

The Edith M Ellis 1985 Charitable Trust

Sona Tech C.I.C.

#K25RZWYVBJ submitted on 12 October 2021

1.1 Please summarise what you are seeking from us

We are seeking funding of £5,000 to further develop the Sona Sustainability Credit Score System (SSCSS) which is a credit score system based on sustainability issues, which is used as a criteria to improve financial institutions' lending practises.

1.2 Tell us more about your project and the impact it will have

Sona sustainability credit score system is a credit score system based on sustainability issues used as a criteria to improve financial institutions lending practices which will have a major contribution to climate mitigation and unlocking greener investments.

This new form of credit score system has the potential to revolutionize current lending practices all over the world by insuring an increase focus on; economic growth, environmental protection, social progress, social-economic development, eco-efficiency, environmental development.

NEED/CHALLENGE

Market-driven greener investments are a necessary condition to mitigate climate change. Unlocking capital to greener investment would mean going beyond simple commitments to greener production and limiting the crowding out of investments in climate mitigation.

Banks are usually overlooked players in market-based solutions to climate change mitigation, but in many instances get to decide which kind of business economy receives funding or shall not be. Any significant change in bank behaviour that would emphasize environmental outcomes, e.g., lower interest rates or more access to lines of credit, could quickly propagate to millions of companies that rely on commercial banks to fund investments and operations (cost-effective climate mitigation).

SOLUTION

As a solution, we present a credit score system based on sustainability issues, which is used as criteria to improve financial institutions' lending policies. The Sona Sustainability Credit Score System (SSCSS) is based on the analytic hierarchy process methodology. Three different firm development paths are identified: business as usual, sustainable business, and future sustainable business.

The main goal of this project is to present a new way to incorporate sustainability into banking practices by focusing on a credit rating score system to improve financial institutions' lending policies. Many banks now use the Equator Principles (EPs) as a framework for assessing environmental and social risks into project finance, but few integrate sustainability into more widespread credit products.

WIDER IMPACT

As late as 2008, less than one-third of banks around the world published sustainability reports. Five years later almost all of them do. However, sustainability is still not a deciding factor in risk models by commercial banks.

We propose that developing a SSCSS can provide value creation for a bank and positive externalities to society. This could result in the development of credit strategies in which loans are given to companies investing in changing their business model toward a more sustainable one.

1.3 Which grant-giving categories does your project fulfil?

D - Climate change mitigation

1.3d Climate change mitigation

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1.4 Which country is the project based in?

United Kingdom (GB)

1.5 Will the project continue after initial funding has ended?

No

1.6 How will the project be monitored and evaluated?

Our activities are regularly reviewed and developed to support our core purpose. This is achieved through a fair balance of qualitative and quantitative techniques.

At a quantitative level, we review:

- the number of individuals subscribed to the platform
- the number of companies subscribed to the platform;
- the number of partners actively engaged with our approach.

2.1 Expenditure

EXPENDITURE ITEM	AMOUNT	NOTES
Computing / IT Costs	£10,800	This includes both hardware and software required including 4 laptops required for current and future team members, camera equipment and external hard drives.
Marketing Expenses	£13,800	This includes social media and direct marketing across social media, direct sales and marketing and strategic marketing avenues.
TOTALS	£24,600	

2.2 Income

INCOME SOURCE	TARGET AMOUNT	AMOUNT RAISED	NOTES
Subscription Revenue	£33,900	£0	
Grant Funding	£23,000	£0	
TOTALS	£56,900	£0	

2.3 What is the total amount (in £ sterling) your organisation is requesting from The Edith M Ellis Trust?

£5,000

2.4 Has your organisation made an application to The Edith M Ellis Trust before?

No

2.5 Please state your organisation's annual turnover (in £ sterling)

£56,260

2.6 Do you wish to upload your audited accounts or financial statement?

No

2.7 Please tell us where payment should be made if your application is successful

Sona Tech C.I.C.

50566016

602107

3.1 Your name

Onaseye Onabolu

3.2 Your contact telephone number

+447886105836

3.3 Your position within the organisation

Director

3.4 Your email address

seye.onabolu@sonacap.com

3.5 Organisation name

Sona Tech C.I.C.

3.6 Please state the status of your organisation

Social enterprise

3.7 Please summarise what your organisation does

Sona Tech C.I.C. is a non-profit social enterprise based in the UK which tackles some of the most important social issues being faced by the world at the moment. These include:

- Displacement and the refugee crisis
- Climate change
- Equality and integration

3.8 UK correspondence address for organisation

14 Dominion Walk

London

E149FN

3.9 UK telephone number

+447886105836

3.10 UK charity number (if applicable)

3.11 Year established

2017

3.12 Website (if applicable)

<http://www.sonaanalytics.com> (currently being developed)

3.13 Social media accounts (if applicable)

4.1 How did you hear about The Edith M Ellis Trust?

Internet