

Promoting Inclusive Business in Asia-Pacific

To meet the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the private sector will need to play a greater role in supporting development objectives.

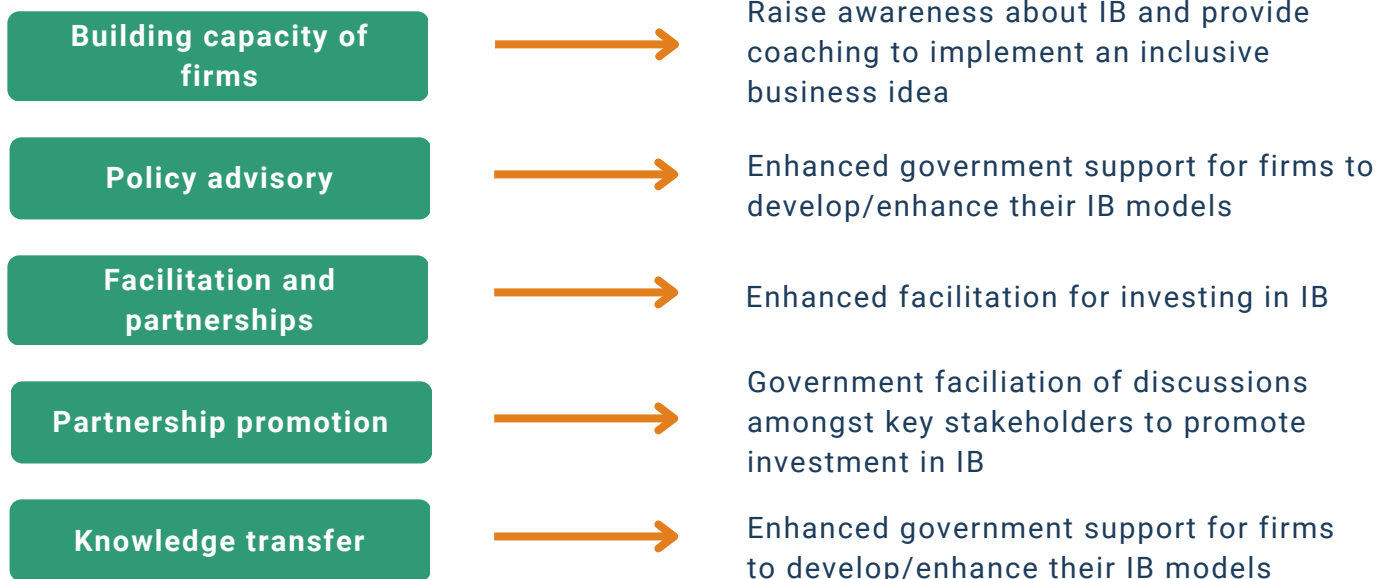
Inclusive businesses (IB) address development challenges and leave no one behind. In agriculture, IB addresses the needs of low-income smallholder farmers and creates value for them by underpinning global food and nutrition security, providing livelihoods for many of the poorest, and creating prosperity in rural areas.

Governments can encourage more inclusive businesses to emerge and thrive through policies that generate greater awareness of these business models, recognise and reward them with targeted incentives, and facilitate services and investments that enable firms to develop inclusive business models.

Regional Inclusive Business Models in Agriculture and Food Systems

ESCAP has partnered with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to promote Regional Inclusive Business Models in Agriculture and Food Systems by improving access to technologies, services, and platforms in India, Thailand and Viet Nam, as well as regionally. This project was launched in mid-2021 and will continue until July 2024.

Promoting IB models through 5 impact pathways:



What will the program achieve?

Small scale farmers will benefit from improved access to affordable inputs and services, technologies markets and finance, improving their livelihoods.

New investment business and investment opportunities will be identified, and firms will have enhanced branding and visibility.

Additional means for governments to support farmers through market based approaches that increase productivity and diversification.

IB facilitators and organizations supporting small scale farmers have additional means to promote inclusive business and support small scale farmers.

What have been the outputs so far?

1. Four policy measures have been identified and explored including an inclusive business landscape study for India (1) and Thailand (1), and the inclusive business accreditation system design and implementation for Viet Nam (2).
2. Four concrete actions to facilitate investments in IB models have been identified, three in India and one in Viet Nam.
3. The inclusive business development and accreditation system manuals are almost completed and ready to disseminate.
4. 30 institutions have supported the exchange of knowledge around inclusive business development and promotion across regional countries.
5. Six awareness workshops, (3 with the public sector, and 3 with the private sector), one regional inclusive business promotion forum, three inclusive business training webinars, and two inclusive business 1-day trainings.
6. Almost 400 public and private sector representatives (200 women) are now more aware of inclusive business and 82% have indicated that project activities have enhanced their ability to recognize inclusive business opportunities.

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Inclusive Business Programme

Expanding the reach and impact of businesses that provide affordable goods and services and better livelihoods to low-income people -- through policy advice and capacity building.

#InclusiveBusiness @UNESCAP

www.unescap.org/projects/promoting-IB-in-AP

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