



**Fund for Innovation  
in Development**

# Fund for Innovation in Development

**July, 2021**

# Why an Innovation fund?

*Testing, accelerating and scaling innovations  
to reduce poverty and inequality,  
drawing on the rigor of scientific evaluation  
in order to transform public policy.*

# Fund for Innovation in Development



The Fund for Innovation in Development (FID) was **officially launched on 17 December 2020 by President Macron** during the Presidential Council for Development



FID is a key initiative aligned with the recommendations of the «Report on the modernization of the partnership policy on development and international solidarity », as outlined by **Député Hervé Berville** in August 2018.



FID is an **independent grantmaking body** hosted by the French Development Agency (AFD). It is governed by a Board of Directors chaired by **Nobel Laureate Esther Duflo**.

# Fund for Innovation in Development

## A new and ambitious funding mechanism:

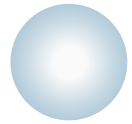
- ⇒ Sourcing high-potential solutions from innovators & researchers around the world
  - ⇒ Relying on rigorous evidence of impact
  - ⇒ Accelerating the deployment of impactful solutions for development
- ✓ A specific mandate: the **fight against poverty and inequalities**, innovate to transform public policy
  - ✓ A close link with research: to **rigorously validate** the potential impact of funded solutions
  - ✓ Type of funding:
    - **100% grant**: stages **between 50 K€ & 4 millions d'€**.
    - **Successive levels of funding** at key stages in the development of innovative solutions

# What FID Funds



## Sectors

- ✓ FID accepts applications for innovations that tackle challenges related to poverty and inequality **in any sector**.
- ✓ **Priority sectors:** Education, Health, Climate Change, and Gender Equality.



## Geographies

- ✓ FID is open to applications for activities in **any low- and middle-income country**.
- ✓ FID explicitly encourages applications for activities in countries that are priorities for French aid.



## Institutions

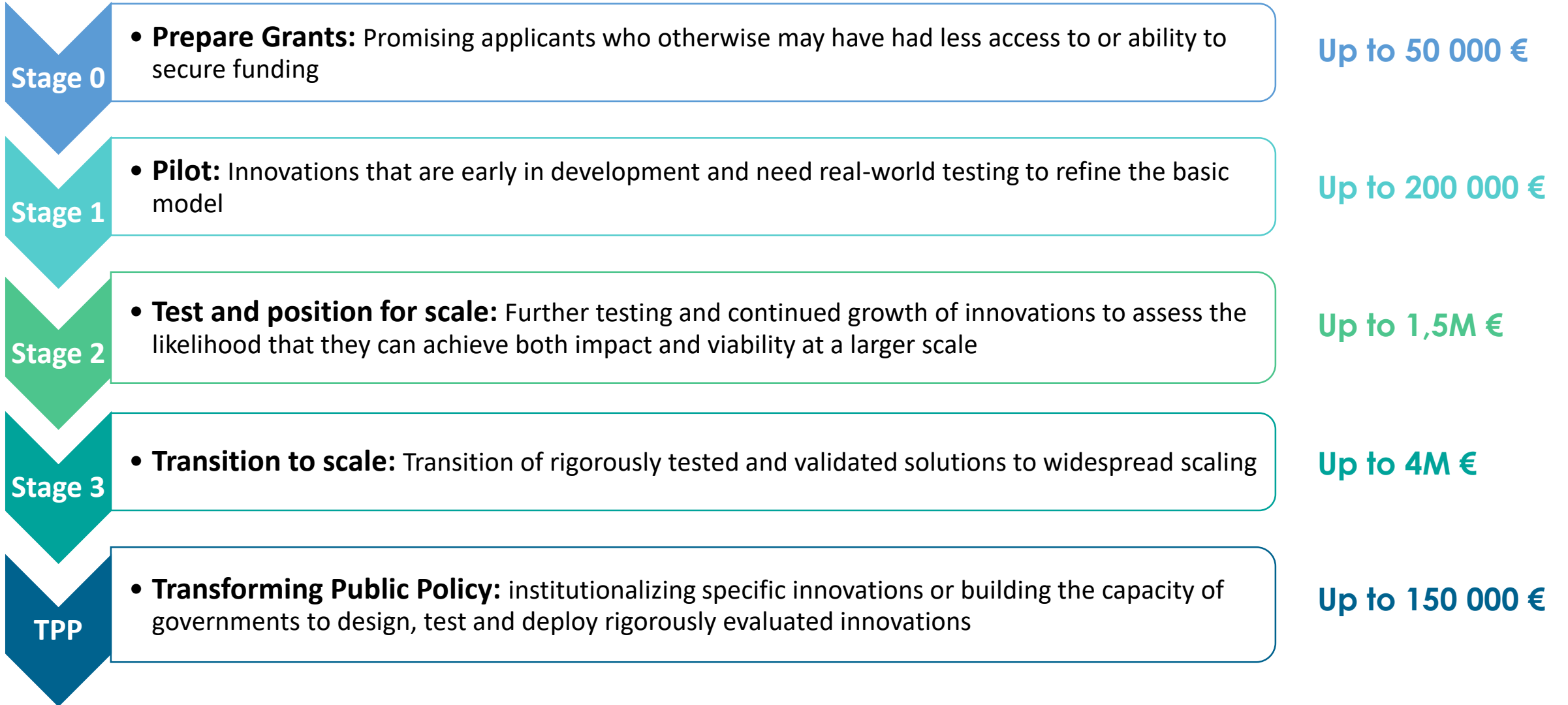
- ✓ FID will accept applications from **nearly any type of applicant working independently or in partnership** with others, including: research institutions, governments, social enterprises, non-profits, social and commercial enterprises.



## Broad definition of what constitutes an innovation

- ⇒ Any solution with strong potential to achieve development impact at scale in less costly, faster, or more feasible ways than existing approaches.

# 5 stages of funding



# Review process



- ✓ A call for projects open throughout the year
- ✓ Projects selected according to a specific process
- ✓ FID governance include a review committee (3 qualified reviewers) and a board (9 members)

# How FID Funds

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**Projects are evaluated on the basis of 3 criteria &** the standards for each are calibrated to each stage of funding.

**1/ Rigorous evidence of impact** in improving the lives of people living in poverty (or a clear strategy for generating it) :

For early stages: a strong theory of change + clear M&E strategy

For later stages: an evaluation showing evidence of causal impact through quantitative research methods (as (quasi-) experimental methods with a comparison group) or plan to do one.

**2/ Cost-effectiveness of the innovation :**

The ability of a development innovation to demonstrate more impact per euro than the status quo or alternatives. The Fund would invest in solutions that can prove they are faster, cheaper, or more impactful than their alternatives.

**3/ Potential for scale, widespread adoption, and sustainability**

The ability for an innovation to be rapidly or efficiently replicated and deployed to reach a very large number of beneficiaries.



# THANK YOU

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