

Funding Opportunity Title

CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE PCIEERD WHWise PROGRAM

(**W**omen-**H**elping-**W**omen: **I**nnovating **S**ocial **E**nterprises)

(FOR 2024-2025 FUNDING)

Key information

Type of funding	Grant
Funding Agency	DOST-Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology (DOST-PCIEERD)
Add link to start the application	DOST Project Management Information System (DPMIS): http://dpmis.dost.gov.ph

Timeline

Event	Date	Time
Opening date	June 1, 2024	8:00 A.M.
Closing date	June 11, 2024	5:00 P.M.
Evaluation Period	June 13 – July 10, 2024 (20 Working Days)	
Start of projects	September 2024	

Overview

In 2021, Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (PCIEERD) launched the **Women-Helping-Women: Innovating**

Social Enterprises (WHWise) Program to support social entrepreneurs and benefit more communities.

The WHWise program consist of two (2) components: (i) customized incubation led by MSU-IIT IDEYA TBI, UP Mindanao UPGRADE TBI, and Miriam College TBI and (ii) support for Women-led Social Enterprises (SE) that require assistance in acquiring technology, research & development, technical assistance, and mentoring. The PCIEERD approved a total of 15 women-led social enterprises for 2021-2022 from eleven (11) different provinces.

During the program implementation, there are problems identified by the partner institution such as:

1. Most applicants are not fit & prepared to execute projects
2. The technology proposed are not aligned with the business model
3. Community is not yet ready to use the proposed technology resulting to limited impact
4. Equipment proposed are not matched with their actual needs
5. Inability to reach more social enterprises
6. The evaluation criteria used was unable to screen applicant fit & technology fit for the program

Given the abovementioned situation, the Council adopted the recommendations during the conduct of the program assessment. PCIEERD partnered with DOST Regional Offices for the execution of the Regional Search and launched the WHWise National Innovation Challenger: Search for Innovative Social Enterprises in the Regions.

Forty-five (45) women-led social enterprises showcased their products, services, and its community to the National Innovation Challenge wherein twenty (20) social enterprises received an award and shall be invited to submit proposals for the 2024 call. These enterprises were prepared beforehand to ensure that the DOST assistance and technologies provided are aligned with the need of the community as well as their current business models and goals.

Opportunity summary

The Philippine Council for Industry, Energy, and Emerging Technology Research and Development (PCIEERD) is announcing the opening of the WHWise Call for Proposals to all qualified applicants and awardees of the WHWise Innovation Challenge: The Search for Innovative Women Entrepreneurs in the Regions.

The Full-Blown Proposal should fall within the following categories to qualify as a research and development project:

- **Requires specific technical assistance in refining their product/service** - This shall include programs/projects that provides specific technical expertise in redesigning the minimum viable product for the social enterprise. The output of this assistance shall be the improved product or services ready for validation.
- **Entails research & development assistance in improving their prototype into a market-ready product** - This shall include programs/projects that provide research & development support on developing the minimum viable product for the social enterprises. The output of this assistance shall be marketable and validated products or services. Enterprises with early-stage prototypes that require assistance in product improvement, market testing, data gathering, market validation, business modelling, IP protection and product certification are also welcome to apply.
- **In need for a specific technology** – This shall include programs/projects that guide, capacitate, and provide support to the social enterprise and its community.

The PCIEERD shall provide support to women-led social enterprises for **12 months up to Php5M funding assistance.**

The criteria that shall be used for selecting enterprises are as follows:

1. Should be part of the **Top 20 Awardees** during the WHWise National Innovation Challenge
2. Project Leader should be a woman entrepreneur who is a founder, co-founder, or president of a social enterprise
3. Legally registered (DTI or SEC registered) for at least 1 year (but not more than 7 years)
4. Should be a community-based enterprise (provides clear description of the community)
5. The proposed site of project implementation should be accessible by the community
6. An enterprise which is investable but needs technical assistance in improving or utilizing a technology

Who can apply

This call for proposal is open to all women-led social enterprises with the following qualifications:

- An enterprise that is part of the Top 20 Awardee.
- An enterprise that is led by a woman entrepreneur.

- A social enterprise that directly helps a community. A description of the community and the services, products and assistance to a specific community should be elaborated in the application.
- Has a need for a specific technology, requires research and development assistance, technical assistance on a specific area or expertise in a certain area. Details of what is needed should be elaborated in the application.

What we're looking for

We're looking for women-led social enterprises that require assistance in acquiring technology, research & development, and technical assistance. The proposal or fund assistance being requested should aim to:

- Overcome technology or technical roadblocks
- Establish initial market traction
- Refine the business model
- Prepare Business Continuity Plan
- Assist and capacitate the current community being assisted

How to apply

Step 1: Prepare a Full-Blown Proposal containing the following:

1. Title of the proposed project
2. Duration of the proposed project
3. Description of the social enterprise and the community
4. Description of the product and value proposition
5. Background of the enterprise and the development of the product/service
6. Description of the target market and size
7. Competitive advantage analysis using a comparative advantage table
8. IP status and protection, if applicable
9. Objective and scope of the proposed research
10. Methodology and expected outputs
11. Work plan or Gantt Chart of activities
12. Curriculum vitae of the project leader
13. Line-Item-Budget
14. Endorsement from the DOST Regional Office

Step 2: Submit the Full-Blown Proposal to the **DOST Project Management Information System (DPMIS)** through this link: <http://dpmis.dost.gov.ph> starting **June 1, 2024 to June 11, 2024.**

When submitting your application, please follow these steps:

1. Register and create an account in the DPMIS
2. Log in to your DPMIS account
3. Select Type of Proposal: PCIEERD GIA Program/Project (2024 Funding)
4. Select the Program: Women-Helping-Women: Innovating Social Enterprises
5. Select Classification: New Proposal

The following will automatically be disapproved:

- 1) **Proposals from organizations that are not qualified to submit during this Call;**
- 2) **Proposals submitted to any other call route/Council/s.**
- 3) **Proposals not submitted through DPMIS.**

Documents Required

As a summary, your application should include the following documents.

- 1) DOST Proposal Form
- 2) Supplementary Files
 - Workplan
 - Gender and Development (GAD) Score Sheet
 - Proposed Line-item Budget

No additional attachments are permitted.

How we will assess your application

A. Review and Selection Process

Proposals shall be evaluated according to a set of criteria for each level of evaluation: Division Level, PCIEERD Management Team (PMT) level, Technical Panel (TP) level, Governing Council (GC) level, and the DOST Executive Committee (EXECOM) level (for proposals for DOST GIA funding) as shown below. Applicants should directly and explicitly address these criteria as part of their proposal submission.

The project proposal shall be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Workability/Technical Viability
 - Technical soundness of the technology based on existing scientific and technological principles

2. Maturity of the technology
Features of the product over existing product or process with the same functions and/or contribution to the advancement of science and technology
3. Social and Environmental Impacts
Employment generation from the product/service
No potentially irreversible immediate and long-term hazards/ consequences on the environment as well as in health and safety
4. Commercial Viability
Competitiveness of the technology over existing product or process in the market
Market potential of the technology
5. Management Capability
Technical and managerial capacity of the proponent demonstrates a competent and experienced leadership
Availability of competent and reliable workforce and facilities
6. Manageable Timeframe
Appropriate workplan to execute the proposed program design

Contact

DOST-PCIEERD Project Managers are available to provide appropriate assistance to potential applicants interested in competing for this Call for Proposals. This may include assistance to potential applicants in determining eligibility of the applicant or the applicant's proposed project for funding, questions about administrative issues relating to the submission of a proposal, and clarifications on the announcement.

Contacts:

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Additional information

[PCIEERD Eligibility Criteria Checklist](#)
[PCIEERD Technical Panel \(TP\) Evaluation Criteria/Score sheet](#)
[PCIEERD Management Team \(PMT\) Evaluation Criteria/Score sheet](#)
[PCIEERD Governing Council \(GC\) Criteria/Score sheet](#)

List any supporting documents you will provide

References for PCIEERD-supported projects:
<http://projects.pcieerd.dost.gov.ph/>
<https://pcieerd.dost.gov.ph/library/annual-reports>
<https://pcieerd.dost.gov.ph/supported-programs-projects/supported-programs-and-projects/on-going-projects>
<https://pcieerd.dost.gov.ph/supported-programs-projects/supported-programs-and-projects/completed-projects>
<https://pcieerd.dost.gov.ph/news/latest-news/419-dost-pcieerd-to-support-women-social-entrepreneurs>

List any related content links

AO 011 series of 2020 Revised Guidelines for the [Grants-in-aid Program of the Department of Science and Technology and its Agencies](#)

AO 005 Series of 2021 Implementing Guidelines for the Startup Grant Fund of the DOST
<https://pcieerd.dost.gov.ph/images/eforms/2021/Signed-SGF-Guidelines.pdf>