

ReSource Award

Entrepreneurial solutions for resilience in water management

Call for Applications

The ReSource Award acknowledges social entrepreneurial initiatives which propose to develop, test or scale up new approaches for resolving existing social and/or ecological issues related to sustainable water management practices. Examples include access to, use and supply of water, sanitation and hygiene in low, lower-middle and upper-middle-income countries

The prize combines financial and non-financial contributions (coaching/expert advice). Half of the total contribution equivalent to USD 150 000 will be allocated to three finalists (USD 20 000 + coaching each) from whom the winner will be selected. The award winning organization will be supported (+USD 75 000 + coaching) during the following three years in further developing, prototyping or scaling up its social entrepreneurial initiative.

We invite charities, non-profit organizations and revenue-generating social enterprises to submit proposals for novel, entrepreneurial solutions in sustainable water management practices within the following spectrum:

Social purpose organisation (SPOs)					Traditional business			
Charities		Revenue generating social enterprises		Socially driven business	Traditional business			
Grants only; no trading	Trading revenue and grants	Potentially sustainable > 75% trading revenue	Breakeven all in come from trading	Profitable surplus reinvested	Profit distributing socially driven	CSR company	Company allocating percentage to charity	Mainstream market company

Source: EVPA 2013

Process

Step I: Short proposal

Participants are requested to answer an online questionnaire (available on www.resourceaward.org from February 16th) on their social entrepreneurial initiative by 30 April 2016, 24.00 CET. All short proposals received by this due date will be assessed in May 2016 by a team of water and business experts based on previously defined criteria (see below).

Step II: Full proposal

By the end of May 2016, the authors of the best-ranked short proposals will be invited to submit a comprehensive version (full proposal) of their social entrepreneurial initiative online. These full proposals will be reviewed and assessed based on an extended catalogue of criteria. Oral

interviews with the applicants on 4 and 5 August 2016 will conclude the first round of the assessment.

The four to eight best-ranked full proposals will be evaluated by an international and independent jury that will select three finalists by the end of September 2016.

Step III: Finalists

Three finalists will receive financial support (USD 20 000 each) in addition to six months of tailored coaching from experts (amounting to USD 5 000) to help them refine their proposals (October 2016 – March 2017). One representative per finalist will be invited at the end of this period to travel to Zurich, Switzerland, to present their social entrepreneurial initiative to the international jury that will select the winner of the ReSource Award.

The decisions of the jury are final. Any recourse to legal action is hereby explicitly excluded. We will not enter into any correspondence. Swiss law shall apply.

Step IV: Winner

In addition to the USD 20 000 received while a finalist, the winner will be further supported financially (to a total value of USD 75 000, over three years) and non-financially from April 2017 to April 2020 to implement or scale up the winning social entrepreneurial initiative. In all, the winner is supported financially with USD 95 000 and non-financially with specific coaching for up to 3.5 years.

ReSource Award criteria

The short and full proposals submitted will be assessed with regard to the following areas:

- **Social and ecological challenge:** The proposal demonstrates a profound and authentic understanding of the social and ecological problem to be addressed.
- **Impact:** The expected social, ecological and economic impact is clearly defined and in line with the scope of the ReSource Award.
- **Approach:** The proposal outlines a compelling social entrepreneurial approach to address the defined challenge. The defined goal and expected impact can realistically be achieved with the approach presented.
- **Financials:** There is a financially viable business plan in place based on clear and logical assumptions.
- **Competencies:** A qualified team with appropriate skills and track record is in place.
- **Risk management:** All relevant risk drivers and related prevention and risk mitigation measures are defined.



Dates and deadlines

30 April 2016

Application deadline for short proposal

1 June 2016

Invitation to submit full proposal

30 June 2016

Application deadline for full proposal

4 & 5 August 2016

Oral interviews

3 October 2016

Announcement of three finalists for ReSource Award 2017

October 2016 to March 2017

Financial and non-financial support to three finalists

March 2017

Announcement of ReSource Award winner for 2017

April 2017 – April 2020

Support to 2017 winner

Further information is available on www.resourceaward.org.