

SUPPORTING STATEMENT FOR APPROVAL

**A. Justification**

- 1) Legal authority for this information collection is found in the Better Utilization of Investments Leading to Development Act of 2018 (the “BUILD Act”), Public Law 115-254. One method through which the US International Development Finance Corporation (“DFC”) will execute its mission is through the Investment Funds Department (“IFD”), whereby capital is allocated to private equity fund managers (“Managers”) who in-turn invest that capital into companies or projects that align with DFC’s mission. IFD will select Managers through a quarterly call for proposals (the “Call”). To select Manager(s), IFD will assess each Manager and its respective investment thesis against a set of varying criteria that will include (inter-alia) (i) alignment to DFC’s mission, (ii) team cohesion, (iii) historical track record, and (iv) credibility of investment thesis. The Investment Funds Application will be the principal document used by the agency to determine the investor’s and the project’s eligibility for funding and will collect information for underwriting analysis.
- 2) The information is collected by DFC’s Investment Funds Department through a web-based platform administered through DFC’s website. The information is used by IFD to determine a Manager’s eligibility for DFC financing, and to collect information for financial underwriting analysis.
- 3) This form is completed with the use of a web-based application. This provides a secure and efficient means for applicants to transmit the required information to the agency.
- 4) There will be limited duplication of data as a result of the administration of this Investment Funds Application. Limited information that is asked of a given Manager can be obtained through other repositories (e.g. private placement memorandums); however, this particular information will likely not be presented in a uniform manner, and considering we anticipate 150 applications, will prove difficult for DFC to efficiently synthesize and analyze. To mitigate this limited potential for duplication, this form has been crafted with a keen focus on ease of completion (i.e. clear and close ended questions with drop down menus). The majority of information required by this form is not duplicative to an applicant; however even in this regard, the web-based format and clarity of questions will make the completion process more efficient for the applicant, the analysis more efficient for DFC, and the cost more reasonable for both parties.
- 5) A wide range of applicants will submit an application; all applicants will be asked the same questions.

- 6) Without a form to collect the information, the amount of staff time needed to gather the requisite information would be significantly greater and would result in multiple requests for information from program users. This would reduce the amount of time that could be devoted to working with applicants/clients and analysis, thereby reducing the productivity and administrative efficiency of the equity program.
- 7) No special circumstances exist that require the information collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with the guidelines of the Paperwork Reduction Act and OMB's implementing regulations.
- 8) The first Federal Register Notice was published on March 22, 2019 (84 FR 10843). The agency received public comments and, pursuant to those comments, made edits. The second Federal Register Notice was published on June 21, 2019 (84 FR 29249)
- 9) No payments or gifts are offered to respondents.
- 10) When trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information are submitted to the agency in this collection, they will be held in confidence to the extent permitted by applicable law including the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") at 5 U.S.C. section 552(b)(4) and the agency's implementing regulations at 22 C.F.R. Part 706.
- 11) None of the questions on this form are of a sensitive nature.
- 12) The estimated burden of collecting this information is as follows:

150 respondents  
x 1 per respondent  
= 150 total annual responses  
x 1 hour per average respondent  
= 150 respondent hour  
x \$75/hour for personnel, record-keeping, overhead  
\$11,250 total cost to respondents

Respondents only complete the form once per request for support.

- 13) The estimated annualized cost to respondents is as follows:
  - (a) Total capital and start-up costs = \$0;
  - (b) total operation and maintenance costs = \$0.All costs associated with this form are part of the normal cost of doing business. Since all submissions will become electronic and stored on DFC's secure servers, there will be no postage or storage costs.
- 14) The estimated annualized cost to the Federal government is as follows:  
150 respondents per year

x 1	per respondent
150	total annual responses
x 1	average hours to review one response
150	total federal hours
<u>x \$56.15</u>	<u>GS-14/1 hourly wage</u>
\$8,422.50	total cost to the Federal government

15) This is a new information collection.

16) Not applicable. Information provided in the application is not published.

17) Not applicable. The OMB expiration date will be printed on each form.

18) Not applicable. No exceptions are being requested on the certification statement.