



Presentation of the 2016 call for proposals

Supporting pilot projects in favor of an innovative agricultural development

SEED Foundation's 2016 call for proposals for pilot projects in favor of an innovative agricultural development aims at answering this question: how to encourage small structures with limited capacities of action to engage in an innovative agriculture?

The call for proposal aims at financing the pilot phase of an innovative project. Therefore, SEED Foundation takes the role of an incubator to allow, by leverage, the pursuit of the other phases of the project. The objective is thus the extension of the innovation with other financial partners.

This call for proposals is an open call which is open to any French organization of general interest which has already studied the feasibility of its project. The project itself should be innovative and act sustainably on the farming and food sectors.

The applicants can submit the eligibility form from 07/01/2016 to 07/02/2016.

For additional information, please contact: contact@seed-foundation.org

Who is SEED Foundation?

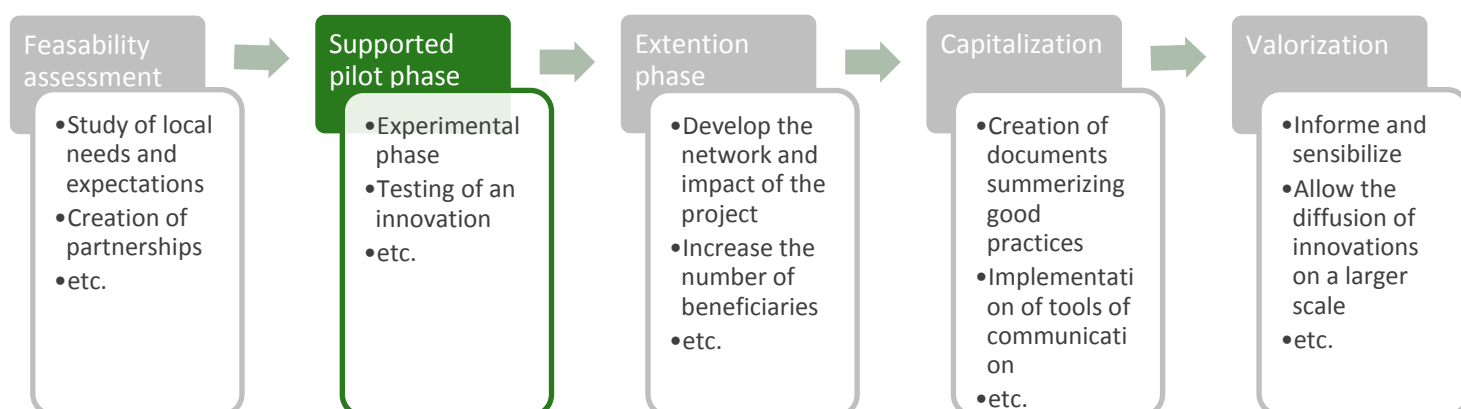
Collective and international initiative, SEED Foundation is a French Endowment Fund created and supported by companies and individuals in Europe and Africa. SEED Foundation's mission is to support agricultural and rural development in Africa through innovative projects, sustainably acting on the agricultural and food sectors. It positions itself as an incubator of these projects to recognize and allow for the continuation of initiatives carried out by small organizations with limited capacities of action.

Objectives of the call for proposals

The projects selected by SEED Foundation will address the following questions:

- ↳ How to help small organizations with limited capacities of action promote agricultural innovation?
- ↳ How can the African agriculture better answer the local demand?
- ↳ Which sector needs developing in order to better link and integrate farmers to the market?
- ↳ How can the promotion of local products be source of new rural and urban activities and jobs?
- ↳ How to better integrate the environmental dimension at all levels of agricultural and food chains?

Life cycle of a project



Eligibility and selection criteria

❖ Eligibility and preselection criteria

Before submitting a project, applicants must verify the eligibility of their proposal. SEED Foundation will not take into consideration proposals that do not comply with the following criteria:

Eligibility of the applicant

- French organization of general interest that is able to issue tax receipts
- Must have similar experiences in the agricultural development domain in Africa

Eligibility of local partners

- Must be a non-profit organization or a social business
- Must actively participate in the conception and implementation of the project
- Have the ability to continue the process without the support from the carrier at the end of the project

Eligibility of the project

- Must take place in Africa in an eligible country¹
- Must be an innovative project
- Create or reinforce agricultural activities that contribute to more local value and easier access to quality food
- Must be in the pilot stage, but have a long term vision

Other decisive criteria:

- SEED Foundation will only support project in their pilot phase (see graph on page 2) that can have started up to one year when the full file is submitted.
- SEED Foundation's grant will be between € 7,000 and € 15,000, spread over a maximum of 3 years. It will represent between 10% and 70% of the total budget of the project.
- The applicant may only submit one project per call for proposals.
- Organizations already partners of SEED Foundation with an on-going project cannot submit a project at this call for proposal.

❖ Specific targets

SEED Foundation will pay particular attention to the following aims:

- **The gap between SEED Foundation's grant and the total budget:** priority will be given to projects where the grant is decisive in the budget of the project.
- **The number of beneficiaries:** priority will be given to projects focusing on small groups of beneficiaries.
- **The scope of actions of the project on the agricultural sector:** priority will be given to projects impacting several steps in the agricultural sector (production, transformations, commercialization, etc.)

¹ See Appendix 1: list of eligible countries

❖ Selection criteria

SEED Foundation and the Project Selection Committee will decide which projects have the best balance between the following elements:

- | Feasibility | Pertinence | Sustainability |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The operational capacity of the applicant and its local partners• Coherence with the local context• Coherence between the budget and expected use of funds | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Respect of the 3 pillars of sustainable development• Expected impacts of the project and the indicators on how to measure them | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Perspectives and long term vision of the project (capitalization and valorization)• The durability of the action |

Selection process

❖ The eligibility form

The applicants are invited to complete a form of a couple of questions that will allow SEED Foundation to determine, according to its criteria, whether the project and its stakeholders are eligible or not.

❖ The detailed application file

The thorough examination of the application is done on the basis of a completed dossier that will be sent to the applicant when eligibility has been verified. The team of the Fund may contact and/or meet the applicant to obtain additional information.

The following documents will be expected:

- The organization's status and the publication of its creation in the « Journal officiel »,
- A dated document signed by a executive manager certifying that the organization is eligible to the “régime du mécénat”,
- The applicant's activity reports and the annual accounts of the last two years as well as the estimated budget for 2016,
- Information on the firm (in the case of a social firm as a local partner).

❖ The project selection by the Committee and sponsors

The shortlisted projects by the Fund will be forwarded to the [Project Selection Committee](#). The Committee will review and assess the quality of the proposals with regards to the priorities of the Fund and its selection criteria.

The Committee will select two projects to be supported by SEED Foundation. The Committee will also select two other projects that will be submitted to the vote of the Fund's sponsors. At the end of this vote a third project to be supported will be designated.

❖ **The contract agreement**

Once the applicants have been informed that their project has been selected, there will be exchanges with SEED Foundation to define the terms of the partnership. This includes the submission of regular reports, visits of the project, capitalization approaches, etc.

How to apply to the call for proposals?

❖ **Key dates**

Projected schedule of the 2016 call for proposals² :

15/12 - 31/12	Launch of the call for proposals
07/01 - 07/02	Launch of the eligibility form
08/02 - 19/02	Check the eligibility of received forms
22/02 - 20/03	Launch of detailed files for eligible proposals
21/03 - 05/06	Instruction of files and meeting of the Project Selection committee
06/06	Announcement of the results of the call for proposals

❖ **Important reminders**

Before submitting a project, please make sure your proposal complies with the Fund's eligibility criteria.

❖ **Access the eligibility form**

The form will be open from the 07/01/2016 to 07/02/2016 on SEED Foundation's website: www.seed-foundation.org, tab « our projects »/ « call for proposals »/ « submit a project ».

² SEED Foundation may modify the dates if necessary.

Appendix 1: List of eligible countries for SEED Foundation's 2016 call for proposals

Benin
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cameroun
Cape Verde
Central African Republic
Chad
Congo
Ivory Coast
Democratic Republic of Congo
Djibouti
Ghana
Gambia
Guinea
Guinea Bissau
Guinea Equatorial
Kenya
Lesotho
Madagascar
Mali
Mauritania
Niger
Uganda
Rwanda
Senegal
Tanzania
The Comoros
Togo
Zambia
Zimbabwe