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SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ("SED")

FUNDING APPLICATION GUIDELINE



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0	Original	Concor SED Committee	01/08/2018
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02	Document Owner & Accountable Director updated	Group Executive: HR & HSE	01/04/2024
03	Funding Allocation Guideline included	Group Executive: HR & HSE	31/01/2025

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1. PURPOSE

This guideline outlines the criteria and processes used to assess funding/donation requests submitted to the Concor SED Committee

2. SCOPE

The guideline is applicable to all programmes outlined in the Concor SED Implementation Guideline (IMS-SED-GDL-001).

3. FOCUS AREAS

The Concor SED programme is geared towards providing holistic support and engagement across all phases of the education and training pipeline, while simultaneously addressing issues of poverty, unemployment and economic growth. The overarching focus of the Concor SED programme is **Education and Skills Development**. Funding is allocated in accordance with minimum prescribed requirements in the Construction Sector Code and in support of projects in communities where we operate.

3.1 Structured Programmes

Focused on fewer, structured programmes, funded over longer periods. Concor prioritises funding for education focusing specifically on Early Childhood Development and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (“STEM”) education. Examples of focus areas for structured programmes include:

- Numeracy & Literacy Development in Early Childhood Development;
- Science, Technology, English and Mathematics support in primary and secondary schools;
- Support for Technical, Vocational, Education & Training (“TVET”) colleges, universities and other tertiary institutions that promote research, innovation and transformation and development of the construction and engineering industry; and
- Government, industry and sector forums focused on research, development and collaboration.

Implementation of Structured Programmes is guided by an approved SED Plan, which outlines the project goals and objectives, schedule of activities, project milestones, monitoring and evaluation processes and reporting requirements between Concor and the partner organization.

3.2 Discretionary Projects

Due to Concor's vast geographical footprint, we encounter numerous communities in need of support. With the support of community liaison officers, we are able to identify and establish relationships with key stakeholders, undertake needs assessments and partner with local service providers to address community needs.

Discretionary funding is allocated in support of **once-off, smaller projects** based on identified needs that are aligned to the overall strategy and focus areas, and in support of community development. Examples of such projects include:

- Community health and wellness;
- Community skills training, job creation and entrepreneurship;
- Educational resources;
- Environmental education and awareness;
- Food security and nutrition;
- Resources, materials, equipment for basic refurbishment projects;
- Sanitary wear and sanitation projects;
- Skills development and training; and
- Support for people living with disabilities

3.3 Sikhulisa Fund

Concor provides support and funding for **orphans & vulnerable children** through its Sikhulisa Fund as follows:

- Provision of donations in support of children's' welfare/service organisations;
- Focused on vulnerable children younger than 18 years old;
- Includes children living with disabilities, those living with HIV and AIDS and other life limiting diseases;
- Children at risk due to abuse, crime and neglect; and
- Children living with or affected by disability.

3.4 Communities with Limited Services

In line with the Construction Sector Codes, Concor prioritises programme/project implementation in **communities with limited access to essential services**. These communities are defined as:

- Communities where less than 65% of households in the local municipality have access to piped water; or
- Communities where less than 80% of households in the local municipality have access to electricity; and
- Communities where more than 50% of households in the local municipality have an average income in the first five levels as per the STATS requirements.

In order to qualify as Limited Services, communities must meet all criteria above or at least the criteria in (a and c) or (b and c). Funding is allocated for both Structured Programmes and Discretionary Projects being implemented in Communities with Limited Services

4. FUNDING PRINCIPLES

Donations to organisations/beneficiaries is guided by the following principles:

4.1 Organisations

- Organisations must be well established, being in existence for 3 years or more;
- Organisations must be formally registered, with 18A donation status;
- Organisations must have clearly defined objectives, beneficiaries, implementation plans and budgets;
- Organisations must implement projects that are aligned to the Concor SED programme focus areas, strategies and principles outlined in this guideline;
- Organisations must demonstrate support for and alignment to either national, provincial or local community development imperatives;
- Organisations must provide information about past and present donors;
- Organisations must have a varied donor base and demonstrate the potential to become self-sustaining over time; and
- Organisations must have established monitoring & evaluation, reporting and financial systems in place.

4.2 Beneficiaries

The following beneficiary groupings will receive priority consideration:

- Black people as defined in the B-BBEE Codes of Good Practice;
- Women, children and people living with disabilities;
- Schools, institutions and community groups as opposed to individuals.
- Communities where we have operations;
- Communities where there is significant representation of our labour force; and
- Communities with limited services.

In keeping with the DTI Codes of Good Practice, 75% of the annual SED budget will be allocated to Black beneficiaries residing in disadvantaged communities.

5. SELECTION CRITERIA

Donation requests are reviewed and approved by the Concor SED Committee. Meetings are held quarterly, in line with our financial year and internal reporting cycle. Funding is prioritized for the following (or similar) projects within the context of our approved focus areas, and in alignment with the BEE Commission's definition of Socio-economic Development.

- Equipment, furniture and other resources in support of orphans, child-headed households; children in distress; children in residential care, children with disabilities and children with terminal illnesses;
- Nutrition and food security support programmes;
- Training and/or capacity building for ECD practitioners, educators and academic staff;
- Curriculum development and implementation;
- Development and/or procurement of teaching and learning materials;
- Learner tuition/academic support programmes;
- Systemic, school/education improvement projects; and
- Research projects aimed at innovation and advancement within education, skills development, engineering and the built environment.

Concor does not consider funding for:

- Organisations/projects that are not aligned to the SED strategy and focus areas;
- Large infrastructure development, building projects and renovations;
- Bursaries or sponsorship for individuals not associated with a partner organization;
- Individuals or groups acting in their personal capacity and for financial gain;
- Events and related costs e.g. sports days, festivals, workshops etc.;
- Travel and accommodation costs related to events, conferences, tours etc.;
- Commercial sponsorship/marketing opportunities;
- Political parties; and
- Profit-making organisations.

6. FUNDING ALLOCATION GUIDELINES

The SED budget is developed annually, taking into account company performance as indicated by relevant industry benchmarks. To maximize the reach and impact of the annual budget, there are limitations on the funding allocations for each approved donation, as follows:

Focus Area	Funding Allocation
Structured Programmes	R50 000 – R300 000 per organization, per annum
Discretionary Projects	R5 000 – R50 000 per organization, per annum
Sikhulisa Fund	R5 000 – R15 000 per organisation

Approved partner organisations can receive funding allocations on a once-off basis, or over a number of years, however not exceeding three consecutive years.

7. APPLICATION FORM

The funding application form is available on the Concor website and from the Concor SED department.

8. GENERAL INFORMATION

8.1 Financial year

Our financial year runs from 1 March to 28 February annually.

8.2 Funding application cycle

SED applications/donations are accepted and reviewed throughout the year, unless the budget for a specific financial year is already fully committed.

Applicants are advised to visit the Concor website (www.concor.co.za) for notices relating to funding application cycles.

9. CONTACT INFORMATION

Telephone: +27 11 590 5500

e-Mail: sed.csi@concor.co.za

Web: www.concor.co.za/sustainability/transformation-skills-development-sed/#sed

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