

SEED WINNERS AWARD 2023 - PROMOTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In July 2023 the [SEED uno initiative](#) announced the [winners of the Green Entrepreneurship Awards 2023](#) under the Climate Adaptation category by SEED. The awards scheme aims to recognize and celebrate the most innovative and promising eco-inclusive and circular enterprises in developing and emerging economies.

The winners and runners-up, who hail from three countries, Botswana, Malawi and Zambia, showcased innovative and responsible enterprises, contributing to climate adaptation and implementing models on areas such as biodiversity protection, responsible water management, building community resilience, sustainable land management, and climate-smart agricultural practices in their specific regions and countries.

:

- In Botswana the local entrepreneur Bonolo Monthe founded [Maungo Craft](#) which creates environmentally friendly products working with women in its value chain. Maungo Craft has established unique partnerships with indigenous oil manufacturers and smallholder farmers. Through these collaborations, the company contributes to job creation for vulnerable communities at the base of the pyramid, particularly women in rural areas. The company employs about 1,000 harvesters in local communities creating job opportunities for local communities. It is also contributing to food security in Botswana by reducing food waste. It promotes the preservation of Greenhouse gases-absorbing-trees and connects the farming system to indigenous crops.
- In Malawi, entrepreneur Joy Hayley Munthali, driven by a vision of empowering women farmers, founded [Tawonga Cooking Oil Processing Enterprise](#) in Malawi. With a steadfast commitment to providing a reliable market for women farmers' crops, the company plays a pivotal role in supporting their economic empowerment. Tawonga also practices and advocates for agroforestry, sustainable agriculture, afforestation, and reforestation, contributing to the preservation of natural resources. The enterprise actively engages with female farmers, providing them with valuable insights and agricultural climate adaptation measures.
-
- In Zambia [Forest Africa Zambia Limited](#), founded in 2017, specialises in processing indigenous wild fruits, producing organic and natural juices and baobab seed oil. By applying a zero-waste philosophy, all the parts of the baobab fruit are used. Additionally, some seeds are reserved for reforestation. Forest Africa has started processing other fruits including the Monkey bread and the African Medlar. The income created for local communities is high because wild fruits are free to communities within proximate forests areas.



The Winners of the Green Entrepreneurship Awards have been awarded matching grants of EUR 15,000 and will receive tailored one-to-one advisory services for up to a year to scale their operations, as part of the prestigious SEED Accelerator programme. The [15 runners-up will also receive a matching grant and up to six months capacity building support through the SEED Catalyser programme](#), to refine their business models and optimise their impacts while advancing their investment readiness.

The SEED Initiative was founded at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg by [UN Environment](#), [UNDP](#) and [IUCN](#) as a global partnership for action on sustainable development and the green economy. SEED is based on the understanding that the promotion of social and environmental entrepreneurship is pivotal for environmentally friendly and socially inclusive development and poverty reduction.

SEED works directly with enterprises and aspiring entrepreneurs in [Enterprise Support](#) programmes to optimise and award achievements in eco-inclusive entrepreneurship. All the participating enterprises receive a comprehensive SEED Support Package of tailored business and capacity-building support, networking, and profiling at the national and international level. In particular the [SEED Starter programme](#) guides participants from the early stages of ideation to the generation of a viable business plan used to launch an eco-inclusive enterprise. [The SEED Replicator](#) targets entrepreneurs without a business idea as well as early-stage entrepreneurs who are trying to identify partnership opportunities and grow their impact.

The SEED Awards for Entrepreneurship in Sustainable Development is an annual awards scheme designed to identify the most innovative and promising locally led start-up eco-inclusive enterprises in developing and emerging economies. Each year, multiple award categories are offered, ranging from country- or region-specific awards to thematic categories. This activity, since its launch, has recorded an impact of 320 Award Winners selected; 800 Organisations engaged and 41 Countries involved.

When applying as a SEED Award recipient, [the enterprises have to present the following requirements](#): Demonstrate entrepreneurship and innovation; Deliver economic, social and environmental benefits; Have potential to scale-up and/or be replicated in other contexts; Be at early stages of implementation; Have intention and potential to become financially stable; Be a partnership between different stakeholder groups; Be locally driven or locally led and Meet country and/or sector requirements.

In the SEED Website is possible to find useful information of all the enterprises winning the annual Awards in the different categories: [Biodiversity](#); [Clean Energy](#); [Green Technologies](#); [Sustainable Agriculture](#); [Waste Management](#) and [WASH](#).

To know more

[News Winners 2023 Awards](#)

[Seed.uno About](#)

[Seed.uno Awards](#)

[Discover enterprises by sector](#)

SEED Replicator Programme

Uganda

In Lira, Uganda
20 & 21 September 2023

APPLICATION DEADLINE
31 August 2023

Apply online now at [app.seed.uno](#)

SEED
Sustainable Enterprise Development
Innovating entrepreneurs
Transforming economies

Partners: adelphi, UN Women, UNDP, IUCN

Supported by: Government of Uganda, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries

SDG Agrifood Accelerator Programme

Wuchi Wami

Raw, organic and unpasteurised honey

Creating a sustainable livelihood for smallholder farmers

SEED
Sustainable Enterprise Development
Innovating entrepreneurs
Transforming economies

Partners: UN Women, UNDP, IUCN

Supported by: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

PAST WINNER
2021 Award Runner-Up

Lillie Organic Compost
Malawi

Organic compost promoting sustainable agriculture and food security

SEED
Sustainable Enterprise Development
Innovating entrepreneurs
Transforming economies

Partners: UN Women, UNDP, IUCN

Supported by: Government of Malawi, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

SEED Replicator Programme

Indonesia

In Bandung, Indonesia
15 & 16 September 2023

APPLICATION DEADLINE
23 August 2023

Apply online now at [app.seed.uno](#)

SEED
Sustainable Enterprise Development
Innovating entrepreneurs
Transforming economies

Partners: adelphi, UN Women, UNDP, IUCN

Supported by: Government of Indonesia, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

[Seed.uno 2022 Annual Report](#)

[Seed Starter Programme](#)

[Seed Replicator Programme](#)

[Agri-Food Accelerator Programme by FAO and SEED](#)

[Seed.uno Partners](#)

[Article on eco-inclusive enterprises from Ghana and Thailand](#)

[Seed case studies](#)

[Seed.uno in Facebook](#)

[Seed.uno Library](#)



SEED Replicator Programme

South Africa

In Johannesburg, South Africa
18 & 19 October 2023
EXTENDED APPLICATION DEADLINE
4 October 2023

Apply online now at app.seed.uno

SEED
Partners: adelphi, UN Women, UN Women Zimbabwe



SEED Climate Adaptation Awards

Botswana
Zambia
Malawi

APPLY NOW
platform.seed.uno

DEADLINE
23 March 2023

SEED
Partners: SEED, CATALYST, Government of Botswana, UN Women, adelphi



SDG Agrifood Accelerator Programme

1, 2, 5

Amaati Group

Farming indigenous Fonio grains
Training marginalised women in agronomic practices

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
SEED