

Project Funding Criteria

- The enterprise supported must benefit poor and disadvantaged people.
- Benefits must be widely disbursed and not result in the enrichment of a few organizers or investors.
- The enterprise must contribute to the social and economic advancement of the larger community in which it is located.
- Special attention is paid to the ecological impact.
- The cooperative structure is favoured because poor people can participate directly in the operation and management of the business.
- Preference is given to enterprises in which women are direct beneficiaries and in which they participate in decision-making, in structures and procedures related to the concept, organization, implementation, control and evaluation.
- The enterprise must be economically viable, with appropriate management and technical leadership, and will become self-sustaining within a reasonable period of time, thus allowing EDCS's capital participation, loan or guarantee to be phased out.
- There must be a clear need for foreign investment which can be provided within terms that can secure the necessary government approvals and that are beneficial to the project partners.