

PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES INFORMATION SHEET

Name of the Partnership/Initiative

Southern Business Challenge

Expected date of initiation: **29 August 2002**

Expected date of completion: **Ongoing**

Partners Involved:

Governments: **Part-funded by Dutch Ministry of Environment**

Intergovernmental organizations:

Major groups:

Business – Progressive companies based in the developing world (list of members available on request)

Other:

NGO – Centre for Social Markets coordinating initiative

Heinrich Boll Foundation funding

Leading Partner:

Name of the contact person/focal point: **Jonathan Glennie**

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Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative

Please provide a brief description:

The Southern Business Challenge (SBC) is a new international network bringing together progressive companies and entrepreneurs from developing countries to promote an action agenda for sustainability and social justice. All SBC Members are committed to the four principles of sustainable development, social justice, personal ethics and corporate integrity.

Please also provide a brief description of the relationship of the Partnership/Initiative with the objectives of Agenda 21 as well as relevant goals and objectives of the United Nation Millennium Declaration:

Agenda 21 devotes an entire chapter to the role of business and industry. Southern business, in particular, has a crucial though much overlooked role to play. A powerful engine of development, progressive Southern business has been overwhelmingly absent in international policy discussions. It is the missing link. The force that can propel developing and developed country decision-makers, in partnership with civil society actors, to undertake reforms in the direction of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

Expected results:

Please provide a brief description:

The goal of the SBC is to transform debate at international policy fora and promote practical action for equitable and sustainable development. SBC Members are an important new voice and a major new constituency. They mark the emergence of a powerful economic force for progressive change in developing countries.

Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:

- 1. Each SBC member company will be featured in a 2-sided flyer to be included in the SBC pack at our Official Launch at the WSSD**
- 2. Up to five SBC member companies representative of the diversity and geographic spread of the coalition will go to Johannesburg.**
- 3. A video is being produced profiling those member companies attending the WSSD, and explaining what the SBC is about. It will be shown at our Official Launch.**
- 4. The SBC will produce discussion papers on a range of themes relevant to the member companies. The first two will be ready for Johannesburg and will be on Energy and Tourism.**
- 5. A "Declaration of the SBC to the WSSD" will set out clear analysis and policy recommendations for decision makers based on input received from SBC members themselves.**

Coordination and Implementation mechanism

Please provide a brief description of expected coordination/implementation mechanism of the Partnership/Initiative.

The network has been initiated by the UK and India-based Centre for Social Markets, which will also co-ordinate all activities.

Arrangements for funding

Please describe available and/or expected sources of funding for the implementation of the Partnership/Initiative (e.g. donor government(s); international organization(s)/financial institution(s); foundation(s); private sector; other major groups, etc.)

We are currently receiving funding from the Dutch Government and the Heinrich Boll Foundation. In the longer term we expect to get funding from corporates and we will introduce a membership fee dependent on company turnover.

Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer

Please include information if the Partnership/Initiative provides for training, informational support, institutional strengthening and/or other capacity building measures:

SBC member companies will benefit from:

- 1. Priority access to CSM activities and services**
 - **Training programmes**
 - **CSR web portal**
- 2. Brokering meetings/markets to promote your product internationally**
- 3. Opportunity to join like-minded progressive companies at international advocacy fora**
- 4. Networking and market opportunities**
 - **Meet regional entrepreneurs**
 - **Different networks for members to utilise**

Please also provide here a brief description of expected arrangements for technology transfer (if applicable).

Member companies will share technology and problem-solving strategies with each other.

Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any)

Please provide a brief description:

SBC member companies will be represented at international fora where sustainability issues are being discussed.

Monitoring Arrangements

Please describe expected arrangements for monitoring of progress in the implementation of Partnerships/Initiative after it will be launched at the WSSD:

(e.g. frequency/modalities of preparation of progress reports; electronic updates, news-letters, etc)

- **Quarterly reports to funders**
- **Bi-monthly newsletter (printed and electronic)**
- **Website**
- **Regular email updates to members**

Other relevant information:

Please see website. Also contact Jonathan Glennie for report of SBC Workshop for South Asia, held in Kolkata in April 2002.

Web-site (if available): **www.csmworld.org**

Name and contact information of the person filling in this table:

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