



LIBERIAN YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INVESTMENT BANK

Assignment Title: IT SPECIALIST

Financing Agreement reference: **2100150043943**

Project ID No.: **P-LR-HB0-003**

Reference No. **LR-YEIB-012**

Issue Date: **May 13, 2026**

End Date: **May 27, 2026**

1. INTRODUCTION

The Government of Liberia has received funds from the African Development Bank (AfDB) and intends to apply part of the funds for the recruitment of an IT Specialist for the Youth Entrepreneurship and Investment Bank (YEIB) to be established. The Recruitment Committee hereby invites suitable candidates to indicate their interest for undertaking the aforementioned role.

2. BACKGROUND

Liberia's youth entrepreneurship landscape faces several key challenges impeding the growth of youth entrepreneurship including: (1) a weak and highly fragmented early-stage business development ecosystem; (2) low-to-no access to finance for startups and MSMEs; (3) gaps in offering for startups and SMEs; and (4) difficulty in attracting investment (locally, regionally, and globally) for innovation¹. To address market failures in the provision of financial and non-financial services, a Youth Entrepreneurship and Investment Bank (YEIB) will be established to provide financial and non-financial services to young entrepreneurs to start and build businesses.

The YEIB will aim to create dynamic ecosystem for youth entrepreneurship in Liberia by unlocking capital for youth, leveraging private sector investments, and offering technical support to address market gaps and capitalize on opportunities. Through this vision, the YEIB will aim to empower numerous young entrepreneurs, enabling them to establish, enhance, and expand their businesses while generating employment opportunities.

2.1 The YEIB

The YEIB will be registered and licensed as a non-bank non-deposit taking financial institution in Liberia. It will be set up as a parent company and will oversee the operations of three funds, Investment Fund, Guarantee Fund and Technical Assistance Fund. The YEIB will aim to create dynamic ecosystem for youth entrepreneurship in Liberia by unlocking capital for youth, leveraging private sector investments, and offering technical support to address market gaps and capitalize on opportunities. Through this vision, the YEIB will aim to empower numerous young entrepreneurs, enabling them to establish, enhance, and expand their businesses while generating employment opportunities.

¹ Market Assessment Study

The three (3) core mandate of the YEIB include the following:

1. Management of an Investment Fund: This will involve deploying investments indirectly through impact, seed, and growth funds. Additionally, the YEIB may directly invest capital in promising MSMEs, including startups, with a focus on high growth potential.
2. Management of a Credit Guarantee Fund: The YEIB will raise and oversee a fund that provides credit guarantees to mitigate risks for financial institutions including banks and microfinance institutions, thus facilitating access to financing for youth-led businesses.
3. Provision of Technical Assistance and BDS Support: Through collaboration with third-party partners, the YEIB will offer technical assistance and business development support to young entrepreneurs, ensuring they have the necessary skills and resources to thrive.

2.2 The YEIB vehicles (SPVs):

YEIB Capacity building Trust (Private Foundation) – It is the heart of the YEIB non-financial services. It will be established to (1) provide technical assistance to SMEs as part of effort to improve SMEs’ technical, financial and managerial abilities and enhance their bankability and their investment readiness. This use of resources represents the bulk of the activity. The vehicle with also (2) strengthen the selected YEIB delivery partners, both non-financial (i.e. BDS providers) and financial (i.e. the PFIs) in areas such as financial literacy, fragility, climate and gender mainstreaming, as a way to enhance their services beyond business incubator and investment readiness for the target youth-MSMEs.

YEIB Investment Fund (LLC) – The investment vehicle provides long-term (LT) finance to SMEs in the form of equity or quasi-equity instruments, to allow them to start, grow and scale their businesses locally, regionally, and internationally. This LT-finance fills a major gap while the capital market evolves to host a number of asset allocators, for which this vehicle is set up to supporting.

YEIB Risk Sharing Mechanism (LLC) – The role of the Risk Sharing Mechanism (RSM) is to mitigate the risk of lending to MSMEs in the Liberian market. From a demand-side the RSM also serves to alleviate the collateral burden to the borrowers. This de-risking mechanism aims to incentivize financial institutions to increase their portfolio of youth-led businesses, with a special treatment of women-led and green businesses.

3. PURPOSE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The IT Specialist will lead the design, development, and implementation of the YEIB’s information technology systems and infrastructure. This role will ensure that all digital platforms, systems, and processes support the institution’s financial and non-financial service delivery in a secure, efficient, and scalable manner. A robust, secure, and scalable IT infrastructure is critical to ensure efficient operations, financial management, data integrity, and service delivery across all YEIB functions. The IT Specialist will report to the Director of Corporate Services.

The specific responsibilities of the IT Specialist include but are not limited to the following:

- Develop and implement an IT strategy aligned with YEIB’s mandate and operational structure.
- Design an integrated IT architecture to support: Investment management systems, credit guarantee and risk-sharing operations, technical assistance, and BDS tracking systems

- Recommend and deploy core banking or financial management systems suitable for the YEIB and its entities
- Establish IT infrastructure including Servers (cloud/on premises), Network systems, data storage and backup solutions, ensure scalability to support YEIB SPVs and future expansion, set up secure communication systems and enterprise platforms.
- Develop or procure digital platforms for: client onboarding and management, loan and investment processing, reporting, and analytics
- Promote automation of business processes to improve efficiency and reduce operational risks
- Ensure compliance with data protection standards and financial regulations.
- Implement cybersecurity systems to safeguard sensitive financial and personal data.
- Ensure interoperability between: Financial systems, partner financial institutions (PFIs), third-party service providers, integrate systems supporting SPVs such as the Investment Fund and Risk Sharing Mechanism
- Develop IT policies, procedures, and standard operating guidelines
- Establish IT frameworks and internal controls, ensure business continuity and disaster recovery planning
- Oversee cybersecurity measures to protect sensitive financial and client data.
- Develop disaster recovery and business continuity plans.
- Support digital platforms for customer service, fund management, and reporting.
- Manage databases and ensure data integrity across YEIB operations.
- Capacity Building and Support: Train YEIB staff on IT systems and digital tools, provide ongoing technical support and troubleshooting, build internal IT capacity for long-term sustainability
- Perform any other duties as may be assigned by the Director of Corporate Services

4. QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

The candidate must meet the following qualifications:

- A Bachelor's Degree in Information Technology, Computer Science, or related field
- A minimum of seven (5) years of relevant experience in IT systems management
- Proven experience in setting up IT systems for new organizations or projects
- Strong knowledge of financial systems and enterprise software, cybersecurity and data protection, cloud computing and infrastructure management
- Experience working with financial institutions and/or development finance institutions is a plus

5. EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

- IT infrastructure plan and implementation roadmap.
- Operational IT systems supporting YEIB's startup functions.
- Cybersecurity framework, data protection policies and compliance reports.
- Regular IT performance and risk assessment reports.
- Staff training sessions on IT systems and security.
- System integration reports for all YEIB components and SPVs

The Recruitment Committee now invites eligible individuals to indicate interest in providing these services by submitting their Curriculum Vitae (CV), demonstrating experience in performing similar assignments with references and showing responsiveness to the qualifications requirements outlined in this REOI. Eligibility criteria and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's *"Procurement Policy Framework for Bank Group Funded Operations"* October 2015 which is available on the Bank's website at <http://www.afdb.org>.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours, i.e. from 0900 to 1700 hours (GMT) on working days.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below by either hard copy or email by 27th May 2026 @ 1700 hours (GMT) and mention **"Expression of Interest for IT Specialist of the Liberian Youth Entrepreneurship and Investment Bank"**.

Attn.

The Chairperson

Recruitment Committee

Liberian Youth Entrepreneurship and Investment Bank

Monrovia, Liberia

Email: recruitmentcommitteeib@gmail.com; mewaseh76@gmail.com; and copy yeibliberia@gmail.com