



## Program for Knowledge Sharing & Capacity-Building

(2019-2024)

**For more information on the SPUR Change Program, please contact:**

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*CSMOs must be legally incorporated in Canada and can be civil society organizations, educational institutions, social enterprises or businesses that meet the following two criteria: a) have a consolidated revenue in financial statements must be equal to or less than \$10 million, and b) have an annual overseas expenditures cannot exceed \$2 million in overseas development assistance (ODA)*

### Who is this for?

The following individuals/organizations that are interested in international development:

- Small and Medium-Sized Civil Society Organizations<sup>1</sup>
- Educators
- Youth

In collaboration with the Provincial and Regional Councils, this program will be accessible across Canada and with service and resources in both official languages and in Spanish for Southern partners.

### What it will do for you

- Increase understanding and capacity in good, effective, and sustainable development practices.
- Provide knowledge and training on Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy, the Sustainable Development Goals, and particularly in gender equality.
- Support organizations in project and proposal development for accessing Government of Canada funding.
- Create linkages and opportunities for engagement and collaboration among international and national organizations working on international development.
- Share school resources for teaching and inspiring engagement on global issues.
- Provide teachers with opportunities to participate in annual conferences, exchange best practices, and engage with local civil society organizations working in international development.
- Provide youth with the experiences, tools and opportunities to serve as local and national leaders on the Sustainable Development Goals.



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## How will it do this

- **Capacity-Building Trainings and Workshops (in-person and online)**
- **An Annual Conference of local and international organizations with a stream of teacher-focused workshops**  
(Alberta 2019; Quebec 2020; Saskatchewan 2021; Ontario 2022; British Columbia 2023)
- **Annual Regional Tour of leading experts in key areas of sustainable development**
- **A National Educational Resource Catalogue for Educators**
- **Youth Champions Program**

## Background

The SPUR Change capacity-building program is part of a 5-year pilot initiative for Small and Medium Organizations for Impact and Innovation announced by the Minister of International Cooperation, in May 2017.

The initiative consists of three windows:

1. **The Fund for Development Impact (up to \$76 million) funds thematic programming by SMOs through calls for proposals led by Global Affairs Canada. A preliminary call for proposals was launched in November 2017. Twenty one organizations received funding. A second call for concept notes closed in July 2019.**
2. **The Fund for Innovation and Transformation (up to \$18 million) invests in innovative and effective solutions which have the potential to increase impact. The deadline for the first call for concepts was July 22, 2019. This window is managed by the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation on behalf of the Inter-Council Network of the Provincial and Regional Councils for International Cooperation (ICN).**
3. **The Spur Change program, which is managed by the Alberta Council for Global Cooperation (ACGC) on behalf of the ICN.**

## The Inter-Council Network

The Inter-Council Network (ICN) is a coalition of the eight Provincial and Regional Councils for International Cooperation. The independent Councils are committed to global sustainable development, social justice and social change. They are rooted in communities across Canada and represent nearly 350 diverse civil society organizations (CSOs) from across Canada. Council membership varies from locally based cultural community civil society organizations to highly recognizable international organizations.

Created in 2006 through a collective effort of the Councils, the ICN provides a national forum in which the Councils collaborate for improved effectiveness and identify common priorities for collective action to address key needs of the Canadian international cooperation and sustainable development community. The ICN itself partners with national networks and organizations to ensure public engagement activities reach communities from coast to coast to coast, while ensuring that its voice reflects the interests and values of Council members. It is recognized for bringing regional knowledge priorities to the national level. From 2007 the ICN has been supported by Government of Canada funding through Global Affairs Canada.

