairperson for the Judges panel will be included on any Priority Sector judging panel with an even number of judges as a tie-breaker. In the case of a tie, the score will be re-calculated giving double the weight to the chairperson's score. If a tie remains, there will be co-award winners.



**Application Form for the SDG Challenge Awards**

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Nominated company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate whether you are connected to Organizer / Judging Panel member: Y / N

Please indicate whether your company has had a live product for 6 months or more: Y / N

Please sign your name to attest to the accuracy of the information you have provided below

\_\_\_\_\_

I am nominating:

\_\_\_ My own company

\_\_\_ Another company

Priority Sector:

- Agriculture
- Healthcare
- Education
- Sustainable Cities

History and overview of nominated business (max. 250 words):



Please demonstrate how your company measures its market acceptance (max. 250 words):

Please explain how your company enables the financial sector to increase its activities in the Priority



Please explain your company's social and/or environmental impact and how it addresses the Priority Sector (max. 250 words):

Please provide one or more references that the judges may contact who will validate the information in this application:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relation to the company: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact email: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please note: Any information provided in addition to what is requested in this application may be reviewed by the judges at their own discretion. We will try to respond to any inquiries about the status of the competition but we will only contact directly those applicants who have passed initial screening and been selected to the short-list. Unless we provide a written offer of assistance for travel and accommodation costs, winners should be prepared to bear their own costs to attend the Summit. We will provide a full 2-day conference pass for all winners entitling them to enjoy all the benefits accorded to panel speakers.



## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PRIORITY SECTORS

In relation to the priority sectors, the challenge is focused in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals. This connection is prioritizing:

### Agriculture (SDG-2):

- Ensure access to food by all people and in particular the poor and vulnerable (2.1)
- End malnutrition especially among children, adolescent girls, pregnant women & elderly (2.2)
- Double agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers (2.3)
- Implement resilient agricultural practices, including promoting resiliency to climate change (2.4)
- Ensure access to a fair and equitable access to benefits of soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks (2.5)

### Healthcare (SDG-3):

- Reduce global maternal mortality to less than 70 per 100,000 live births (3.1)
- End preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years old (3.2)
- End epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases (3.3)
- Reduce by one-third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health & well-being (3.4)
- Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse (3.5)
- Halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic crashes (3.6)
- Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services (3.7)
- Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services & access to safe, effective, quality & affordable essential medicines & vaccines (3.8)
- Substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination (3.9)

### Education (SDG-4):

- Ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary & secondary education (4.1)
- Ensure that all girls and boys have access to early childhood development, care and pre-primary education (4.2)
- Ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education (4.3)
- Substantially increase the number of youth and adults with relevant skills for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship (4.4)



- Eliminate gender disparities in education and the vulnerable (4.5)
- Ensure all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, achieve literacy and numeracy (4.6)
- Ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development (4.7)

#### Sustainable Cities (SDG-11):

- Ensure access to adequate, safe and affordable housing & basic services (11.1)
- Provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems (11.2)
- Enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning & management (11.3)
- Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage (11.4)
- Reduce the number of deaths and people affected by natural disasters (11.5)
- Reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities (11.6)