

Innovator-in-Residence

SELCO Foundation invites applications from innovators and inventors to participate in its Innovator-in-Residence program. The primary aim of the program is to foster the development of technical, financial and social innovations that offer solutions to pressing needs in the field of sustainable services for underserved communities.

What SELCO Foundation offers

SELCO Foundation is a non-profit that is committed to pioneering the utilization of decentralized sustainable energy as a catalyst for environmental, social and financial sustainability. These include ecosystem development in the areas of basic access to energy, health, education, livelihoods and healthy living environments.

What kinds of innovations is SELCO looking for?

The sustainable energy access or energy efficiency related innovations that SELCO Foundation is interested in nurturing can be categorized broadly under these buckets:

- a) Technical inventions: Inventions from scratch or technical ideas that are born from an exposure to specific problems encountered in the field.
- b) Financial and social innovations: New forms of financial products, including various types of ownership models at the enterprise and individual level.
- c) Repurposed Applications: Adopting existing financial products, social systems and technologies to new contexts addressing a different set of challenges and problems.
- d) Modifications: Modifying existing technologies to innovate new products.

Innovations must address pragmatically existing problems within underserved communities, while being empathetic and sensitive to the social and economic contexts of the target end-users.

Who can apply?

The Foundation would welcome new ideas from innovators from both informal and formal sectors. Applicants must demonstrate a strong interest and ownership in development of the proposed intervention: be in technology, financial or social solution

At what stage should you get in touch?

Innovators can get in touch at different stages – at the inception stage, or after they have developed prototypes that can benefit from technological or social expertise that SELCO Foundation can offer.

How will the innovation be used?

SELCO Foundation will provide resources and infrastructure to implement the idea through to its prototyping and field testing stage. As an open-source implementation entity, SELCO Foundation will provide exposure for scale up and replication.

Application Details:

Eligibility: Open to all innovators, technical training is not a necessity.

Timeline: 3 to 9 months (or more, depending on nature of project)

Funding: Living wage (depending on geographical location), as well as funding for early stage prototyping and proof of concept.

Application: Rolling applications. In order to apply please send your CV, a small write up of the proposed project to info@selcofoundation.org