Call for Applications

SEED Awards 2013

Are you a start-up entrepreneur? Are you a women-led enterprise? Does your business or business idea integrate social and environmental benefits, solving pressing local issues? Does your enterprise make significant contributions to mitigating and/or adapting to climate change? Do you need support to help to establish and grow your enterprise?

If you meet SEED’s eligibility criteria, you can now apply for the 2013 SEED Awards

Partners in the SEED Initiative are pleased today to announce the opening of the call for applications. This year there are several categories of awards, for which SEED receives support from the European Union, the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, the government of Flanders, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the international law firm Hogan Lovells.

As a result, for the 2013 cycle, SEED will make available up to:

- 15 SEED Awards to enterprises in Ethiopia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania and Uganda;
- 5 SEED Awards for enterprises in South Africa;
- 3 SEED Awards for South African enterprises in the provinces of Free State, Limpopo and KwaZulu Natal;
- 10 SEED Low Carbon Awards for enterprises in Colombia, India, Tanzania, Uganda and Viet Nam;
- 2 SEED Gender Equality Awards, for enterprises in other countries (except countries that are OECD or EU members).

SEED Awards Prize

Each SEED Award Winner will receive a package of tailored support services consisting of:

- assistance and advice on developing and improving the enterprise’s business and financial plan;
- a three-day in-country business-oriented workshop, also covering the key elements and factors which help to build a successful social and environmental enterprise, which is also gender responsive;
- participation in a high-level international awards ceremony with senior government and UN officials, development institutions, financial institutions and businesses;
- profiling of the enterprise nationally, regionally and internationally;
- assistance with access to relevant organisations, businesses, and to other SEED winners and SEED alumni, and SEED Partners, Supporters and Associates;
- a financial contribution of USD 5,000 to cover the enterprise’s most pressing needs, as agreed between the winner and SEED;
- Gender Equality Winners will in addition receive support from the international law firm Hogan Lovells who have an established pro bono practice advising women entrepreneurs across the world.

For information about SEED: see www.seedinit.org
The deadline for applications is **Wednesday, June 12th, 2013**, 23:59 Central European Time (CET). Please apply online or download the application form from the SEED Initiative website at [www.seedinit.org](http://www.seedinit.org).

**Eligibility criteria**

Detailed eligibility criteria are available at [www.seedinit.org](http://www.seedinit.org) together with details of previous Award Winners. Click [here](http://www.seedinit.org) for the country eligibility check.

You will be able to apply for a 2013 SEED Award if your enterprise:

- a) demonstrates entrepreneurship and innovation
- b) delivers economic, social and environmental benefits
- c) has the intention and potential to become financially sustainable
- d) is a partnership between different stakeholder groups
- e) is locally driven or locally led
- f) has potential for scale up or significant replication
- g) is in the early stages of implementation
- h) is in a country with a developing or emerging economy

If you want to apply for the SEED Low Carbon Awards, your enterprise, in addition to the above eight criteria, also needs to:

- i) make significant contributions to mitigating and/or adapting to climate change.

If you want to apply for the SEED Gender Equality Award, your enterprise, in addition to the above eight criteria, also needs to be:

- j) run or owned by a woman or women and prioritise gender equality and/or women’s empowerment as a core objective.

**Examples of earlier SEED Award Winners**

SEED Award Winners in 2011 included, among others, an enterprise that transforms groundnut shells into fuel briquettes in The Gambia; an enterprise that has developed solar ovens in Burkina Faso; an enterprise that trains and employs street youth to collect waste materials in Ghana, which they then transform into handmade designer products; a waste collection and recycling enterprise in Nepal that is run by a women's environment committee and supported by a local municipality; and a business in Kenya employing women to produce aloe-based skin care products. More examples can be found at: [www.seedinit.org](http://www.seedinit.org)

**How to Apply**

Please apply [online](http://www.seedinit.org) at the SEED Initiative website [www.seedinit.org](http://www.seedinit.org) or download an application form and email it to [seedawards2013@seedinit.org](mailto:seedawards2013@seedinit.org). If you are unable to submit the application electronically, please contact the SEED Initiative by email or phone (+49 30 89 00 068 99).

Submissions will be accepted until **Wednesday, June 12th, 2013, 23:59 CET**. Late submissions will not be considered.

Proposals that are shortlisted will be offered feedback and invited to submit additional information in July 2013.
Additional Information

The SEED Initiative is supported and financed by:

The 2013 SEED Awards in Ethiopia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda will be sponsored by:

The European Union is made up of 27 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.

The 2013 SEED Awards in 3 South African provinces will be sponsored by:

The Flanders International Cooperation Agency (FICA) is active in Malawi, Mozambique and South Africa. FICA works not only with the local authorities, but also with indirect actors such as NGOs, research institutes and international organizations. In South Africa, the focus is on job creation through Small Enterprise Development, and improving food security through smallholder farming.

The 2013 SEED Gender Equality Awards will be sponsored by:

UN Women is the UN organisation dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. Established in July 2010 by the United Nations General Assembly to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide, the creation of UN Women came about as part of the UN reform agenda. It brings together resources, mandates and important work of four previously distinct part of the UN system for greater impact, and to become a global champion for women.

Established in November 1966 by the United Nations General Assembly, UNIDO is the specialized agency of the United Nations that promotes industrial development for poverty reduction, inclusive globalization and environmental sustainability.

and supported by:

Hogan Lovells is one of the largest international business legal practices, with over seven thousand people operating from 40 offices in Europe, Asia and the United States. The firm advises many of the world's largest corporations, financial institutions and government organisations. We regularly act on complex, multi-jurisdictional transactions and commercial disputes.

For information about SEED: see www.seedinit.org
The 2013 SEED Low Carbon Awards are supported by:

The Federal Environment Ministry was established in 1986 and is responsible for the environmental policy of the German government. The Ministry is primarily concerned with climate policy, conserving the diversity of fauna and flora, efficient use of resources and energy as well as protecting people’s health from environmental pressures. The Federal Ministry is also very active when it comes to international environmental policy. One of the greatest global challenges to be overcome is climate change.

About the SEED Initiative

SEED was founded by UNEP, UNDP, and IUCN at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg. From April 1st 2013, SEED’s Host Partner has been Adelphi Research, based in Germany although SEED continues to work together with the previous host organization, the UN Environment Programme’s World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC).

Partners in the SEED Initiative, in addition to the Founding Partners, are the governments of Flanders, Germany, India, the Netherlands, South Africa, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States of America; the European Union; Conservation International; and SEED’s corporate partner, Hisense.

The SEED Initiative is a global partnership for action on the Green Economy.

It identifies and supports promising small-scale start-up social and environmental entrepreneurs around the globe, entrepreneurs that while working towards a greener economy also tackle poverty, marginalisation and social exclusion.

SEED provides these social entrepreneurs with know-how and networks, taking the lessons learnt at local level up to decision-makers to promote evidence-based policymaking in the green economy.

Contact:

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For more information about the application process please contact seedawards2013@seedinit.org