



Capacity-Building
& Knowledge Sharing
for Small and Medium
Organizations (SMO)

Introduction Webinar

21 August 2019

Presentation Outline

- Introduction to the Spur Change Program
- Context and Rationale for the Program
- Program Eligibility
- Program Objectives
 - Increase Effectiveness of SMOS
 - Increase Engagement of SMOs
 - Increase Engagement of Canadians, Especially Youth
- Upcoming Events
- Questions

What is Spur Change?

The *Spur Change* program is a 5-year initiative, funded by Global Affairs Canada, aiming to increase the effectiveness of Canadian small and medium organizations (SMOs) to deliver sustainable results in support of the

Feminist International Assistance Policy and the **Sustainable Development Goals**.

The program is managed by the Alberta Council for Global Cooperation on behalf of the Inter-Council Network.

<http://icn-rcc.ca>

<https://acgc.ca/updatesnews/spur-change-program/>



Context and Rationale for SMO Support

Small and Medium-Sized Canadian Civil Society Organizations as Development Actors: A Review of Evidence



A study conducted on behalf of the Inter-Council Network of Provincial and Regional Councils for International Cooperation (ICN)

inter-council
network
Council & Regional Councils
for International Cooperation



Brian Tomlinson
AidWatch Canada
April 2016

- SMOs raise significant resources for development cooperation
- SMOs are the main avenue to reach Canadians with an SMO direct presence in many cities and communities across Canada
- Small and medium organizations were dramatically affected by the change towards an exclusive call-for-proposal funding mechanism in CIDA in 2010.
- SMOs are strongly represented in the 25 priority countries for Canadian ODA

[Link to the SMO Study](#)



\$100 million for Small and Medium Organizations



The Development Impact Window: Call for Proposals

Fund for thematic programming by SMOs

https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/funding-financement/smo_call-2019-appel_pmo.aspx?lang=eng

The Fund for Innovation and Transformation (FIT)

The Innovation Window will invest in the testing of new or improved innovative solutions to global development challenges. www.fit-fit.ca

The Spur Change Program

Spur Change is a 5 year Capacity Building and Knowledge-sharing program for SMOs



Small and Medium Organizations

1. The consolidated revenue in the organization's financial statements is equal to or less than \$10 million (this limitation does not apply to educational institutions)
2. The organization does not have annual overseas expenditures exceeding \$2 million in development assistance (i.e. projects administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as their main objective - regardless of the funding source)
3. SMOs can be civil society organizations, education institutions, private sector or social enterprises
4. SMOs must be legally incorporated in Canada

[See more details at Global Affairs Canada](#)

Objectives

The Spur Change program aims to increase the effectiveness of Canadian and local SMOs to deliver sustainable results in support of the Feminist International Assistance Policy (FIAP) and the SDGs



Goals

- Increase the effectiveness of Canadian SMOs to deliver sustainable results
- Increase the engagement of Canadian SMOs in international development
- Increase the engagement of Canadians, particularly youth, as global citizens in support of the FIAP and the SDGs.

Increasing Effectiveness of SMOs

Needs Assessment

- **Timeline:** Fall 2019
- **Participants:**
 - SMOs in General
 - SMOs funded through the Impact Window and FIT
- **Methods:**
 - Online Surveys
 - Roundtables
 - Review of Council surveys
 - Review of similar initiatives

Learning Initiatives

- Training Workshops
- Online Courses and Webinars
- Action Learning
- Coaching and Mentoring
- Technical Assistance
- Communities of Practice

Increasing Engagement of SMOs

- Promote and support knowledge exchange and sharing of best practices
- Tour for Southern Development leaders
- Cohort of development experts
- Annual SMO Conference

Edmonton, November 20 – 22 , 2019

- Annual SMO reports

Increasing Engagement of Canadians

- Support SMOs in their public engagement with and through youth and schools / educators / students
- Support educators wishing to learn more about global issues, development work, and particularly how to inspire and teach students about these issues through the framework of the SDGs and the principles of the FIAP
- Support youth by providing them with training, national and international peer support network, opportunities to practice public engagement

Youth Champions Program

Starting in Spring 2020, Spur Change will invite SMOs in every region to nominate either a national or international youth who had been working with them.

Youth will

- Receive **subject matter training** on global issues (feminist approach, the SDGs), and **skills training** in public engagement, storytelling, advocacy, etc...
- **Build networks** for sharing and learning from other youth from across Canada
- **Engage** with their communities on the Sustainable Development Goals
- *International Youth* will have the opportunity to travel to Canada and **engage with their peers on issues important to their communities**

Youth Champions Program *cont.*

SMOs will

- Increase the capacity of youth associated with their organization
- Have an international youth associated with their organization come to Canada to conduct public engagement activities
- Benefit from the experience of other SMOs

Youth from different SMOs will be working together either in pairs or as part of a national cohort

Support for Educators

Programming for educators includes

- Providing a national catalogue of resources with a database of resources that have been vetted for relevance and usability.
- Inviting and subsidizing teachers to participate in the annual conference for SMOs, where they will be offered parallel workshops specifically for teachers, on how to engage their students in the subject matter of the conference.

Support for Educators *cont.*

SMOs will

- Develop their relationships with educators and schools
- Learn how best to engage students and teachers
- Pursue opportunities for collaboration

Upcoming Events

Activities	Dates
SMO needs assessment: Online survey	September - October
SMO needs assessment: Roundtables	Alberta : 12 September Saskatchewan : 14 September Ontario : 18 September
Selection of Southern Leader	September
Training workshops on FIAP	October - November
Annual SMO Conference in Edmonton	20 - 22 November
Training workshop on SDGs	February - March 2020
Annual SMO Report	April 2020

Questions

How can we learn about and participate in upcoming training opportunities ?

- Sign-up to Spur Change ListServ
- Connect with your Provincial or Regional Council for International Cooperation
- Connect with the Inter-Council Network

Questions

Will Spur Change provide financial support for SMOs to participate at the annual conference ?

- Spur Change will provide 45 SMOs with funding to participate at the annual conference.
- There will be SMO representation from across Canada.
- Invitations will be sent out to SMOs in September, and will include eligibility criteria and application for financial support.

Questions

Are we eligible to benefit from Spur Change programming if we are not members of a provincial or regional Council for international cooperation?

- Yes
- All Canadian SMOs meeting the definition applied, will be eligible to participate.

We do encourage you however to engage with your local Councils as they offer many more opportunities for training, networking and consultation beyond Spur Change.



Program undertaken with the financial support of the
Government of Canada provided through Global Affairs Canada.



Questions

Will Spur Change provide funding for development projects ?

- No
- Spur Change is a capacity-building program.
- Activities will be subsidized for SMOs at a no or low cost to participating organizations.

Questions

Our organization is being funded by Global Affairs Canada through the Development Impact window of the pilot initiative for SMOs.

Can Spur Change provide us with project specific support, such as with the Project Implementation Plan ?

- No
- Spur Change will provide general capacity-building initiatives to address needs identified through the Needs Assessment process.
- It will address emerging needs identified throughout the project cycle.

Questions



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Contact Information

SMOs

Website <http://icn-rcc.ca/opportunities/spur-change-program/>

Sign up at www.acgc.ca/spurchase/registration

Email spurchase@icn-rcc.ca

Educators / Youth

education.spurchase@icn-rcc.ca

Youth.spurchase@icn-rcc.ca



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