

## ***START UP GRANTS FOR SYSTEMIC CHANGE PROJECTS***

### **Criteria for Giving the Start-Up Grants**

1. The grants will be given to projects that:
  - a. **Involve the poor** themselves, including the young and women, at all stages: the identification of needs, planning, implementation, evaluation and revision.
  - b. **Have a holistic vision, addressing** a series of basic human needs – individual and social, spiritual and physical – especially needs like jobs, health care, housing, education, and spiritual growth.
  - c. **Place particular emphasis on self-help and self-sustaining** programs that have a special view toward addressing the root causes of poverty.
  - d. **Foster transparency**, inviting participation in preparing budgets and in commenting on financial reports, while promoting good money management and maintaining careful controls over the use of assets.
  - e. **Construct a shared vision with diverse stakeholders:** poor communities, interested individuals, donors, churches, governments, NGOs, the private sector, unions, the media, international organizations and networks, etc.
  - f. **Are new or introduce a new, systemic change approach** into an already-existing project.
2. **Collaborative projects** involving several branches of the Vincentian Family will be viewed favorably when evaluating the proposals submitted.
3. The grants will *not* be given for:
  - a. Projects that focus only on the relief of immediate needs (good though such projects may be).
  - b. The ongoing costs of already existing projects.
  - c. Applications which do not address a number of the criteria above.