



Call for Applications SWITCH Africa Green – SEED Awards 2017

“Is your enterprise in a start-up phase, locally driven and eco-inclusive with an ambition to be in the vanguard of green and inclusive growth?”

“Does your enterprise need tailored support to grow to its full potential?”



SEED has opened the Call for Applications for the 2017 SWITCH Africa Green (SAG) – SEED Awards. The SEED Awards for Entrepreneurship in Sustainable Development is an annual awards scheme designed to find the most promising, innovative and locally led start-up eco-inclusive enterprises in countries with developing and emerging economies.

Requirements

For the 2017 SAG-SEED Awards, the call for applications is open to enterprises within the six focus countries listed below active in the following four sectors:

Sectors



Agriculture:

Does your enterprise produce food in an unpredictable environment, while creating decent jobs and preserving resources?



Manufacturing:

Does your enterprise produce goods or provide services for the manufacturing sector while ensuring energy and water efficiency and providing employment opportunities?



Tourism:

Does your enterprise promote tourism that benefits local communities and ecosystems?



Waste Management:

Does your enterprise promote waste management for solid or organic waste, lifting waste pickers out of informality and reducing pressure on landfills?

Countries



Burkina Faso



Ghana



Kenya



Mauritius



South Africa



Uganda

The deadline for applications is 8 March 2017, 23:59 Central African Time (CAT).

Please apply [online](#) or download the application form from the SEED website at www.seed.uno.



Awards Prize

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



Capacity Building: Tailored one-on-one advisory service that offers Winners assistance with their business and financial plan, including a 3-day Business Planning Workshop and three months of support from a local expert advisor.



Tools: Self-help tools that enable enterprises to prioritise and address their most urgent needs, for example by assisting with market analysis, developing a funding strategy, mapping stakeholder relationships and measuring impact.



Profiling: SAG-SEED Winners are profiled nationally and regionally through a high-level Awards Ceremony as well as internationally through SEED marketing and promotional activities such as our website, blog and social media channels.



Network Building: SEED facilitates connections with valuable contacts to support organisations, such as with funders, policy-makers, and other enterprises such as SEED Alumni, and SEED Partners and Associates.

Eligibility criteria

You are eligible to apply for the 2017 SAG-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; and
- h) meets the country- and/or sector-specific requirements set out above.

More details on the [eligibility criteria](#) are available at www.seed.uno together with details of previous [Award Winners](#).

Examples of past Winners



Agriculture:

2016 SAG-SEED Winner YICE Uganda provides rural smallholder farmers in Uganda with flexible farm loans, inputs and training services to reduce hunger and poverty. With its network of local farm agents, YICE Uganda facilitates farmers' access to bundled agricultural services at various levels of the farming value chain. Read more about YICE Uganda via <https://www.seed.uno/awards/all/2016/2349-yice-uganda.html>



Manufacturing:

2016 SAG-SEED Winner SPOUTS of Water is the sole manufacturer of water filtration products in Uganda. It manufactures and supplies an affordable ceramic water filter made from local resources and materials and by local labour. The water filters avert CO₂ emissions from firewood-based water boiling and reduce the use of plastic water bottles. Read more about SPOUTS via <https://www.seed.uno/awards/all/spouts-of-water.html>



Tourism:

2010 SEED Winner, Amatola Wild Trout Fishery is a recreational fly-fishery managed by the local community. Local people gain skills on how to operate this ecotourism attraction, while conserving environment by improving water quality and flow, eradicating alien species in the river system, and maintaining wild trout populations. Read more about Amatola Wild Trout Fishery via <https://www.seed.uno/awards/all/amatola-wild-trout-fishery.html>



Waste Management:

2016 SAG-SEED Winner, Belle Verte aims to create a national closed-loop waste management system in Mauritius and raise awareness on the need to reuse and recycle waste through creative workshops. Within a collaborative process, diverse stakeholders collect, sort and upcycle all types of waste products. Read more about Belle Verte via <https://www.seed.uno/awards/all/2016/2344-belle-verte.html>

How to Apply

You can apply [online](#) at the SEED website or you can download a PDF application form via www.seed.uno and email it to seedawards2017@seed.uno.

If you are unable to submit your application electronically, please contact SEED by email or phone +49 89 248830714.

Submissions will be accepted **up till 8 March 2017, 23:59 CAT**. Late submissions will not be considered. Proposals that are shortlisted will be offered feedback and invited to submit additional information in April 2017.

Further details about the SAG-SEED Awards 2017

Up to fifteen SAG-SEED Awards in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, South Africa and Uganda are sponsored by the SWITCH-Africa Green project, which is implemented by UNEP with the assistance of the European Union:



SWITCH-Africa Green is implemented by UNEP with the assistance of the European Union. The European Union is made up of 28 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.

South African Awards will be co-financed by the Government of Flanders:



The Government of Flanders is active in Malawi, Mozambique and South Africa. It 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. As from 2017 the focus will move towards addressing climate change and its effects on South Africa.

About SEED



SEED is a global partnership for action on sustainable development and the green economy that was founded by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg. SEED is based on the understanding that the promotion of social and environmental enterprises is pivotal to a world of flourishing communities where entrepreneurship drives sustainable development. From an annual global awards scheme that scouts for and supports the most promising innovative and locally-led social and environmental start-up enterprises in developing countries to enhancing the quality and capacities of business development service providers – SEED builds the ecosystem for social and environmental entrepreneurship.

SEED is hosted by Adelphi Research gGmbH, based in Berlin, Germany. Partners in SEED, in addition to the Founding Partners, are the governments of Flanders, Germany, India, the Netherlands, South Africa, and the United States of America; Conservation International; the European Union; SWITCH-Africa Green; Hogan Lovells; UNIDO; UN Women and SEED's Corporate Partner, Hisense.

Contact

For media enquiries please contact Mr. Jona Liebl via jona.liebl@seed.uno. For more information about the application process please contact the SEED Team via seedawards2017@seed.uno.

You may also follow SEED on the following social media channels:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SEED.uno>
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/SEED_SustDev, Hashtag: [#SEEDAwards](https://twitter.com/SEED_Awards)
- LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/company/seed-uno>
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/seedinitiative/>

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