

Welcoming participants to the EcoBiz Challenge workshop in Selayar, Indonesia
Photo: A Phelan



THE TOOL: Eco-Biz Challenge

WHAT KIND OF TOOL IS IT?

The *Eco-Biz Challenge* is business plan competition, including business skills training, to encourage businesses that are environmentally and socially sustainable.

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT PARTS TO IT?

- A business plan competition
- Business skills training
- A Facilitators' Kit containing all materials needed to deliver the competition and the business skills training (background, logistics, training and participants' materials)

WHAT DOES IT DO?

The *Eco-Biz Challenge* identifies local entrepreneurs and assists them in starting or expanding businesses that support the local economy, as well as ecosystem services. It expands the pool of local talent, knowledge and creativity to find and incubate eco-friendly business ideas, and boost enterprise development.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Applicants submit a business concept summary which outlines their proposed business idea. The idea must operate in the local area, employ local residents, and be environmentally sustainable. The top 25% applicants will be selected as semi-finalists and will receive a three-day business plan training course. The semi-finalists will then be required to submit a formal proposal. Winners are selected and receive a one-time equity grant to start or expand their business concepts and mitigate start-up risks.

WHEN IS IT USED?

The *Eco-Biz Challenge* is used when there is a need to encourage enterprise development and sustainable livelihoods to address economic and environmental challenges.

IN WHAT FORMAT IS IT AVAILABLE?

The Facilitators' Kit is presented as PowerPoint, Word and PDF files.

WHO IS THE TARGET END-USER?

- Local governments
- NGOs
- Chambers of commerce and industry
- Social-enterprise and private sector leaders
- Universities and institutes

WHAT USER SKILLS ARE REQUIRED?

People running the *Eco-Biz Challenge* should have facilitation skills, and introductory knowledge of business and economic theory.

WHERE DO YOU ACCESS THE TOOL?

The *Eco-Biz Challenge* is accessed via the CCRES website (www.ccre.net).

WHAT IS THE COST OF USING THE TOOL?

The *Eco-Biz Challenge* is available free of charge, under the user agreement and stated terms and conditions (see www.ccre.net/terms).

IS TECHNICAL TRAINING OR SUPPORT REQUIRED?

No.

