

Modification & Clarification in NIA document

Part A: Modification

The following Sections

1: Section 2, Clause & Clauses of NIA document have been modified (the modifications are highlighted in red-ink) & the modified NIA document is uploaded on the RDIF Website.

2.2 (page: 4)

Modified As

2.2. Development Finance Institutions (DFIs): Institutions established by relevant Statutes or Acts of Parliament or the Government of India, to develop economic activities or sectors (e.g., infrastructure, housing, agriculture, etc.) or industrial concerns or enterprises of various classifications (e.g., small and medium enterprises, etc.); or Institution which has been licensed as a Development Financial Institution by the Reserve Bank of India under Section 29 of the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development Act, 2021. This definition is only for the purposes of implementation of RDI Scheme, and does not contravene any existing legal or regulatory provisions pertaining to DFIs otherwise.

2: Section 2, Clause 4 (Page 5)

Modified As

Application Schedule			
S.No.	Action	Current Date	Approved Date
1	Issue of Notice Inviting Applications	03 Nov 2025	Action Complete
2	Last date for queries seeking clarification on NIA	10 Dec 2025 (1700 hrs IST)	Action Complete
3	Pre-Submission Conference/Meeting	15 Dec 2025	Action Complete
4	Last date for written submission of queries seeking clarification	19 Dec 2025	Action Complete
5	Final NIA incorporating changes	31 Dec 2025	07 Jan 2026
6	Last date for submission of Applications	15 Jan 206 (1700 hours IST)	31 Jan 2026 (1700 hours IST)

3: Section 4, Clause 1, Sub-Clause 1.1 (Page 7)

Modified As

1.1. *Mode and Deadline.* Applicants to be selected as SLFMs in accordance with this NIA must submit applications via the RDIF Management Portal at www.rdifund.anrf.gov.in, by 1700 hours IST on 31 January 2026. Applicants would submit all information and supporting documents via the Portal's workflows. The Portal will not accept applications after the prescribed deadline.

4: Evaluation Matrix 5.1 (Page 12 to 17)

Modified As

Evaluation Matrix 5.1: Quality Criteria for AIFs, DFIs, and NBFCs

S. Nos.	Selection Criteria	Measures	Weight	Indicative Documentation to be Submitted (Applicants may provide other suitable documentation)
Part A General Competence: Managing Investments and Operational Risks for Scaled Returns				
1	<p>Fund Management Team Competence: General capability of the SLFM team in managing <u>investments and operational risks</u>, investees in the technology sector (irrespective of R&D/ RDI-intensive technology specialisation)</p> <p>For AIFs: <u>Professional background</u> of General Partners and Principals (or equivalent): successful investors, founders, managers, technologists.</p> <p><u>Skillsets:</u> expertise, experience, and success related to (for example)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Managing founder teams, to ensure robust teams, 	<p><u>Qualitatively assessed and scored, based on expert evaluation of (for example)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Team profiles - Successful scaling of operations at technology firms or prior fund investees <p>1. <u>AIFs:</u> Teams, for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - experience leading deals and exits for technology firms; - successful scaling of operations at technology firms; - ability to build strong teams with low attrition; - ability to build strong processes for consistent investment performance and risk management; - track record of having raised third party capital; - quality of Investment Committee, Advisory Board, and compliance management. 	15% (for AIF)	<p>For AIFs: As per <i>Annexure B.2</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Trustee / Investment Manager Profile Briefs; 2. Relevant chapters in Private Placement Memorandum (e.g. Trustee or Investment Manager profiles); 3. Curriculum Vitae / Biodata, containing the names and experience profiles of Partners, Investment Committee Members, and Advisory Board Members of the AIF; 4. Number of years Fund Management Team has worked together. <p>5. Examples of success in the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Managing / building / maintaining high-performing teams, including startup founder teams with low attrition; - Experience leading deals and exits for technology firms; - Driving scale-up operations; - Emerging technologies and product management; - Finance and investment;

<p>scaled operations, and strong returns;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emerging technologies; - Product management; - Finance and investment; - Building and maintaining mentoring networks. <p>For DFIs: Organisation's credentials and management team experience.</p>	<p><i>Note. These would normally be evaluated for the Fund organisation. In cases where a new Fund is being established, these may be evaluated for the individuals forming the new Fund.</i></p> <p>2 <u>DFIs / NBFCs</u>: Organisation's</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - credentials; - management team and board, track record and experience; - experience in RDIF Priority Sectors; - project financing experience: manufacturing, working capital. <p>3. <u>In common across AIFs, DFIs, NBFCs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key personnel's track record related to functions such as deal-sourcing, due diligence / evaluation, portfolio management, exits; - Combined team (including advisory boards) for domain expertise in technologies / sectors. <p>4. <u>Where quantitative criteria are considered essential, the following may be explored:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Combined number of person-years of experience in technology and investment, in RDIF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Priority sectors, in India; - TRLs / venture development stages. 2. Total number of funds from which successful exits have taken place; 3. Internal rates of return (IRR) / distribution to paid-in capital (DPI) across previous Funds: mean values; standard deviations (to verify consistent performance); 	<p>20% (for DFI & NBFC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mentoring and support to startups; - Building strong processes for consistent investment performance and risk management; - Raising third party capital; - Deal-sourcing, due diligence / evaluation, portfolio management, exits (with highlight examples); - Relevant priority sectors, in India; - TRLs from Level 4 onward; and corresponding venture development stages; - Any additional supporting detail and documentation, that the prospective SLFM feels is appropriate. <p>For DFIs / NBFCs: As per Annexure C.1</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organisational credentials (management team and board: track record and experience; experience in RDIF Priority Sectors; project financing experience); 2. Key personnel's track record related to functions such as deal-sourcing, due diligence / evaluation, portfolio management, exits; 3. Combined team (including advisory boards) for domain expertise in technologies / sectors.
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		4. Number of years that Fund Management Team have worked together.		
2	<p>Demonstrated Track Record of Investment Management Competence. Success and consistency in delivering prior Funds, through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Repeatable processes; - Robust execution; - Effective risk management. 	<p>1. Net Internal Rate of Return (IRR) over</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - previous Funds (for AIFs) or - the last 10 years (for DFIs / NBFCs) (<i>annualised return of Fund to LPs</i>). <p>AND / OR</p> <p>2. Multiple on Invested Capital (MOIC) over previous Funds (for AIFs) (<i>what multiple of the invested money was actually returned</i>).</p> <p>AND/ OR</p> <p>3. Distributions to Paid-In Capital (DPIC) over</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - last Funds (for AIFs) (<i>realised returns – cash actually distributed to LPs</i>) - last 10 years (for DFIs / NBFCs). <p>AND/ OR</p> <p>4. Yield on Loans or Portfolio Yield over previous funds (for debt AIFs) (<i>average interest rate earned on the outstanding loan portfolio, measuring income generated from Debt AIF's investments</i>).</p> <p>AND/OR</p> <p>5. Vintage Year Performance (<i>AIF's performance against other funds in the same First Close year</i>).</p> <p>AND/OR</p>	20%	<p>For AIFs: For the previous Funds: details as per Annexure B.6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Net Internal Rate of Return (IRR) delivered by the Funds; b. Multiple on Invested Capital (MOIC) delivered by the Funds; c. Distributions to Paid-In Capital (DPIC) delivered by the Funds; d. Yield on Loans or Portfolio Yield over previous funds (for debt AIFs) e. Vintage Year Performance of previous Funds (AIF's performance against other funds in the same First Close year) f. Default rates or Non-Accrual loans (for debt AIFs) g. Tabulated portfolio summary of investees of each Fund, with entry and exit valuations <p>For DFIs / NBFCs: details as per Annexure C.3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Net Internal Rate of Return (IRR) over last five years; b. Distributions to Paid-In Capital (DPIC) over the previous five years (for DFIs / NBFCs); c. Yield on Loans or Portfolio Yield over the previous five years; d. Default Rates or Non-Accrual Loans over the previous five years; e. Recovery Rates (percentage of the principal and accrued interest amounts recovered from loans that are in default e.g. via liquidation of assets, etc. – measuring robustness of SLFM's measures against downside); f. A tabulated summary of the portfolio of investees.

	<p>6. Default Rates or Non-Accrual Loans (for debt AIFs, DFIs, NBFCs) (<i>percentage of loans in portfolio that are unable to make repayments as scheduled – as a measure of robustness of execution and risk management</i>).</p> <p>AND/ OR</p> <p>7. Recovery Rates (for, DFIs, NBFCs) (<i>percentage of the principal and accrued interest amounts recovered from loans that are in default e.g. via liquidation of assets, etc. – measuring robustness of SLFM's measures against downside</i>).</p>		
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Part B | R&D and RDI-Intensive Technology Focus: Orientation and Competence to Execute RDIF Mandate

3	<p>Investment Theses (which may be part of the Private Placement Memorandum): alignment with RDIF Investment Policy.</p>	<p>Qualitatively assessed and scored, based on expert evaluation against RDIF Investment Policy criteria. Scoring would take place against;</p> <p>1. Alignment with RDIF R&D / RDI-intensive technology and Priority Sectors;</p> <p>2. Technology maturity ranges specified in the RDIF Investment Policy (TRL 4+);</p> <p>3. Venture development stage (laboratory spin-out to production).</p>	10%	<p>For AIFs (PPM as submitted to SEBI, or Investment Theses as per Annexure B.2.), DFIs, NBFCs:</p> <p>Current / proposed fund's concentration as per Annexure A.2:</p> <p>a. technological focus; b. industry sector focus; c. market focus; d. technology maturity ranges (stated in terms of TRLs); e. venture development stage (laboratory spin-out to production).</p>
4	<p>Track Record in R&D Scale Up and RDI-Intensive Technology Competence. Demonstrated competence with the high-</p>	<p>Fund Management teams that have achieved the following would be highly scored:</p>	15%	<p>For AIFs:</p> <p>For previous Funds which the Partners have launched as Schemes of the same Trust / under the same LLPs, for (a)</p>

	<p>uncertainty investments characterising RDI-intensive technology – at the TRLs concerned.</p> <p>This would include technology stage / maturity, advanced science bases, ‘hockey-stick’ valuation growth (long low period, followed by exponential increase).</p>	<p>At least one exit from an RDI-intensive technology firm:</p> <p>AND/OR</p> <p>At least two prior investments in RDI-intensive technology firms.</p>		<p>exits from, and/ or (b) investments in RDIF-intensive technology firms:</p> <p>a. Number of prior investments in RDI-intensive technology firms, with profiles on relevant startup investments, as per Annexure B.7 and Annexure B.2</p> <p>c. Number of exits from RDI-intensive firms, with details including exit route (e.g. management buy-out, IPO), as per Annexure B.7.</p> <p>For DFIs / NBFCs: As per Annexure C.4:</p> <p>a. exits from, and/ or</p> <p>b. investments in RDIF-intensive technology, as per companies over the previous five years</p>
5	<p>Track Record in Investment Sizes for R&D Scale Up. Demonstrated competence with the size of investments needed to scale-up R&D.</p>	<p>Ticket Sizes in previous Funds (for AIFs) or across the previous five years (for DFIs / NBFCs):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Average value across previous Funds (for AIFs) or across the previous five years (for DFIs / NBFCs): indicating general familiarity with managing investment ticket sizes in the RDIF’s target range; 2. Modal value across previous Funds (for AIFs) or across the previous five years (for DFIs / NBFCs): indicating consistent ability to manage these ticket sizes; 3. Trends (longitudinal) across previous Funds (for AIFs) or across the previous five years (for DFIs / NBFCs). 	5%	<p>For AIFs: For previous Funds, as per Annexure B.8:</p> <p>a. Tabulated summaries of investments made in firms;</p> <p>b. Average and modal value of investments</p> <p>For DFIs / NBFCs: as per Annexure C.5, including</p> <p>a. Tabulated summaries of loans made to firms;</p> <p>b. Average and modal value of loan sizes.</p>

6	Absorption and Utilisation Capacity. Ability to effectively invest capital contributions received, in companies including startups.	Percentage of previous fund committed to investees.	5% (for AIF) 0% (for DFI & NBFC)	Provide information regarding percentage of previous fund committed to investee as per Annexure B.6 for AIFs Annexure C.3 for DFIs / NBFCs stand deleted. This annexure has been deleted from the RDIF Form & Documents
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Part C | 'Crowd In': Extent of Private Contributions to Applicant's Aggregate Capital

7	'Crowd in' of private capital. Ability to raise and direct private capital to innovation, alongside the RDIF contribution.	Percentage of aggregate capital contributed by private sources, at Close for which contribution is being sought from RDIF (for AIFs) or Percentage of funding for loan scheme / programme sourced from private sources (for DFIs / NBFCs)	10%	Provide information regarding percentage of aggregate capital contributed by private sources, as per Annexure B.5 for AIFs and Annexure C.2 for DFIs / NBFCs.
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Note 1: If only one or no prior Fund has been launched previous to this one, as Schemes of the current Trust / with the current management team: details may be provided for previous funds with which individual Partners were earlier associated.

Note 2: All such information would be treated as a commercial confidence under Section 8[1][d] of the Right to Information Act 2005.

Part B: Clarification

The following Sections & Clauses of NIA document have been further clarified

SN	Section	Clause	Sub- Clause	Page No.	Clarification
1	2	2	2.1(ii)	4	<p>1. Entities which have submitted their applications for AIF registration to SEBI but have not yet received it, are <u>eligible</u> to apply to RDIF for funding. Such entities would be required to submit proof of application to SEBI. On clearing the QCBS selection process, such entities, if selected, would be eligible to receive a <u>conditional Letter of Intent (LOI)</u> of funding from RDIF. However, RDIF would not enter a Contribution Agreement with such an entity until a SEBI registration is successfully completed, and documentation evidencing this is provided to RDIF.</p> <p>2. Entities which have not yet submitted an application for AIF registration to SEBI would not be eligible to apply for RDIF funding.</p>
2	5	3	3.1 (i)(a)	9	Hurdle rate is just for reference. RDIF would accept Internal Rate of Return (IRR) lower than that offered by the AIF to private contributors.
3	5	3	3.2(ii)	9	Applicants selected as SLFMs shall invest all funding contributed by RDIF plus matching contribution from private capital in Eligible

					Technology Entity that focus on (a) RDI-intensive technologies (b) RDIF Priority Sectors. Examples are tabulated below.
Contribution in AIF from		Investment in ETE that focus on RDI-Intensive Tech. & RDIF Priority Sector		Remarks	
RDIF	Private LP	50%	50%	100%	100% RDIF-Intensive Tech & RDIF Priority Sector Focused AIF
40%	60%	80% (40% RDIF + 40% private capital)		20% fund can be invested by AIF in any company including startups	
30%	70%	60% (30% RDIF + 30% private capital)		40% fund can be invested by AIF in any company including startups	
20%	80%	40% (20% RDIF + 20% private capital)		60% fund can be invested by AIF in any company including startups	

4	5	Evaluation Matrix 5.1	Row 6	12	In Annexure C.3, Table C.3.1, parameter 6 'Absorption capacity', and parameter 7 'Utilisation capacity', stands deleted.
5	6	2		21	<u>Weightage</u> : The weightage of both cost parameters viz. Management Fee and Carried Interest will be 10% each.
6	6	3	3.1	21	<u>Weightage</u> : The weightage of both cost parameters viz. Net Interest Margin and Management Fee will be 10% each.