

# **BioSA Presentation**

## **Cape Town**

### **31<sup>st</sup> March 2008**

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# seda Legislative Mandate

1. Implement national government small business strategy.
2. Design and implement a standard and common national delivery network that must uniformly apply throughout the Republic in respect of small enterprise development, integrating all government funded small enterprise support agencies across all tiers of government.

*Section 10 of Act 29 of 2004*

# Support Provided by Seda

- § Non-Financial Services Support to industry
- § Handholding/mentorship and business improvement services
- § Assist companies accessing funding/support schemes for R&D
  - § **Innovation Fund**
  - § **Support Programme for Industrial Innovation (SPII)**
  - § **Government tax incentives (150% of R&D spend)**
  - § **Tax incentive for venture capitalists (budget 2008)**
- § Facilitation of B to B relationships
- § Part funding of Product certification costs (country standards, FDA approval etc.) and IP registration
- § Part funding of systems implementation costs (HACCP, ISO etc.)
- § General business support services (Financial,HR, Marketing etc.)

# Specialised Support by Seda

Through the Seda Technology Programme (STP)

STP fund and support the following incubators that relate to the Bio industry

- § Acorn (Life Sciences Incubator in Cape Town)
- § EgoliBio (Biotech Incubator in Johannesburg)
- § Chemin ( Chemical Incubator in Port Elizabeth)
- § Essential Oils (Incubator in Pretoria)
- § Other incubator/support for Biotech is LifeLab

Objectives of the Incubators

- § Enhance technological innovation
- § Increase accessibility to, and utility of, technologies and technical support for small enterprises
- § Facilitate the acquisition, development and transfer of technology to small enterprises, particularly those operating in the second economy

# Current Projects by Seda EC

Rejuvenate the innovation forum to facilitate the link between tertiary institutions and industry to promote commercialisation of research

## Current bio related projects

- § Propolis (from bee hives)

- § Mycorrhiza (fungi to promote plant growth)

- § Natural hand cream products for burn wounds

- § Grape seed extract (nutraceuticals)

- § Mosquito repellents using natural bush oil extracts (lipia javanica)

- § Aloe Ferrox extraction and value adding

- § Biopesticides

- § Various surgical instruments

The Bio industry is still an undeveloped sector in the economy, but initiatives are being put in place to promote Bio activities. Eg. Biopad (NEPAD initiative)

# Opportunities

Identification and commercialisation of applications for indigenous and other plant products

§ **African/Climbing Potato**

§ **Honey Bush Tea**

§ **Essential oils as mosquito repellents**

§ **Inulin from Chicory etc.**

- § The Eastern Cape has large tracks of unspoilt land that can easily be converted into organic growing areas for these indigenous plants.
- § Government's promotion of R&D and niche sector activities
- § The rands depreciation. Contract manufacturing?? 1 Euro = R12.8

# Thank You