Connecting Today. Creating Tomorrow.

**ACCELERATE 2030**

 **What is the Accelerate2030?**

UNDP and the Impact Hub Geneva are joining forces to set up the Accelerate2030 Platform aimed at supporting and promoting the most promising social ventures whose projects focus on one or several of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**2016 Edition - Social Good Summit, Geneva**

Through the Accelerate2030 platform, UNDP and the Impact Hub will scout for the best impact-driven projects across the Impact Hub networkand select the 5 most promising enterprises to be showcased at the Social Good Summit (SGS) in Geneva on 6th October, 2016. During the SGS we will provide a stage for these impact-driven enterprises to showcase their achievements and explore opportunities for expansion and scaling of their solutions. Participating entrepreneurs will get an exposure to the international community based in Geneva, including international organizations, impact investors, corporates and entrepreneurs concerned with the SDGs.

By showcasing innovative projects that contribute towards the SDGs, we aim to promote the role that impact-driven entrepreneurs can play to achieve the 17 SDGs and inspire the wider entrepreneurship communities to invest their talent for the global goals.

**Key dates:**

Launch of outreach campaign: July 15, 2016

Deadline for nominating local finalists: September 5, 2016

Social Good Summit in Geneva: October 6, 2016

**Eligibility and Participation**

In order to take part in the Accelerate2030, interested impact-driven enterprises need to fulfill the following entry criteria:

● The venture exists for at least 2 years

● The venture works on projects that deliver social impact and are clearly connected to one or more of the SDGs

● Enterprises should have carried out some pilot or testing work and have achieved a few paying customers before applying

● The business solution has a strong potential for global scaling and replicability

Social entrepreneurs participating do not need to be affiliated to the Impact Hub network but will submit an entry through their national Impact Hub. In the first 2016 Edition approximately 5 Impact Hubs from the “Global South” will be involved in order to identify the most promising high-impact-potential ventures. The local impact hubs will leverage their local networks to reach and source the best ventures not only from their own Impact Hub member communities, but also beyond.

**Selection**

Each participating national Impact Hub will review all received entries and assess the projects based on a set of criteria focusing on innovation, sustainability, team, potential for scaling and socio-economic and environmental impact and replicability in other contexts. Each Hub will nominate the best 3 projects at the national level. A steering committee will be set up in Geneva in order to select the best 5 projects to be invited to present their projects during the SGS 2016.

**What’s in it for social entrepreneurs**

* International exposure
* Access to the international community concerned with the SDGs
* Opportunity to explore the possibilities for international scaling
* Connections to impact investors
* Match-making and networking opportunities

**Partnership benefits**

* Access to impact-driven ventures working on the SDGs
* Participation in the jury for selection of the ventures
* Strengthening your presence in the social innovation and startup scene
* Employee engagement with innovative start-ups