



SAARC

SAARC Development Fund

Building Regional Integration Through Project Funding and Collaboration



Social Enterprise Development Program (SEDP)



About SAARC Development Fund

SAARC Development Fund (SDF) was established in April 2010 to serve as the umbrella financial institution for SAARC projects and programs which are in fulfillment of the objectives of the SAARC Charter. The SDF Secretariat is based in Thimphu, Bhutan and covers all the SAARC Member states (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka).

Social Enterprise Development Program (SEDP)

The SDF will initiate the Social Enterprise Development Program (SEDP) as part of its Social Window and will be implemented in all the SAARC Member States.

What is Social Enterprise?

Social Enterprises are Organisations that aims to provide solutions to grass-root development issues through innovative products and/or services to populations at the base of the pyramid. The Social Enterprise applies a businesslike approach to addressing grass root developmental issues for the poor and vulnerable population, rather than maximizing profits. Social enterprise business models can be non-profit, for-profit or hybrid but are predominantly working towards long term financial sustainability. These are sustainable enterprises that are formed with a specific social objective in mind.

Objective

The objective of the SEDP is to build and scale social enterprises by using a mix of grants and concessional returnable capital. The program intends to fund around 80 enterprises across the 8 SAARC Member States annually.

Rewards for SEDP projects

- ❖ Recognition and visibility nationally and regionally.
- ❖ Grant funding.
- ❖ Capacity Building.
- ❖ Peer learning.
- ❖ Platform to showcase the work.

The goal of SEDP is to promote sustainable Social Enterprise business models that will have positive impact on the population at the base of the pyramid, contributing towards eradication of poverty and empowerment of vulnerable communities for a better future in the region

Eligibility Criteria

- ❖ Social enterprises registered and/or operating in the SAARC Member States.
- ❖ All registered non-profit, for-profits and hybrid organizations.
- ❖ Social enterprises operating or venturing in the area of **Healthcare, Renewable Energy and Agribusiness/livelihood.**
- ❖ Pilot projects in the above mentioned areas that can be replicated.

Evaluation and selection process

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- ❖ **Impact on the poor:** Social enterprises must have a clear and measurable social impact on the population they aim to assist.
- ❖ **Demonstrated results:** Social enterprises must be able to demonstrate at least proof of concept of their model with measurable results.
- ❖ **Operational readiness:** Social enterprises must demonstrate an ability to implement their proposed project, supported by a realistic financial and implementation plan.
- ❖ **Potential for growth:** Social enterprises must show the potential to scale up its operations and impact a larger population.
- ❖ **Sustainability:** SEDP grant fund will act as a pathway to financial self-sufficiency, and therefore projects must demonstrate the ability to operate beyond SEDP funding period.
- * *Social enterprises operating in more than one SAARC Member State and /or looking to scale up or replicate (from one SAARC Member States to another); and /or engaged in intra-region trade activities are encouraged to apply.*
- * *Enterprises led by women and or promote the role of women in enterprise and overall developments are encouraged to apply.*

Contact Us

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