

SEED LOW CARBON AWARDS CEREMONY AT THE SOUTH AFRICA SYMPOSIUM 2019

During the [SEED South Africa Symposium](#) held in Pretoria from 2-3rd April 2019, the [SEED Low Carbon Award Winner 2018](#) Ceremony was realized to celebrate the eco-inclusive enterprises from Colombia, India, Tanzania, Thailand and Uganda who have innovated products and services for climate change adaptation and mitigation.

The awards were presented by Cecilia Njenga, *Head of UN Environment in South Africa*, and Rainer Agster, *SEED Director of Operations*. The SEED Low Carbon Awards 2018 are supported by the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Energy (BMU).

Each award winner presented the winning enterprise's innovative response to mounting climate change and shared stories about the support received by SEED as well as the enterprise's growth plans for generating further eco-inclusive impacts in their community and beyond. [Khainza Energy](#) announced its plans to construct an additional 10 biogas plants across Uganda and noted how being a member of the SEED network has helped the enterprise to gain new clients and expand its visibility. [Corporación Acción Semilla](#) underlined the importance of collaboration across borders and the potential for replication of their business model for waste management micro-grids to other regions of Colombia, South Africa and beyond.

[EcoAct Tanzania](#) gave evidence on how SEED Catalyser support they received as an award winner enabled the enterprise to finance a larger machine for transforming plastic to durable timber. For [Daily Dump](#), being a SEED Low Carbon Award Winner has meant taking the time to step back from the busy life of a growing enterprise to refine their business and set goals. SEED support enabled the enterprise [Amazóniko](#) to bring its priorities into focus and incorporate the key aspects into a comprehensive business plan.

This Ceremony took place in the framework of the SEED South Africa Symposium which had the specific objective of identifying strategies to promote the success of climate-smart and socially inclusive enterprises in South Africa through excellent business development support and tailored financing instruments.



As underlined in the SEED webpage...as in many other countries, South Africa faces challenges in operationalizing its climate change mitigation targets for Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement and linking sustainable development with ambitious adaptation efforts. At the same time, poverty alleviation and the reduction of inequalities and unemployment remain key priorities in South Africa's National Development Plan (NDP) and since 2015, South Africa is increasingly taking responsibility for leading the transition towards a socially inclusive, green economy. Climate-smart and socially inclusive enterprises provide market-based solutions which help to enhance the adaptive capacities of the South African economy and society and bear immense potential to drive economies. However, many small and growing enterprises are unable to scale-up in light of significant barriers to accessing tailored business development services, financing instruments and policy frameworks.

The Symposium was attended over by 130 enterprises, financial institutions, policy-makers and business development service providers. The event was part of the implementation of "Building an Ecosystem for Social and Environmental Entrepreneurship in South Africa", a project supported by the [Government of Flanders](#), with the support of the [German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety \(BMU\)](#) through the [International Climate Initiative \(IKI\)](#).

To know more

[South Africa Symposium 2019 in SEED website](#)

[SEED Low Carbon Award Winners 2018](#)

[SEED Award winners](#)

[Eco-inclusive enterprises supported by SEED](#)

[SEED website](#)

[Un Environment website](#)

