

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



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SEED

promoting entrepreneurship
for sustainable development

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www.seed.uno | info@seed.uno

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February 2024

SEED is a global partnership for action on sustainable development and the green inclusive economy. Founded by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, SEED supports innovative small and growing, locally-driven eco-inclusive enterprises in developing countries around the globe which integrate social and environmental benefits into their business model from the outset.

SEED is hosted by adelphi research gGmbH, based in Berlin, Germany. adelphi research is a leading think tank for policy analysis and strategy consulting. The institution offers creative solutions and services regarding global environment and development challenges for policy, business, and civil society communities.

The views expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of SEED or adelphi research, including those of the SEED Partners and SEED Symposium Supporters.

For further information, please contact: info@seed.uno

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Overview

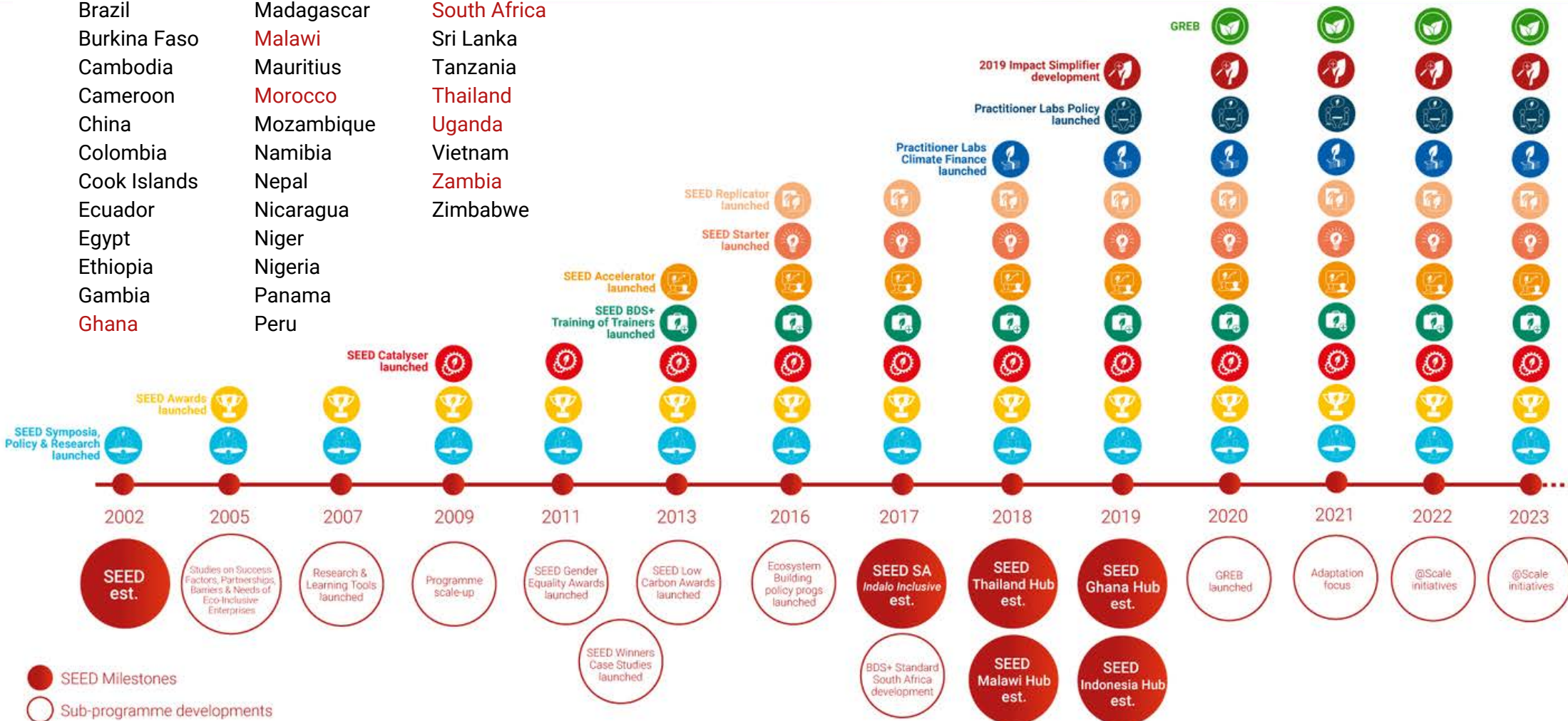


SEED History & Growth

SEED Countries

Currently active

- | | | |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Bangladesh | India | Rwanda |
| Boliva | Indonesia | Senegal |
| Botswana | Kenya | Sierra Leone |
| Brazil | Madagascar | South Africa |
| Burkina Faso | Malawi | Sri Lanka |
| Cambodia | Mauritius | Tanzania |
| Cameroon | Morocco | Thailand |
| China | Mozambique | Uganda |
| Colombia | Namibia | Vietnam |
| Cook Islands | Nepal | Zambia |
| Ecuador | Nicaragua | Zimbabwe |
| Egypt | Niger | |
| Ethiopia | Nigeria | |
| Gambia | Panama | |
| Ghana | Peru | |



SEED Programmes



Direct Enterprise Support Programmes

Enabling eco-inclusive enterprises
from start up to scale up



SEED Awards



SEED Starter



SEED Replicator



SEED Catalyser



SEED Accelerator



Ecosystem Building Programmes

Cultivating collaboration to support
eco-inclusive entrepreneurship



Business Development Service
(BDS+)



Policy Prototyping & Advocacy



Climate Finance



Events

SEED Key Outcomes 2023



463 Entrepreneurs
supported through
Incubation Programmes



18 Enterprises
supported through
Acceleration Programmes



67 Grants
offered throughout all
SEED Programmes



**6 High-level
policy events**
implemented and
attended



8 Case Studies
using Multi-Media
formats



Partnerships

SEED Partnerships (Existing & New)



SEED Partnerships provide considerable financial support and/or significant in-kind contributions to SEED activities, which enables entrepreneurship for an impactful transition to circular economy and sustainable development.

Gefördert durch:



aufgrund eines Beschlusses
des Deutschen Bundestages



**Government
of Flanders**



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations**



Financing and capacity building for
Climate-smart MSMEs

Climate Adaptation In Southern Africa and a
Green Economy in Morocco

SDG Agrifood Accelerator Programme

Coalition for Circularity Innovation and
Entrepreneurship (CICE)

SEED Collaborative Projects



SEED collaborates with other **Projects** to further support SMEs for environmentally friendly and socially inclusive development and poverty reduction.



The **Circular Economy Catalyst** harnesses the transformative potential of small and growing enterprises to contribute to circular and inclusive economies in India and Kenya.



The **Biodiversity Finance Accelerator** mobilises biodiversity investments and scales biodiversity-positive entrepreneurship, thus contributing to a sustainable use, conservation and restoration of ecosystems in Malawi and Zambia.



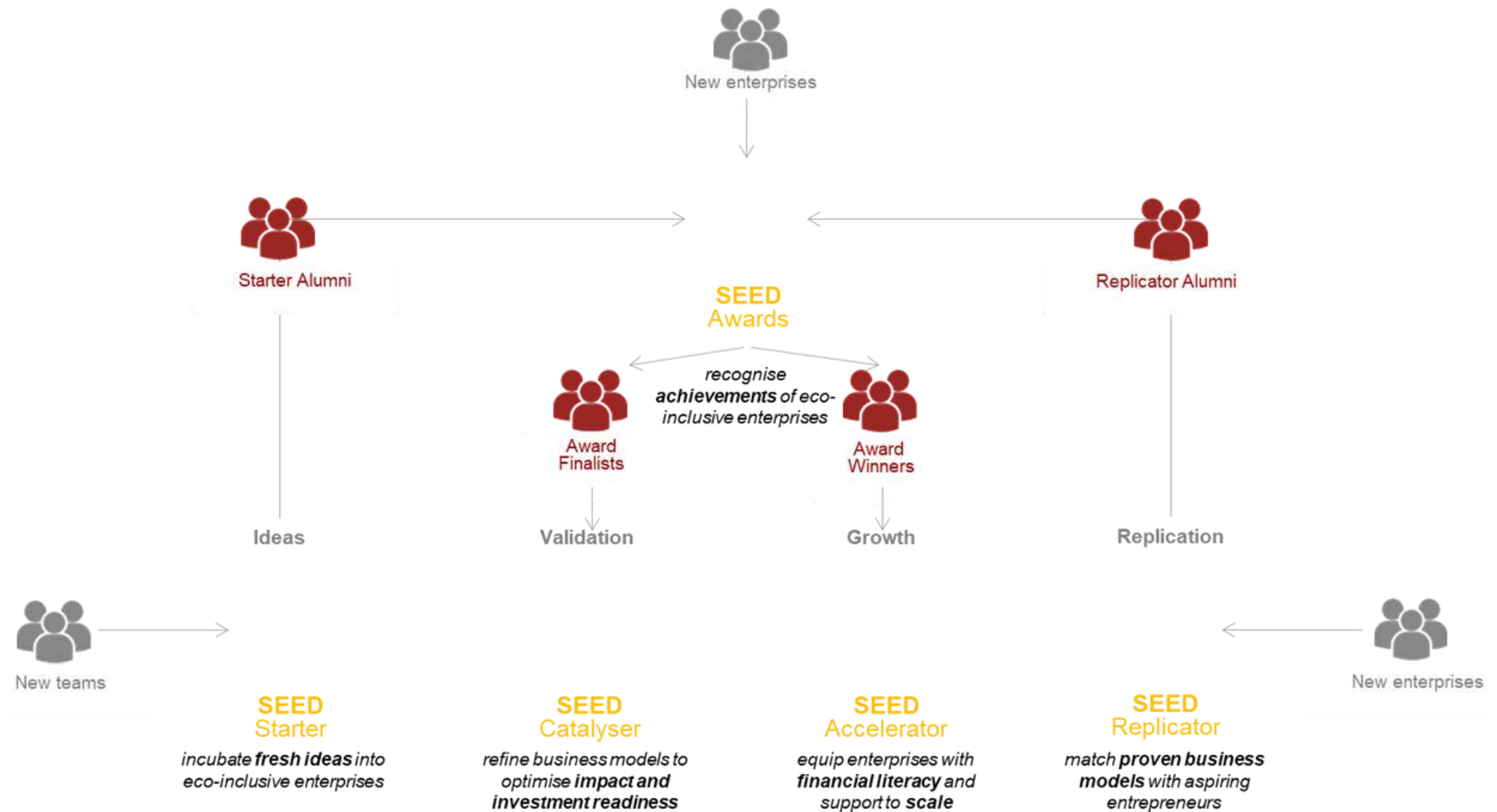
The **Uganda Green Enterprise Finance Accelerator** aims to facilitate the flow of green finance into the Ugandan SMEs sector through strengthening green SMEs and improving available financial mechanisms for SME debt financing.

A photograph of two Black women smiling warmly. The woman on the left has her hair in braids and is wearing a black top with a patterned neckline. The woman on the right has curly hair and is wearing a bright blue sleeveless top. They are standing in front of a wooden frame structure, possibly a greenhouse or a workshop, with light streaming through the openings. A yellow banner is overlaid at the bottom of the image.

Enterprise Support

SEED Enterprise Support

Our **Enterprise Support** programmes directly assist individual enterprises at multiple levels of business development – from the early stages of inspiration and concept-building to scaling up or the replication of proven, successful eco-inclusive business models in other geographical locations.



SEED Starter



Our **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. Participants join together in teams during Starter workshops to blueprint and refine their business plans with the support of peer-learning and expert guidance.



9 SEED Starter Workshops



7 countries



Ghana



India



Indonesia



Morocco



South Africa



Thailand



Uganda



30/105 female-led enterprises



58/202 female participants



45 Small Grants

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SEED Replicator



The **SEED Replicator** programmes pair aspiring entrepreneurs with established enterprises that have successfully implemented eco-inclusive business models in another location. Entrepreneurs will be equipped with hands-on tools and business blueprints which are proven to be profitable, deliver combined environmental, social and economic benefits and are easily adapted to different contexts.



9 SEED Replicator Workshops



7 countries



Ghana



India



Indonesia



Morocco



South Africa



Thailand



Uganda



81/261 female participants



88 Replication plans



7 Small Grants



15 Workbooks outlining the business models of Low Carbon Enterprises

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SEED Catalyser



The SEED **Catalyser** programmes guide eco-inclusive enterprises to refine their business models in order to optimise their environmental, social and economic impacts and improve investment readiness as they scale-up. Select Catalyser participants, including all SEED Award Runners-Up, are eligible to be chosen for a Catalyser SEED Grant and supported through the Catalyser process to optimally use this grant.



3 countries



Botswana



Malawi



Zambia



15 Award Runner-up Enterprises including

4 female-led enterprises



11 female participants

Funded by



Government
of Flanders

SEED Accelerator



The **SEED Accelerator** programmes provide SEED Award Winners with a one-year support package that includes tailored needs assessment, capacity-building workshops applying the hands-on SEED Accelerator Toolkit, and one-on-one advice to improve their investment readiness and optimise their financial resources, including the Accelerator SEED Grant.



3 countries



Botswana



Malawi



Zambia



3 Award Winner Enterprises including

1 female-led enterprises



12 female participants

Funded by



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of Flanders



Ecosystem Building

Ecosystem Building

Our **Ecosystem Building** programmes cultivate networks of collaborators, finance and policy to support eco-inclusive entrepreneurship. We provide platforms for dialogue between local, national and international stakeholders and work to improve the quality of relations between these stakeholders and enterprises.



BDS-TVET: SEED embarks on cooperation with three vocational training institutes in Malawi



Hub Development: SEED establishes collaboration centres that fortify partnerships and strengthens the presence and local ownership of SEED programmes in key areas around the globe.



Coalition for Innovation, Circularity, and Entrepreneurship (CICE) served as a Collective Action Catalyst in order to support the sustainability and scale-up of the SEED programme



SEED embarks on cooperation with three vocational training institutes in Malawi



SEED continues cooperation with **Technical, Entrepreneurial and Vocational Education and Training (TEVET) colleges** to enable targeted entrepreneurship support for their students and graduates.

In August, SEED conducted TVET Training of Trainers in Malawi. Participated by Lilongwe Technical College, Don Bosco Youth Institute, Namitete Technical College, MACOHA Lilongwe Vocational Training Centre, There is Hope, and the Department of Innovation and Creativity.

In November, SEED supported Lilongwe Technical College and Namitete Technical College in an Incubator Development workshop in partnership with CRS. Both colleges will establish incubation hubs in 2024.

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Hub Development



SEED expands its focus on regional capacity building by establishing collaboration centres that fortify partnerships and strengthen the presence and local ownership of SEED programmes in key areas around the globe.

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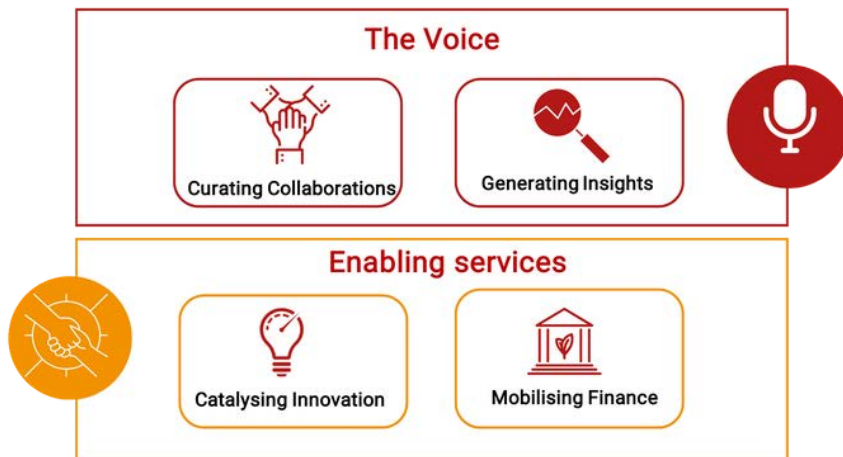
  

  **Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Nature Conservation,
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Coalition for Circularity Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CICE)



Preparing the ground for a Collective Action Catalyst



With the proposed project, SEED aimed to facilitate the foundation of the Coalition for Innovation, Circularity, and Entrepreneurship (CICE) which will serve as a Collective Action Catalyst for a SME-led Circular Low-Carbon Economy Transition.

The project prepared the initial groundwork related to the overall Coalition project document, the engagement of key partners, the working modalities and the governance structure. The preparatory work will be used to support the sustainability and scale-up of the SEED programme.



Advocacy

Through **Advocacy Events** and **Reports**, SEED draws on policy advocacy tools to help enterprises effectively engage with stakeholders to mobilise support for SMEs and contribute to positive systems change. SEED also promotes and showcases the achievements of eco-inclusive enterprises via **Case Study Films** and recognition of their **Success Stories**.



Advocacy Events



Case Study Films



Recognition of Success Stories

Key Global Advocacy Events



Regional Conference for the Arab Region Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR) 2023

The 2023 GSDR built on the 2019 GSDR and identified five factors for change: Governance; Economy and Finance; Individual and Collective Action; Science and Technology and Capacity.

World Investment Forum 2023

SEED represented the interests of SMEs based on the 20 year of experience in two sessions during the World Investment Forum 2023: one session dedicated to Investment, trade and enterprise in the circular economy, and one session dedicated to agrifood systems and entrepreneurship.



Key Global Advocacy Events



HLPF side-event: Eco-Inclusive SMEs facilitating transformative change

SEED held a side-event at High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, which was dedicated to highlights eco-Inclusive SMEs facilitating transformative change for Nature, Climate, Circular- and Agrifood-Systems delivering towards the SDGs.

SEED Insights from COP 28

SEED organised three side events and co-organising a nother one. Through these evenets the role of SMEs was discussed in depth, through their pivotal role and the need to provide them with relevant tailored support.



Key Global Advocacy Events



World Resources Forum 2023

SEED and the Circular Economy Catalyst, hosted by adelphi, organised a side-event to spotlight successful circular business models from small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), highlight circular economy leaders, and provoke discussions and exploration of replicator opportunities.

UN Food Systems Summit

SEED and FAO organised a side-event dedicated to showcasing different solutions and innovations to support ongoing sectoral policies, national food systems strategies and voluntary national reviews.



SEED Success Stories



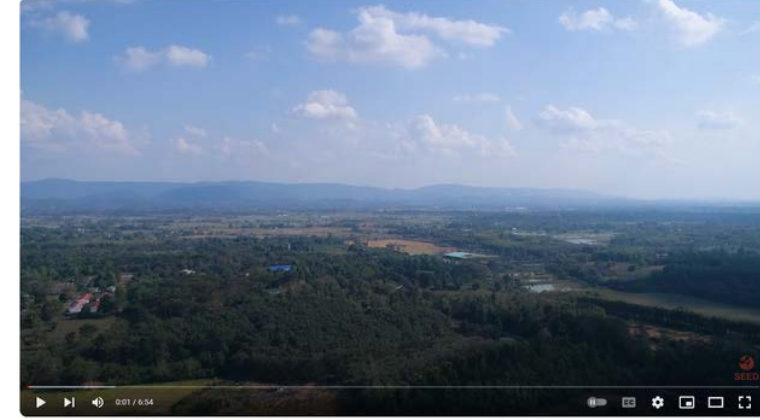
Case Study Films (Thailand)



GooGreens



Yoddoi Organic Coffee



Find Folk



SunnyCotton



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Case Study Films (Uganda & South Africa)



Preserve
Botanica
(South
Africa)



Kyaffe Coffee
(Uganda)



Litter4tokens
(South
Africa)



EcoPick (U)
Ltd
(Uganda)



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Recognition of Enterprise Success Stories



Ked-Liphi

2023 SEED Climate Adaptation Award

Mmegionline
THINGS WE FEEL TO STAY AWAY

Local solar innovation lights up COP28

Monday, December 11, 2023 | 970 Views |



Green acclaim: Liphi's innovation has been recognized at international level



Bobaki Kiyawo



DUBAI: A Motswana electronic engineer and inventor, Kedumetse Liphi, who designed a solar powered backpack targeting learners in rural off-grid areas, was on Sunday named the overall winner of a category on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Technology.

Liphi was crowned the winner in a ceremony held at the Egyptian Pavilion at Expo2020, the COP28 venue in Dubai on Sunday.

The award distinguishes Liphi's invention, which is a compact backpack, made from durable, waterproof canvas, and includes an integrated solar panel which absorbs and stores sunlight during the day for use later at night. It has an LED light which the developer says can last up to seven hours.

Divine Morula

2023 SEED Climate Adaptation Award

BOTSWANA
GUARDIAN SUN THE MOTHER

Business

Devine Morula on expansion drive

Wednesday, August 23, 2023



Keikantse Lesemela

Listen

Devine Morula founder, Matilda Mpai plans to produce variety of products and expand the business to reach export market. The company processes food and beverages including various ranges of juices and cosmetics out of the indigenous morula fruits.

Recognition of Enterprise Success Stories



SukkhaCitta

2021 SEED Low Carbon Award

VOGUE
SINGAPORE



Courtesy of SukkhaCitta

FASHION
Beyond sustainability:
SukkhaCitta is the
Indonesian label
intent on changing the
world

BY CARMEN SIN
12 MAY 2023

SukkhaCitta is the award-winning brand trying to end exploitation of people and the planet. Until 14 May, shop the label at the ZERRIN pop-up store





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