

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the ESEA Malawi 2025 Programme?

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ESEA Malawi 2025, is an accelerator programme which has been designed to support high growth startups in renewable energy, food security and climate adaptation. The programme is being implemented in 5 countries: Malawi, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique and Ghana. It provides mentorship, training, access to funding opportunities to help entrepreneurs scale their businesses.

Who can apply?

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Startups operating within the thematic areas - Renewable Energy, Food Security or Climate adaptation. They should exhibit potential for growth, commitment to sustainability and willingness to engage in the projects activities including Training and coaching.

Does my business need to be based in Malawi?

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Yes, the program primarily targets startups operating in Malawi, though partnerships with regional startups may be considered.

How many Startups are going to benefit from the programme?

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We are looking to support 100 startups. 30 will be selected to participate in intensive investment readiness acceleration programme

What are the benefits for participating?

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- Training in investment readiness and business growth
- Mentorship from industry experts
- Linkages to investors through networking
- Access to funding through peer-selected re-grants

What is the peer-selected re-grant process?

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During the program, startups will participate in a peer selection process where they evaluate and vote on which businesses should receive funding. Four startups will receive grants of \$25,000 each.

Frequently Asked Questions

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Will participating startups receive direct funding?

Will participating startups receive direct funding? While funding is not guaranteed, the program offers access to investors and capital opportunities, including the peer-selected re-grants and connections to funding partners.

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Is there a fee for participation?

No. The programme is fully funded. All we need is commitment from you to participate in all programmes activities.

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How long is the programme?

The programme runs from 2025-June 2026 with different phases including pre-acceleration and investment readiness

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How do I apply?

Fill out the Expression of Interest Google Form <https://short-link.me/PJ4N> or scan the QR Code 

Note: Email applications, mail applications will not be accepted.



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Will the program be in-person or virtual?

The programme will have both components. However, a majority of the sessions will be conducted virtually.

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Who is funding the programme?

The program is funded by NORAD (Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation). In Malawi it is being Implemented by Emerge Livelihoods in partnership with VilCap (Village Capital) and other ecosystem stakeholders, including investors, enterprise support organizations and development partners.