

Expression of Interest
Build Back Better Social Business Support Program
for German Social Businesses

The European Union is funding programmes in Germany through the Federal Ministry of Economics and Climate Protection (BMWK) as part of the Union's response to the COVID 19 pandemic, financed from the Reconstruction Aid for Cohesion and Areas of Europe (REACT-EU) within the framework of NextGenerationEU.

The programme specifically funds individually delivered consultancy services and support measures on economic, financial, digital and organisational management issues for social businesses. [Yunus Environment Hub \(YEH\)](#) will be providing consultancy services through the [REACT with Impact Programme](#) and is looking for social businesses (SMEs and start-ups) working in the climate and environmental sector in need of such consultancy services. Our focus at YEH is to provide individualized expertise for the businesses' needs by engaging our social business and circular economy consultants to provide in-depth expertise in social business diagnostics, market assessment as well as circular strategy opportunity mapping. YEH has a proven track record of supporting social businesses in the "circularisation" of their business models, including analysis, solution development, piloting and implementation to make their operations more sustainable, increase incomes and create green jobs. Through the REACT with Impact Programme, funding for 10-35 days of consultancy services can be provided.

Eligibility criteria:

- Meet the criteria of the [EU SME definition and the "Social Business Initiative" of the European Commission](#).
- Have their registered office and business operations or a branch office in Germany.
- Be permanently economically active on the market (no side-line activity)
- Have generated at least 50% of their income on the market in the past business years and this income has not come from benefits from subsidises under the German Social Code (Sozialgesetzbuch (SGB)) (evidence must be provided in the form of annual financial statements or equivalent for the past two years).
- Address at least one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations in a comprehensible way and focus on solving an environmental issue.
- Present their social impact to date and corresponding impact goals for the future in a quantitatively and qualitatively comprehensible manner.
- Foundation: The date of business registration and entry in the commercial register (Handelsregister) or the register of associations (Vereinsregister) is considered the date of foundation.
- For social SMEs: Foundation must have taken place before the second quarter of 2020.
- For social start-ups, the foundation must have taken place after the third quarter of 2017 and before the second quarter of 2020.

If your social business meets the criteria and you wish to participate in the programme, please fill out the [following form](#) until **1 August 2023**.



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Shortlisted applicants will be invited for an interview to align on the consulting needs and scope. Thereafter, a joint application between the social business and YEH needs to be filed to BMWK. In the event of a successful application, the consultancy services can be used by the end of the current year.

If you have any questions, please contact us via e-mail at tenders@yunuseh.com.