

# EMRC – Rabobank Project Incubator Award

Rules & Regulations  
AgriBusiness Forum 2009  
14 - 17 June 2009, Cape Town, South Africa

## 1. EMRC - RABOBANK PROJECT INCUBATOR AWARD – 15.000 USD

To encourage development, innovation and entrepreneurship in the agro-food sector in Africa, EMRC and Rabobank will present the "EMRC – Rabobank Project Incubator Award" (**US\$ 15.000**) to the project with the most effective economic and social impact on rural communities in Africa during the EMRC AgriBusiness Forum (Cape Town, 14 - 17 June 2009). **Two additional awards** have been added for a lower amount to encourage SMEs development and trade.

The winner will receive **US\$ 15.000** and the possibility of having a solid financial partner for his project.

## 2. WHO CAN APPLY FOR THE EMRC - RABOBANK PROJECT INCUBATOR AWARD?

### Project Profile / Selection Criteria:

- Application is open exclusively to participants of the AgriBusiness Forum 2009
- The project needs to be implemented in Africa
- At least one partner of the project must come from Africa (there are no gender or age requirements)
- The contest is open to all sectors of economic activity related to agri-food
- The project should contribute to the development of the local community
- The project spokesperson should have good communication skills

## 3. SELECTION PROCESS

- Candidates are invited to submit the application documents (application form and presentation), with their complete contact details to: [cg@emrc.be](mailto:cg@emrc.be) or fax: +32 2 626 1516 by the **10<sup>th</sup> of May 2009**. After pre-selection, the Committee will announce the names and projects of candidates, and publish them in the international media. The nominees will be personally informed.
- The pre-selected candidates will present their projects during the plenary session to an audience of potential partners and investors from Africa, Europe, the USA and beyond.
- During the Gala Evening the winner will receive the **US\$ 15.000 Award**.

## 4. MILESTONES - PROJECT INCUBATOR AWARD

During the AgriBusiness Forum 2008 (June 08 – Rome, FAO), EMRC introduced the "Project Incubator Award" to encourage African entrepreneurs to present viable projects. During the presentation of the award, Pierre van Hedel, Managing Director of the Rabobank Foundation confirmed Rabobank's support and the **EMRC-Rabobank Project Incubator Award** was born. At the Africa Finance & Investment Forum 2008 (Dec. 08 – Paris) the **EMRC-Rabobank Award** was US\$ 10.000 and a secondary award was added. For the next edition of the award, Rabobank has raised the prize to **US\$ 15.000** and there will be two runner-up awards.

In **June 2008, at the AgriBusiness Forum**, the winner was "Rwanda Coffee", presented by Adries & Michelle of CGIS-NUR, a training & research centre at the National University of Rwanda, that promotes knowledge and research in the field of satellite data and technologies related to Geographical Information Systems (GIS), aimed at improving the management of Rwanda's resources while contributing to local, regional, environmental and social development.

In **December 2008 at EMRC's Africa Finance & Investment Forum**, the Award was presented to Augustin Yemene of **MUPECI**, a microfinance institution from Cameroon for their work with local women cooperatives. MUPECI helps the women get fertilisers and better soya seeds and the oil is sold to a local factory. A second runner-up Award was granted to **Mozdahir Energies Project**, presented by Alexandre de Carvalho, for the use of Jatropha as a bio energy source for rural development in South East Senegal.



Left: *Project Incubator winners at AFIF 2008 in Paris: Augustin Yemene of Mupeci & Alexandre de Carvalho of Mozdahir with Pierre van Hedel & Idit Miller, EMRC*

Right: *Project Incubator winners at the AgriBusiness Forum 2008, FAO: Adries Mukashema & Michelle Shillina of CGIS. Rwanda*

## 5. ABOUT THE PROMOTERS

### EMRC

An international association established in 1992 in Brussels, Belgium, EMRC promotes private sector development in Africa and encourages North-South economic relations through business events, economic missions, promotional publications, follow up projects and business development services. EMRC is a member organisation composed of a network of entrepreneurs, financiers, consultants and officials from some 100 countries worldwide.

### RABOBANK FOUNDATION

Committed to improving the lives of underprivileged and disadvantaged groups of people by providing them with the opportunity to live full and independent lives, Rabobank Foundation is active in the Netherlands and in developing countries. The support provided focuses on enabling the development of small co-operatives located in rural regions and is provided through donations, loans, trade financing and technical assistance. In line with Rabobank's own co-operative background, Rabobank Foundation focuses on establishing co-operative savings and loan systems with small farm holders and producer organisations.

### AgriBusiness Forum 2009 Empowering the Private Sector to Boost Productivity & Growth in Africa 14 – 17 June, Cape Town, South Africa



EMRC will hold its first **AgriBusiness Forum** in Africa in partnership with the **Agricultural Business Chamber of South Africa, FAO & Rabobank**. The forum will look at the food crisis as an opportunity to increase production, in order to reverse the decades-long decline in investment in agriculture and secure a sustainable future for African food supplies. With the support of multinationals, research institutes, experts and donors, AgriBusiness Forum 2009 will present financing opportunities and discuss best practices. On-going projects and partnership ideas will be discussed during plenary sessions, workshops and one-on-one meetings.

The selected candidates for the **EMRC-RABOBANK Project Incubator Award** will present their projects on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> of June to an interested audience from Africa, USA, Europe and beyond. The winners will be announced during the **Gala Evening – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June** - in the presence of government officials, ambassadors, media and the business community. The winning project will receive **US\$ 15.000** from Rabobank.

We invite you to join our **AgriBusiness Forum 2009** and to actively contribute to the full integration of the African Continent in the world economy as a true key player, by introducing a project to the committee.

### Contacts for Application:

- **EMRC International**

Caterina Giuliano – Project Manager  
E-mail: [cg@emrc.be](mailto:cg@emrc.be) (candidates are required to send their applications by e-mail only)  
Tel:+32 2 626 1515 / 14 / 11 / Fax:+32 2 626 1516  
283 Avenue Louise,  
B-1050 Brussels, Belgium  
[www.emrc.be](http://www.emrc.be)