



SAARC Development Fund

SDF/CEO/2017/1031

September 8, 2017

Mr. Rajesh Kazi Shrestha
President
Nepal China Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Sub: Request for Linkage of SDF Website with your website Website and Upload SDF's Announcement

Dear Mr. Shrestha,

Greetings from SAARC Development Fund Secretariat!

We take this opportunity to introduce SDF, which was established by the Heads of the eight SAARC Member States in April 2010 with the aim to:

- promote the welfare of the people of SAARC region,
- improve their quality of life, and
- accelerate economic growth, social progress and poverty alleviation in the region.

The Fund serves as the umbrella financial institution for SAARC projects and programs which are in fulfillment of the objectives of the SAARC Charter. SDF has three funding windows viz. Social, Economic and Infrastructure.

The Social Window shall primarily fund projects, inter alia, on poverty alleviation, social development focusing on education; health; human resources development; support to venerable/disadvantaged segments of the society; funding needs of communities, micro-enterprises, rural infrastructure development. The Economic Window shall primarily extend funding to non-infrastructure projects related to trade and industrial development, agriculture, service sector, science and technology and other non-infrastructure areas. It shall also be utilized for identifying, studying, developing and /or sponsoring commercially viable programs/projects of regional priority including their pre-feasibility and feasibility studies. The Economic Window would be utilized for supporting any other projects which are not covered explicitly under the Social and Infrastructure Window. The Infrastructure Window shall primarily be utilized to fund projects in areas such as energy, power, transportation, telecommunications, environment, tourism and other infrastructure areas.

SDF is currently implementing eleven regional projects with 80 implementing and lead implementing agencies covering all the eight Member States under the Social Window funding. The SDF Secretariat has already committed USD 73.55 million for social window projects as of date out of which it has disbursed USD 43.5 million to the Member States for Social Window projects as of now. SDF is now ready to activate the economic and infrastructure windows.



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Soliciting Projects for Co-funding in SAARC Region:

SDF is now in a very strong position to go ahead as a co-funder under three funding windows and we are currently exploring the possibility of co-funding of projects in the SAARC region organizations/institutions such as yours. As per the amended funding criteria, the SDF can now fund 'Projects/programs involving any one or more than one SAARC Member State with the direct benefit going to more than one Member State'.

We look forward receiving proposals on bankable projects providing regional connectivity among the SAARC Member States.

Linkage of SDF Website with your Website and Announcement Upload:

As an umbrella financial institution of SAARC, we also aim to strengthen cooperation with all Chambers and Federations in the region. For this purpose we aim to link the URLs of official websites of all your institution with the SDF website. You may follow the link below:

<http://www.sdfsec.org/>

We request you to kindly link the URL of SDF website with your website in the similar way to support and endorse the Secretariat and its activities. Similarly we request you to upload our announcement (copy attached) in your website's home page as well as your journals/publications.

Currently we are active in terms of Media and Outreach related activities through our monthly E-Newsletter, Website Press Releases, mini portal for relevant stakeholders and quarterly reports. We look forward to explore different ways of working with your organization in order to outreach the activities of the SDF Secretariat and your institution to the stakeholders.

The strategic advantages for SDF and your organization are:

- Strengthen cooperation
- Taking SAARC Objectives forward
- Outreach of activities of both the institutions
- Sharing of experiences and knowledge

We look forward for your continuous support.

Regards,

Dr. Sunil Motiwal
Chief Executive Officer



SAARC Development Fund Secretariat

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