Dear applicant,

We are excited you have decided to apply for the Empowering Entrepreneurship Initiative. We are looking forward to receiving your application!

Before you get started, here are a few important notes and tips to assist you in your application:

1. The application will take around **25-30 minutes**.
2. The application must be completed in one sitting; you cannot save your application and continue later.
3. Before starting, we recommend that you download the preview of the full application [here](#) and prepare your answers in a separate document.
4. Please make sure you apply through a PC/Desktop and not via mobile devices.
5. Incomplete applications are automatically disqualified.
6. Please submit only one application per business. Multiple applications are automatically disqualified.
7. You need to have the following on hand while filling the application:
   - Proof of your business registration
   - An overview of your the business’ finances in 2019
Eligibility Criteria

Your application will be evaluated under three criteria: team, business, and COVID-19 status. Please read the following information carefully as any false information in your application will lead to disqualification.

Team Requirements:
- 1-3 team members are eligible for financial support per business. **At least one applicant must be a founder** or co-founder. Other applicants can be part of the Executive Management team.
- The application must be completed by a founder or a legally authorized representative (e.g. managing director).
- The minimum age for eligibility is 18 years.
- The minimum team size is 3 employees per business, including the founder[s].

Business Requirements:
- The business must be legally registered in Egypt, Jordan, Ghana, Kenya, Mexico, or Indonesia.
- Legal registration must have occurred between the January of 2010 and December 2019.
- The business must have generated revenue before or during 2019.
- The business should have an innovative, scalable business model or product.
- The business is fully independent (not a partner company nor an associated company).
- Investors may be majority shareholders, but the business itself cannot be majority-owned by another business (i.e. over 50% of the shares or voting rights of another company).

COVID-19 status Requirements:
- The business has *severely* been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic (reduced team size, decline in sales, halted operations, etc.)
- The business had a working *profitable* business model and was not facing liquidity problems prior to March 2020.