

Applications for 2021 SAB Foundation Social Innovation Awards open

Applications are open for the 2021 SAB Foundation Social Innovation Awards and Disability Empowerment Awards. The awards aim to help empower innovative entrepreneurs develop products and services that help the country's most vulnerable communities.



Online applications close on 31 March 2021. Only applications submitted on the [SAB Foundation portal](#) are being accepted. Prizes range from between R200,000 and R1.3m and are used as an investment towards the innovation or business. In addition, each award winner also qualifies to receive business coaching and technical support.

Solving social problems

The Social Innovation Awards are aimed at innovators, social entrepreneurs, institutions and social enterprises with prototypes or early-stage businesses that can solve social problems. These products, services, business models and processes should directly address the challenges faced by low-income women, youth, people living with disabilities, or people living in rural areas.



10th Annual Social Innovation Awards winners announced

10 Feb 2021



The Disability Empowerment Awards seek and award social enterprises that have come up with innovative solutions that improve access to the economy and/or solutions for people living with disabilities, while generating enough revenue to become sustainable over time. People with disabilities in South Africa face a number of social and economic barriers and currently the unemployment rate stands at over 70%.



Driving change, improving lives

“Over the years, we have seen entrepreneurs who had barely more than an idea when they started with us, go on to reach national and even international significance in addressing complex social problems in efficient and sustainable ways. With the world being where it is right now, we are excited to see what emerges through this application process. We always look forward to seeing the new innovations that emerge each year,” says Bridgit Evans, SAB Foundation director.

“These awards give us the opportunity to meet so many talented social innovators who are really eager and enthusiastic to drive change and improve the lives of people in their communities and beyond,” says Ntandokazi Nodada, social innovation specialist at the SAB Foundation.



To date, over R92m has been deployed in grant funding and business support, to support 139 social innovators.

“Previous award-winning innovations have improved efficiency and affordability in many areas including housing, healthcare, agriculture, nutrition, transport, education and have come up with viable solutions to support people living with disabilities. We are looking forward to seeing the entries for this year and we believe that the 2021 innovations will bring about even bigger, positive changes in South Africa,” concludes Nodada.

For more information or to enter SAB Foundation Social Innovation and Disability Empowerment Awards, click [here](#).

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