

SEED Malawi Dialogue Forum 2019

Leveraging Entrepreneurship for a Climate-Smart and Socially Inclusive Southern Africa

24th October 2019 | Umodzi Park (BICC), Lilongwe

Southern Africa continues to face challenges in addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation needs alongside objectives for sustainable and inclusive economic development. Malawi's long-term development aims, outlined in Vision 2020 and currently operationalised by the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III, aim at building a resilient and productive nation through sustainable economic growth, characterised by reduced gender inequalities and sustainably managed natural resources. These national objectives translate international goals such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals and climate goals outlined in the Paris Agreement into national strategies for development and Nationally Determined Contributions to climate change mitigation and adaptation. Small and growing enterprises that directly address environmental and social issues through their business models are essential contributors to achieving these goals in Malawi and the Southern African region.

Climate-smart and socially inclusive enterprises provide market-based solutions that help to enhance the climate change adaptation and mitigation capacities of the Malawian economy and society. Entrepreneurship bears immense potential to drive the transition to a green and inclusive economy while empowering the capacities of marginalised groups, including women and rural communities. However, many small and growing enterprises are unable to start-up and scale-up in light of significant barriers to accessing tailored business development services and long-term financing solutions.

From Challenges to Sustainable Development Opportunities

The SEED Malawi National Dialogue Forum 2019 will bring together around **100 entrepreneurs, policy-makers, financial institutions, business development service providers** and others to celebrate the journeys of eco-inclusive enterprises and collaboratively mobilise support for building the capacities of socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable entrepreneurship in the region, while exploring key questions together including:



How can aspiring female entrepreneurs and female-led enterprises be better supported through targeted business development services?



How are exemplary enterprises in the region innovating climate-smart products and services that deliver combined economic, social and environmental benefits?



How can ecosystem actors (policy-makers, financiers and others) advocate for and strengthen the impacts of socially inclusive and climate-smart entrepreneurship?

AGENDA | SEED Malawi National Dialogue Forum 2019

24th October 2019 | Umodzi Park (BICC), Lilongwe

08:00 – 09:00 Registration and Networking Breakfast

09:00 – 09:30 Welcoming Speeches

Plenary | Enjoy stories of socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable “eco-inclusive” entrepreneurship as the scene is set for collaborative discussions and hands-on sessions that explore the role of small and growing enterprises in Malawi’s green, inclusive development agendas.

Speakers:

- Bytonie Simwela, SEED Africa Award Winner 2016, Ziweto Enterprise
- Nikolas Bosscher, Deputy General Representative of the Government of Flanders: Development Cooperation, Government of Flanders
- Rainer Agster, Global Director of Operations, SEED

09:30 – 11:00 Panel & Roundtable Discussions | Future of eco-inclusive entrepreneurship promotion for a climate-smart and gender equal economy

Plenary | Explore the role the small and growing enterprises play in delivering products and services that support the implementation of Malawi’s Nationally Determined Contributions in the transition to a more gender equal, socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable economy. This panel and roundtable discussions invite enterprises and ecosystem actors to share their insights and explore opportunities to further leverage entrepreneurial innovation in acting on Nationally Determined Contributions for climate action.

Moderator: Christine Meyer, Head of Ecosystem Building, SEED

Speakers:

- Siphon Billiat, Senior Development Planning Officer, National Planning Commission, Government of Malawi
- Joyce Sikwese, SEED Africa Award Winner 2019, Green Impact Technologies
- Beatrice Makwenda, Head of Policy and Communication, National Smallholder Farmers' Association of Malawi (NASFAM)
- Frankie Washoni, SEED Africa Award Winner 2015, Hortinet

11:00 – 11:30 Networking Coffee and Enterprise Solutions Exhibition

11:30 – 13:00 Pitching & Input Presentation | Public showcase of policy instrument prototypes and looking to the future of policy advocacy around eco-inclusive entrepreneurship

Plenary | Explore opportunities and recommendations for policy action and hear pitches of innovative policy instrument prototypes while mobilising collaboration opportunities around policy-based solutions that multiply the impacts of eco-inclusive entrepreneurship on Malawi's green economy transition. This session presents policy insights from SEED's policy advocacy activities and outcomes from the ongoing SEED Practitioner Labs Policy Prototyping and invites participants to look at action areas for future policy engagement.

Speaker / Moderator: Tione Kaonga, **Malawi Coordinator, SEED**

Policy Instrument Solutions Pitches:

- Building markets for waste innovation: Malawi Waste Management Consortium for knowledge sharing around closed-loop waste management entrepreneurship, **hosted by International Conservation and Clean up Management (ICCM)**
- Stimulating markets for climate-smart agriculture value chains: Agriculture insurance and climate-related risk assessment for decentralised capacity building networks, **hosted by MicroInsurance Services Ltd.**
- Expanding community-based networks for climate-smart business development: Cooperative-to-cooperative platform for climate-resilient agriculture and youth entrepreneurship, **hosted by Malawi Federation of Cooperatives (MAFECO)**
- Improving market access and affordable financing for off-grid renewable energy solutions: A Private-Public Partnership Model for Off-Grid RE Market Development, **hosted by Community Energy Malawi**

13:00 – 14:30 Networking Lunch and Enterprise Solutions Exhibition

14:30 – 16:00 Parallel Sessions

Enterprise matchmaking with business development opportunities to scale-up environmental, social and economic impacts [By Special Invitation]

Session Co-Hosts: SEED with mHub, Planetarium Institute, Mzuzu eHub, Empower, Social Enterprise Academy, Equip Consulting Group, Segal Family Foundation

Ibis Room | Link earlier stage socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable enterprises with key enterprise support institutions offering entrepreneurship training and networking, legal, branding, impact measurement and financial support. This session will be co-hosted by enterprises support institutions and especially targets early stage enterprises looking to scale-up.

Mobilising the private and public sectors to extend climate finance to small and growing climate-smart enterprises

Session Co-Hosts: SEED with World Bank, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism, FDH Bank and Hivos

Heron Room | Discuss how to build on the momentum gained on the global stage during high-level engagements around our socially inclusive green economy transition and determine the next steps for engaging the private sector extending financial and non-financial support for “missing middle” socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable enterprises. This session is aimed primarily at private and public sector actors interested in exploring their role in delivering targeted support mechanisms for eco-inclusive enterprises.

BDS knowledge sharing to maximise eco-inclusive entrepreneurship impacts through quality business development services

Session Host: SEED

Main Foyer | Engage in discussions to share knowledge and cultivate ongoing collaboration opportunities between business development service (BDS) providers that improve the quality and reach of business development opportunities for environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive enterprises. This session targets active BDS providers, enterprises and others interested in delivering targeted and quality services for small and growing enterprises.

16:00 – 16:30 Networking Coffee and Enterprise Solutions Exhibition

16:30 – 17:00 Synthesis | Exploring future action for entrepreneurship promotion and development

Plenary | Reconvene to reflect on takeaways from the parallel sessions and identify the next steps for supporting the growth of socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable entrepreneurship in the green economy transition.

Moderator: Tione Kaonga, Malawi Coordinator, SEED

17:00 – 18:00 SEED Awards 2019 Ceremony

Plenary | Celebrate achievements and discover the journeys of our SEED Award Winners 2019 during an Awards Ceremony. These exemplary enterprises from Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe are leading the way in the innovation of environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive business solutions.

Awards Presenters:

- Nikolas Bosscher, Deputy General Representative of the Government of Flanders: Development Cooperation, Government of Flanders
- Rainer Agster, Global Director of Operations, SEED

18:00 Networking Reception

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