

Application Evaluation Tool

Project Title:				
Application Area	1 (Low)	3 (High)	Score	Comments
Alignment	Project does not align or rationale for alignment is weak.	Rationale for alignment is clear and compelling – there is strong alignment with AREF outcomes		
Need	The need is not clearly stated and there is lack of evidence to support that the need exists.	Need is clearly defined and applicant demonstrates an understanding of target beneficiaries and of the wider context of the issue. There is strong evidence that the need is great/pressing.		
Project Activities and Timelines	Key activities are not clear. Timelines for project are not realistic given the scope of the project.	Key activities are clearly described. Timelines for the project are reasonable and realistic given scope of project.		
Project Impact	Results and outputs are not logically connected to described activities. Project results are not aligned to AREF granting areas and outcomes. Scope of impact is weak.	The results and outputs would reasonably be achieved through described activities. Key project results are strongly aligned to AREF granting areas and outcomes. Project results address the stated need. Scope of impact is strong: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Results and outputs are extensive/wide-ranging (breadth) or; - Results and outputs represent a high degree of positive change (depth) Project will have a lasting impact through a strong sustainability or replicability focus.		
Applicant Capacity	Applicant has limited experience with issue area, target beneficiaries. Staff are underqualified. Project does not have the relevant partnerships in place to address capacity gaps. Measurement and learning plan is poorly described/ irrelevant to project improvement.	Demonstrated experience with issue areas, target beneficiaries and strong staff/organization experience. Organization has brokered strong and relevant partnerships that will clearly further capacity to implement the project. A clear measurement and learning plan has been described. It is likely to allow the project to implement strong continuous learning.		

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Budget	Budget is not reasonable given the scope of the project (too little or too much)	Budget (expenses and revenues) is reasonable given the scope of the project. Significant in-kind and financial resources from other funding sources are being contributed.		
Additional Point	Awarded at reviewer discretion for additional criteria. Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Geographic area aligning with AREF geographic priorities. - Strong letters of support. - Strong industry involvement/engagement. - Use of innovation and novel promising practices. - Exemplary plan for Foundation recognition. 			
Total*:				
<p><i>* It is important to note that the 'Total Score' alone does not provide a basis for granting decisions. The scores combined with the comments in a completed assessment tool serve as a starting point for discussion during Board meetings.</i></p>				
<p>Please provide additional comments on the organization's capacity based on information provided in the appendices. This could include your observations on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 33%;">- Board strength <li style="width: 33%;">- Governance structure <li style="width: 33%;">- Ability to work collaboratively <li style="width: 33%;">- Executive leadership <li style="width: 33%;">- Financial stability <li style="width: 33%;">- Ability to leverage funds etc. 				
<p>Other Additional Comments:</p>				