

UK: International Sustainable Development Fund (ISDF – previously known as WIF)

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For further info see: <http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/international/implementation-fund/index.htm>

Fund overview:

Following the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg in August 2002, the UK Government formed the WSSD Implementation Fund (WIF), to accelerate implementation of commitments made at the WSSD. Defra lead on the fund, along with input from key Government partners to support previously unfunded cross government activities, seen as key to achieving the much-touted WSSD call for a step change from rhetoric to action. The WIF has since been merged with the Environment for Europe (EfE) fund into the **International Sustainable Development Fund (ISDF)**. WIF was a key funding source for delivery of the UK's WSSD commitments, and the ISDF will continue to fulfil this role.

The Fund focuses on initiatives in three key areas:

- Establishing high level sustainable development dialogues (SDDs) with rapidly developing countries (India, China, Brazil, South Africa and Mexico).
- Using and promoting multi-stakeholder partnerships as a means of implementation.
- Identifying opportunities to accelerate delivery of WSSD commitments on which Defra leads (oceans, fisheries, biodiversity, chemicals, agriculture and sustainable consumption and production).

The fund is used to build on and complement existing activities encouraging further activity to accelerate delivery.

The fund is not publicly advertised to invite bids directly to the ISDF team. However, it is used to support a strategic approach to sustainable development engagement in each country, through government partners.

The total budget for this fund in 2006/07 was £2.2m.

Match funding is encouraged. Disbursements are made at regular milestones – 10% of the award is normally held back until completion of the project.

Results and impacts:

There are currently six biodiversity projects funded under the WIF, that have collectively been awarded over £350,000 since 2006 (nb. This only refers to funding awarded to projects on biodiversity and oceans, not to fisheries, chemicals, agriculture and Sustainable Consumption and Production).

Basic fund information:

Operational since: 2006

Total income (mil US\$):

2006: £2.2m for WIF in total – over £350,000 awarded to projects focussing on biodiversity and oceans.