

Strategic Collaborative Fund

Regional Environmental Event Support

Call for Concept Notes

Introduction

The Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), with support from the Government of Sweden, is driving an initiative that supports regional environmental and sustainable development events under a programme called the *Strategic Collaborative Fund*. This programme aims to promote informed policy dialogue, allowing different groups and stakeholders to share knowledge through provisions of grant support for regional forums and other strategic events with the goal of helping to shape public policy to advance sustainable and inclusive development and poverty alleviation in Asia towards the achievement of SDGs.

Aware of the challenges in gender equality, human rights and poverty in regard to bringing underserved communities into consideration within the policy dialogue, the Strategic Collaborative Fund seeks to target these communities and integrate them into its work. Under this initiative, organizations across Asia, or those addressing issues in the region, are invited to submit concept notes for convening regional environmental policy forums.

In addition to grant support to regional events, the programme also provides institutional capacity building to grantees and partner organisations consisting of online learning facilities (MOOCs) and coaching on gender and social equality and rights-based approaches. Technical support on each theme will be provided, in addition to advice on policy strategies in relation to the relevant SDGs.

Call for Concept Notes

SEI welcomes concept notes for regional strategic events in Asia that focus on advancing environmentally sustainable development with integration of gender and social equality and rights-based approaches, in addition to poverty reduction, into the themes and design of these events.

The events should include a mix of representatives from government, private sector, civil society, research or academic institutions and development partners that ensure active exchanges between participants.

The Strategic Collaborative Fund seeks to change mindsets and everyday practices to ultimately benefit the citizens of the region, with particular attention to marginalized groups including, but not limited to, those living in poverty, women, youth, children, ethnic minorities and other environmentally vulnerable groups, based on their specific contexts.

Themes

In 2019, the programme will focus on six main themes:

- **Water**
Water, landscapes and ecosystems: Contributing to human development for Asia
- **Climate Change Adaptation**

Actionable knowledge for sustainable development, climate change adaptation and disaster resilience

- **Disaster risk reduction**

Local level action for transforming communities at risk in Asian cities

- **Gender**

Greening growth: Transformative practices and reflections on gender and environmental justice

- **Energy**

Energy investments in contested landscapes in Asia

- **Agriculture**

Smallholders of the 21st century as the primary drivers of sustainable agriculture

Grant Value

SEI will support 6 themes in 2019 and aim to cover one grant per theme. A total of SEK 500,000 (approximately USD 50,000) will be awarded per grant. The awards can fund one or more events in their entirety or provide supplemental funding to already confirmed co-funded event(s). The delivery period of event organization and impact monitoring must be within the timeframe of one year, March 2019 - February 2020.

Grant Recipient

Recipient organizations should generally be based in Asia, but if they are based outside the region, the proposed event should address issues relevant to Asia and engage stakeholders in Asia.

Recipients are expected to be mainly nonprofit organizations or networks with experience in providing platforms for policy dialogue to enable engagement of different groups and stakeholders. Participants should be able to share knowledge and experience primarily in environmentally sustainable development while addressing related gender equality, environmental rights-based approach and poverty reduction issues in Asia.

SEI encourages participation from the private sector, and applications from business forums or networks will be considered if they also seek to engage with the public sector and/or civil society organizations with whom they are not currently interacting. Funding cannot be used for covering private sector actors' participation in the supported event (related travel and accommodation expenses). It should, however, be used to increase participation of other stakeholders such as civil society and the public sector. A cost-sharing option for micro and small enterprises with resource constraints can be considered.

Criteria for Selection

The following criteria will be used during concept note review and selection:

- Provides evidence of regional-level outreach and scope in the **Asia region**, as opposed to a country-level event
- Addresses the **thematic focus and relevance** to environmentally sustainable and inclusive development
- Demonstrates how the event leads to positive impact on **gender equality, rights-based approaches and poverty reduction**

- Demonstrates how the event would target and benefit the citizens of the region, with particular attention to the **poor, women and other marginalized groups**
- Ensures **diverse participation** including the public sector, private sector, civil society organizations, research and academic institutions and development partners
- Uses **innovative methods and technologies** to enhance participation and active discussion among participants
- Shows proponents' **institutional capacity** for organizing regional events

Template

Please download the concept note template [here](#).

Submission

Application deadline is **28 February 2019, 5.00pm** (Indochina Time).

Kindly complete your concept note by using the template and upload your concept note through the online application form available at [this link](#).

The evaluation process will take place in March 2019. Successful applications will be notified through email by early April 2019.

For further information please contact wanaporn.yangyuentham@sei.org.