

Global Cleantech Innovation Programme for SMEs and start-ups (GCIP) in South Africa



The Global Cleantech Innovation Programme (GCIP) is a global initiative with the goal of promoting clean technology innovation and supporting SMEs and start-ups in developing and emerging economies. The GCIP is an initiative of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), hosted and jointly executed in South Africa by the Technology Innovation Agency (TIA).

Based on the successful Cleantech Open Accelerator, the initiative aims to spur local innovations in energy efficiency, renewable energy, waste valorisation, water efficiency and green buildings; maximizing every participant's chances of being successful in the programme and raising their probability of achieving sustainable commercial success.

The programme combines a competition and a business accelerator to offer the participating entrepreneurs progressing through the programme:

- Extensive mentoring and training on core business-related competencies for start-ups and SMEs, as well as specific technological, IP, financial and marketing skills
- The possibility to liaise with potential investors and partners
- Opportunities to showcase their technological innovations to the media and the public;
- A chance to win a monetary prize in addition to a fully sponsored trip to the United States of America to participate in the Cleantech Open Global Forum.

Additional Benefits are detailed at:
www.southafrica.cleantechopen.org/key-benefits/

Who should apply?*

- Innovative start-ups and small- and medium-sized enterprises focused on commercialisation of cutting-edge and innovative clean technology solutions.
(a start-up company is typically less than 3 years in existence but not yet profitable and an established SME as defined by the Small Business Act (No. 102, 1996))
- A two person team at a minimum and at least one team member must be a South African resident, citizen, or legal alien.

Criteria to qualify for GCIP include:

- Technology innovation should support mitigation of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through: energy efficiency, renewable energy, water efficiency, waste valorisation and green buildings.
- Technology Innovation should be: new, ground breaking clean technology, incorporate adaptation of existing clean technologies or use existing commercially available technologies for unique applications
- Technology Innovation has protectable Intellectual Property (IP)
- Technology Innovation should support improvements in profitability and/or competitiveness
- Technology development must be at proof of concept stage up to pre-commercialisation
- Submitted application must demonstrate a feasible concept and product
- Potential for commercialisation has been identified.

How to apply

- Applications must be submitted online at www.southafrica.cleantechopen.org
- Applications are open from 14 March 2016 until 29 April 2016 at 23:59 SAST
- **No applications will be accepted after the deadline.**
- A help line is available for interested entrepreneurs, should they have queries on the application process or on the overall GCIP programme at 012 472 2700.

*Applications are subject to the detailed *2016 Rules and Eligibility criteria for Applications*, available at:
www.southafrica.cleantechopen.org/requirements-eligibility/

Call for applications opens
14 March 2016



Please call **012 472 2700** or send an email to cleantech@tia.org.za