



**SAARC Development Fund Secretariat  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, BDFC Building, Thimphu  
Bhutan**

**20 December 2013**

**Call for Project Proposals for Funding under Social Window of the  
SAARC Development Fund**

The SAARC Development Fund (SDF) Secretariat has been inaugurated by the Heads of State/Governments of SAARC Member States in April 2010 during the 16<sup>th</sup> SAARC Summit in Thimphu.

The primary objective of the SDF is:

- (i) to promote the welfare of the people of SAARC Region,
- (ii) to improve the quality of life, and
- (iii) to accelerate economic growth, social progress and poverty alleviation in the SAARC Region.

To support the above objectives the SDF Secretariat will, amongst other, (i) identify, study prospect and approve projects, (ii) finance approved projects in the SAARC Member States, (iii) Leverage funding i.e arrange and mobilize financing and/or co-financing projects, (iv) provide grants for projects of strategic importance to SAARC, (v) provide financial and technical assistance, and (vi) manage the Fund.

The SDF has three financing windows: (i) Social; (ii) Economic; and (iii) Infrastructure. At present only the Social Window has been activated. The SDF Secretariat hereby invites project proposals to be funded from the Social Window. Projects under Social Window will be grants and technical assistance if they meet the following criteria:

- (i) projects involving all SAARC countries,
- (ii) projects involving more than two but not all SAARC Member countries,
- (iii) projects located in one or more SAARC countries, of significant economic interest for three or more SAARC countries, and
- (iv) projects with significant focus on poverty alleviation, as envisaged under the social window, in any SAARC country having thematic linkage with more than two SAARC Member States as part of a sub-regional project.

Project proposal should be submitted in the SDF's Project Development Format which can be downloaded from [www.sdfsec.org](http://www.sdfsec.org). Only those projects that meet the above criteria will be screened for further discussion.

**For further clarification, please contact:**

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