

THE SEED INITIATIVE'S SECOND BIENNIAL GLOBAL AWARD: HELPING IMPLEMENT INTERNATIONALLY AGREED DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Supporting Entrepreneurs for Environment and Development (SEED) Initiative helps advance the U.S. Government's (USG) objectives on partnerships through its biennial global award designed to publicly recognize and support the most worthy nascent partnerships and its research and publication activities. Applications for the second SEED Award are being accepted until **October 15, 2006**. The on-line application and additional information about the initiative is available via the USG's Sustainable Development Partnership Website (www.sdp.gov), or at www.seedinit.org. The award's first call for proposals resulted in over 260 applications from 1200 organizations representing more than 66 countries.

Call for Proposals for SEED Award

The SEED Initiative is accepting applications for its second biennial global SEED Award until **October 15, 2006**. The awards publicly recognize five of the most worthy nascent partnerships and provide targeted capacity building assistance as a means to help these initiatives succeed and scale up. SEED is itself a partnership, comprised of governments (Germany, the Netherlands, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the United States), International Organizations (IUCN, UNDP, and UNEP), multi-stakeholder initiatives (UN Global Compact), and the private sector (Swiss Re and Global Giving). The link to the SEED application as well as a fact sheet about the SEED Initiative can be found via the USG's sustainable development partnership Website at www.sdp.gov. Five winners will be announced at and participate in a May 2007 high level event in New York during the UN Commission on Sustainable Development.

Applicant's initiatives must meet the following criteria:

- Involves at least three partner organizations from different stakeholder groups such as small, medium or large businesses; community-based organizations; local or international NGOs; labor unions; women's groups; indigenous peoples organizations; research institutions; public authorities; international agencies;
- Relates to the three pillars of sustainable development: environmental, social, and economic in an integrated manner; has the potential to contribute towards the internationally agreed goals of the Millennium Declaration and/or the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;
- Displays entrepreneurship in its broadest sense, and is driven by local actors;
- Helps to demonstrate innovative ways of doing business through partnerships - business as unusual - and has the potential to serve as inspiration to others; and/or

-- Has a draft business plan and has partners that have already agreed in principle to work together.

If applicants are unable to submit your application electronically, please contact the Seed Initiative by phone (+41 22 999 0000). The initiative recommends early submission, as this may allow initial feedback to be given to help applicants improve their application. Late submissions will not be considered.

The on-line application is available at <http://www.seedinit.org/callforsubmissions2006.pdf> or via the US Government's Sustainable Development Partnership Website at (www.sdp.gov).

Previous Winner's Highlights

From May 2005 through August 2006, the five award winners received capacity development services which ranged from a partnership broker based in their country a partnership broker based in their community who guided the nascent partnership, to the provision of technical assistance to opportunity building through leveraging the networks of SEED partners. Highlights of their accomplishments, with help from SEED, include:

Africa

Cows to Kilowatts (Nigeria): Designed to create a source of domestic energy, abate water pollution and mitigate greenhouse gas emissions by operating on run-offs from one of Nigeria's largest slaughterhouses, has secured almost full funding for the creation of a wastewater treatment and biogas production plant. The government of Nigeria may include the project in its National Environmental Sanitation Policy and could support replication if the pilot proves successful;

Marine Protected Areas (Madagascar): Establish Madagascar's first community-run Marine Protected Area has implemented a protected area that allows marine stocks to replenish and diversify, strengthening the foundation for future eco-tourism efforts. As a result of this success, three additional communities have requested that the protected area be expanded to include their fishing grounds;

Global Marketing Partnership for SRI Indigenous Rice (Madagascar/Sri Lanka/Cambodia): a novel method of growing environmentally friendly indigenous rice, called the System of Rice Intensification (SRI). Through SRI, rice yield is increased while water consumption and agrochemical input are reduced. SEED has provided

expertise and crucial connections to advance the partnership's international marketing goals.

Western Hemisphere

Agua por Todos/ Water for All (Bolivia): Designed to provide households in Cochabamba's southern section not yet connected to main water pipelines with access to potable water at an affordable price, has provided 1,000 households with improved water quality at lower prices. The partnership is planning to supply 85,000 additional people with water.

South and East Asia

Seabuckthorn Nurseries (Nepal): Through the harvesting and processing of the native seabuckthorn plant for cosmetic and medicinal use, this initiative will combat land degradation and secure income generation. As a result of Seed's support, this partnership is training local communities and other Nepali initiatives are replicating the partnership's model to scale up their own efforts. The partnership's next steps include developing international markets for seabuckthorn products.

Additional Background

U.S. Under Secretary of State Dobriansky announced that the USG joined the Seed Initiative in 2004. Since joining the initiative, the USG has played a leadership role and will become the Chair of SEED's Board of Directors for one year in December 2006.