# CCG INSIGHT NEWSLETTER

Weekly Funding Insight Week Commencing 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025





NEW OPPORTU	JNITIES	4
2024 CSO AND HR	ED SUPPORT ALLOCATIONS SRI LANKA AND THE MALDIVES	4
Programme: I	European Commission (EC) - International Partnerships (IP)	4
Total Budget:	€6,065,000	4
Deadline:	11/07/2025	4
COOPERATION PI	ROJECTS IN UKRAINE (2026-2028)	5
Programme:	Embassy of the Czech Republic in Kyiv	5
Total Budget:		5
Deadline:	17/07/2025	5
BOOST GRANTS		5
Programme:	Heartefact	5
Total Budget:	€100,000	6
Deadline:	19/07/2025	6
	IL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS AS ACTORS OF DEVELOPMENT AND GOVERNANCE	
THE PACIFIC		6
Programme:	European Commission (EC) - International Partnerships (IP)	6
Total Budget:		6
Deadline:	29/07/2025	6
	owledge Generation on Early Childhood Care and Education Interventions in	
Rwanda and Sier		6
Programme:	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)	7
Total Budget:	• •	8
Deadline:	31/07/2025	8
PROJECT PREPAR	RATION GRANTS (PPG)	8
Programme:	Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)	8
Total Budget:		9
Deadline:	01/08/2025	9
PROJECT GRANTS	·	9
Programme:	Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)	9
Total Budget:	\$1,000,000 per project	10
Deadline:	01/08/2025	10
	DS PROMOTING EU VALUES	10
Programme:	ERGO Network	10
Total Budget:		10
Deadline:	05/08/2025	10
	THE HUMAN CAPITAL OF WOMEN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO IMPROVE THEIR	
	END THEIR RIGHTS	11
Programme:	European Commission (EC) - International Partnerships (IP)	11
Total Budget:		11
Deadline:	04/09/2025	11





THEMATIC CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR CIVIL SOCIETY AND HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS IN			
PARAGUAY		11	
Programme:	European Commission (EC) - International Partnerships (IP)	11	
Total Budget:	€2,452,000	12	
Deadline:	10/09/2025	12	
SUPPORT TO THE	YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD	12	
Programme:	European Commission (EC) - International Partnerships (IP)	12	
Total Budget:	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	13	
Deadline:	12/09/2025	13	
_	aches for Remanufacturing	13	
Programme:	European Commission (EC)	13	
Total Budget:	·	15	
Deadline:	23/09/2025	15	
Al Foundation Mo	dels in Science	15	
Programme:	European Commission (EC)	15	
Total Budget:	€1,000,000	17	
Deadline:	23/09/2025	17	
FC launches Co-fu	ınded Partnership Raw Materials for the Green and Digital Transition Progra	mme	
Le taurières co-ru	indea rarthership haw materials for the oreen and Digital Transition riogra	17	
Programme:	European Commission (EC)	18	
Total Budget:	€45,000,000	19	
Deadline:	23/09/2025	19	
	25/05/2025	13	
<b>Building Resilience</b>		19	
Programme:	National Geographic Society	19	
Total Budget:	•	21	
Deadline:	30/09/2025	21	
OPEC Fund for Int	ernational Development Grant Program 2025	21	
Programme:	OPEC Fund for International Development	21	
Total Budget:	•	23	
Deadline:	ongoing	23	
LINK TO PREVI	LINK TO PREVIOUS FUNDING NEWSLETTERS 23		





### **New Opportunities**

and official documents:

Call Title:	2024 CSO AND HRD SUPPORT ALLOCATIONS SRI LANKA AND	
	THE MALDIVES	
Programme: Eur	opean Commission (EC) - International Partnerships (IP)	
Objective:	The different lots are:	
Eligible	LOT 1: NDICI – Global Europe Human Rights & Democracy Thematic	
Activities:	Programme 2021 – 2027, 2024 Human Rights and Democracy allocation for Sri	
	Lanka and the Maldives	
	The global objective of this call for proposals (for Lot 1) is the promotion and	
	protection of i) human rights and fundamental freedoms; (ii) democracy; and	
	(iii) the rule of law in Sri Lanka and the Maldives. The specific objective of this	
	call for proposals (for Lot 1) is to strengthen democratic governance in Sri Lanka and the Maldives, with a particular emphasis on promoting the adoption	
	and implementation of human rights standards and principles by businesses	
	in line with UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Right.	
	LOT 2: NDICI-Global Europe Civil Society Thematic Programme 2021-2027,	
	2024 CSO support country allocations for Sri Lanka and the Maldives	
	The global objective of this call for proposals (for Lot 2) is to enable and	
	enhance Civil Society Organizations' engagement as an efficient actor in	
	governance reforms and development process in Sri Lanka and the Maldives.	
	The specific objective for this call (for Lot 2) is to reinforce CSOs capacities for	
	policy dialogue, monitoring, and reporting in support of governance reform	
	efforts.	
	<ul> <li>LOT 3: Strengthening the Sri Lankan Civil Society as Actors of Development and Governance</li> </ul>	
	The Overall Objective is to strengthen Sri Lankan civil society (in its whole diversity) as actors of governance and development.	
	Specific Objective 1 – Enhance organisational, advocacy, networking,	
	protection and project management capacities of civil society organisations,	
	with a dedicated focus on local/community-based organisations operating in	
	the most difficult environments as well as on women, youth and persons with	
	disabilities' associations;	
	Specific Objective 2 – Implement a small grants facility in order to increase	
	CSOs capacities (focusing on women, youth associations and persons with	
	disabilities) to respond to socio-economic challenges and provide human-	
	rights based service delivery.	
	Actions can take place in Sri Lanka and Maldives.	
Eligible	In order to be eligible for a grant, the lead applicant must: (1) be a legal person and (2)	
Applicants:	be a specific type of organisation such as: non-governmental organisation and (3) be	
	directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the co-	
	applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary.	
Total Budget: €6		
	/07/2025	
More information	https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/online-services/#/	
and official		

Call Title:	COOPERATION PROJECTS IN UKRAINE (2026-2028)
Programme: Em	bassy of the Czech Republic in Kyiv
Objective:	The Embassy of the Czech Republic in Kyiv in cooperation with the Czech Development Agency, hereby announces a Call for proposals for development cooperation projects in Ukraine for the period 2026-2028.
Eligible Activities:	Sectors are education, healthcare, supporting civil society and good governance, agriculture. The implementation period is tentatively scheduled for three years (2026–2028). Contracts or decisions on subsidy provision are expected to be finalized by the first quarter of 2026, enabling the commencement of implementation.  Actions must take place in Ukraine.
Eligible Applicants:	NGOs are encouraged to apply.
Total Budget: €1,	000,000
Deadline: 17/	07/2025
More information and official documents:	
https://mzv.gov.cz/kiev/uk/x2010 05 17/x2010 08 20 1/x2011 02 23/call for proposals for development <a href="https://mzv.gov.cz/kiev/uk/x2010">https://mzv.gov.cz/kiev/uk/x2010 05 17/x2010 08 20 1/x2011 02 23/call for proposals for development <a href="https://mzv.gov.cz/kiev/uk/x2010">https://mzv.gov.cz/kiev/uk/x2010 05 17/x2010 08 20 1/x2011 02 23/call for proposals for development <a href="https://mzv.gov.cz/kiev/uk/x2010">https://mzv.gov.cz/kiev/uk/x2010 05 17/x2010 08 20 1/x2011 02 23/call for proposals for development <a href="https://mzv.gov.cz/kiev/uk/x2010">https://mzv.gov.cz/kiev/uk/x2010 05 17/x2010 08 20 1/x2011 02 23/call for proposals for development <a href="https://mzv.gov.cz/kiev/uk/x2010">https://mzv.gov.cz/kiev/uk/x2010 05 17/x2010 08 20 1/x2011 02 23/call for proposals for development <a href="https://mzv.gov.cz/kiev/uk/x2010">https://mzv.gov.cz/kiev/uk/x2010 05 17/x2010 08 20 1/x2011 02 23/call for proposals for development <a href="https://mzv.gov.gov.cz/kiev/uk/x2010">https://mzv.gov.gov.gov.gov.gov.gov.gov.gov.gov.go</a></a></a></a></a></a></a>	

Call Title:	BOOST GRANTS
Programme: H	eartefact
Objective:	Within the framework of the Culture for Democracy (CfD) project, Heartefact is launching a call for proposals aimed at strengthening the organizational, programmatic, and financial capacities of independent cultural actors in Serbia through multi-annual support. Launched in October 2021, CfD is the first comprehensive and long-term Swiss initiative in the field of arts and culture in Serbia.
Eligible Activities:	Initiated and supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the project uses arts and culture as a tool to: foster social inclusion and tolerance, promote democratic values, strengthen intercultural dialogue, advocate for the rights of marginalized and vulnerable groups.  This call is intended for organizations registered in the Republic of Serbia whose projects focus on enhancing the organizational capacities and resilience of independent cultural and artistic actors through continuous development and the effective realization of strategic goals.  Actions must take place in Serbia.
Eligible Applicants:	The following are eligible to apply: Cultural and artistic organizations; Artistic collectives and initiatives; Other legal entities operating in the field of arts and culture, including independent foundations and endowments.





Total Budget: €1	.00,000
Deadline: 19/07/2025	
More information	https://heartefact.org/en/call-for-project-proposals-boost-grants/
and official	
documents:	

Call Title:	SUPPORTING CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS AS ACTORS OF
	DEVELOPMENT AND GOVERNANCE IN THE PACIFIC
Programme: Eu	uropean Commission (EC) - International Partnerships (IP)
Objective:	The global objective of this call for proposals is: o empower civil society in the Pacific Island Countries (PICs) to engage as actors of governance and development by advancing human rights issues, influencing policy and decision making processes and holding the Government accountable for its performance towards citizens and society at large.
Eligible Activities:	The specific objective(s) of this call for proposals is/are: on strengthening CSOs' capacities for project implementation, advocacy, policy analysis and monitoring of governmental programmes in selected priority areas, while also promoting the development of partnerships, including with public authorities, and facilitating inclusion of CSOs in national and local decision-making.  The priority(ies) of this call for proposals is/are:  1) Supporting community adaptation and resilience to climate change 2) Supporting economic empowerment fighting inequalities promoting gender balance 3) Promoting democratic participation and accountability and supporting youth  Actions can take place in the Pacific.
Eligible	In order to be eligible for a grant, the lead applicant must: (1) be a legal person and (2)
Applicants:	be a specific type of organisation such as: non-governmental organisation, public sector operator, local authority, international (inter-governmental) organisation as defined by Article 159(1) of the EU Financial Regulation and (3) be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary.
Total Budget: €3,886,751	
<b>Deadline:</b> 29/07/2025	
More information	https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/online-services/#/
and official	
documents:	

**Call Title:** 

Collaborative Knowledge Generation on Early Childhood Care and Education Interventions in Rwanda and Sierra Leone





#### Programme: U

#### United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)

#### Objective:

The Education Outcomes Fund (EOF) invites concept notes for analytic research studies that will generate evidence, learnings, and actionable insights on the interventions implemented under the early childhood care and education (ECCE) outcomes funds in Rwanda and Sierra Leone.

These research findings will be central to the program's learning agendas and contribute to broader, collaborative knowledge generation efforts running parallel to the interventions. EOF, a UNICEF-hosted fund, is dedicated to improving the education and employment outcomes of children and youth. In the pursuit of additional, more equitable, and more efficient funding for skills and education programs, they support governments to utilize outcomes-based financing instruments at scale, including outcomes funds.

#### Eligible Activities:

#### Goals

The research activities of the knowledge partners are expected to achieve the following goals:

Equip government decision-makers with evidence, learnings, actionable recommendations. Noting that the Core ECCE Research Grant includes technical support to government decision-makers.

Contribute to the national, regional and global evidence base on lessons learned and effective practices in ECCE.

Support the programme's implementing partners by providing timely research insights that complement their own monitoring, evaluation and learning systems as well as the performance management support provided by the impact investors to enhance the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of their intervention models.

Build on existing in-country research capacity: if not Rwanda or Sierra Leone based, the selected knowledge partners will collaborate with Rwandan and Sierra Leonean researchers or research organisations in designing and implementing the research studies. This may include direct partnerships, mentorship programmes, or other capacity strengthening partnership initiatives.

Objectives

The call seeks to identify and establish knowledge partnerships with consortia or individual research organisations to:

Co-create the final learning agendas for the ECCE programmes in Rwanda and in Sierra Leone, elaborating upon their present scope, defining their methodology, and collaborating with the programmes' independent evaluators to collect the data needed to meet research objectives. EOF will separately fund the necessary data collection through the programme's independent evaluators already contracted in both programmes and will work in parallel with the research studies.

Conduct analytic research to generate and share learnings and evidence on implementing partners' ECCE interventions. This research is not meant to evaluate the interventions, but to generate complementary learnings related to stakeholders' ECCE learning priorities. As this research will leverage the programmes' independent evaluators for necessary additional data collection, no primary data collection is expected from the knowledge partners.

Present relevant and actionable policy recommendations based on the research findings, providing government partners with technical guidance on scaling quality and cost-effective ECCE services.

Sectors and Areas of Specialization

Education

Early childhood development





	Funding Information Geographic Focus Sierra Leone North Western Rwanda Northern
Eligible Applicants:	Eligibility Criteria EOF encourages applications by consortia of research organisations where organisations have complementary thematic and geographic expertise.  Applicants may apply for one, multiple or all grant categories but should submit one concept note per research area applied for.  This grant is open to both individual organisations and consortia of organisations.  Eligible organisations and entities include UN agencies and civil society organisations (CSOs). CSOs are further sub-categorized as one of the following: international NGOs, national NGOs, community-based organisations, academic institutions such as universities, research organisations or think tanks, and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)/Red Cross/Red Crescent National Societies.
Total Budget: \$8,000,000	
	/07/2025
More information and official documents:	https://www.unpartnerportal.org/landing/opportunities/

Call Title:	PROJECT PREPARATION GRANTS (PPG)
Programme: S	Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)
Objective:	Funds up to US\$ 50,000 are available for PPGs to prepare technically sound and sustainable projects. These grants can involve the application of SPS-related capacity evaluation tools, preparation of feasibility studies and/or formulation of project proposals to address specific SPS capacity building needs linked to trade.  PPGs are intended to help overcome constraints faced by developing countries in the
	articulation of their SPS needs into complete project proposals that could be funded by the STDF or other donors.
Eligible Activities:	PPGs can be used for any of the following purposes (or a combination thereof):
Activides.	Application of SPS-related capacity evaluation and prioritization tools .
	Preparation of feasibility studies that precede project development to assess the
	potential impact and economic viability of proposals in terms of their expected costs and benefits; and/or
	Preparation of project proposals that can be funded by the STDF or other donors.
	PPGs may also be awarded to assist eligible beneficiaries to revise project proposals which the STDF Working Group deems of interest but in need of revision before final approval can be granted.
	Actions can take place in various countries from the OECD DAC list.





#### Eligible The following organizations are eligible to apply for STDF funding: • Public sector entities (including regional or international bodies) with responsibility **Applicants:** for SPS measures or policy, either in their own right or in cooperation with the private sector. The STDF encourages implementation of projects and activities through public private partnerships; • Private sector entities, either in their own right or in cooperation with the public sector. Examples of private sector entities include legally registered farmers' organizations, trade and industry associations, etc.; • Non-profit non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with expertise in the SPS area and with an organization in the relevant beneficiary country or countries, in co-operation with the public and/or private sector; and STDF partners. Total Budget: \$100,000 **Deadline:** 01/08/2025 **More information** https://www.standardsfacility.org/project/apply and official

Call Title:	PROJECT GRANTS (PG)
Programme:	Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)
Objective:	Funds up to US\$ 1,000,000 are available for PGs that improve food safety, animal and plant health capacity to comply with international sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) requirements. These grants are expected to help address particular SPS challenges or issues that affect trade to international markets. The STDF offers grants for projects that promote compliance with international SPS requirements. It should be clear how the requested project will help to address particular SPS challenges or issues that affect trade to regional and/or international markets.
Eligible Activities:	The following types of projects are given favourable consideration: Projects relevant to the identification, development and dissemination of good practice in SPS-related technical cooperation, including projects that develop and apply innovative and replicable approaches; Projects linked to STDF work (e.g. Climate Change, Electronic SPS Certification, Good Regulatory Practice, Public-Private Partnerships, Trade Facilitation); Projects that address SPS constraints through regional approaches; and Collaborative and inter-disciplinary projects focused on the interface / linkages between human, animal and plant health and trade, and benefiting from the involvement of two or more partners or other relevant organizations.  Actions can take place in various countries from the OECD DAC list.
Eligible Applicants:	The following organizations are eligible to apply for STDF funding:  • Public sector entities (including regional or international bodies) with responsibility for SPS measures or policy, either in their own right or in cooperation with the private sector. The STDF encourages implementation of projects and activities through public private partnerships;



documents:



• Private sector entities, either in their own right or in cooperation with the public
sector. Examples of private sector entities include legally registered farmers'
organizations, trade and industry associations, etc.;

• Non-profit non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with expertise in the SPS area and with an organization in the relevant beneficiary country or countries, in co-operation with the public and/or private sector; and

• STDF partners.

**Total Budget:** \$1,000,000 per project

**Deadline:** 01/08/2025

More information and official documents:

https://www.standardsfacility.org/project/apply

Call Title:	ROVA – ROMA CSOS PROMOTING EU VALUES	
Programme: El	RGO Network	
Objective:	This call aims to support the formation and strengthening of national Roma civil society coalitions to advocate effectively for the rights and inclusion of Roma communities. Selected coalitions will engage in joint advocacy, monitoring, and awareness-raising activities, with a view to influencing national policies and ensuring the implementation of national Roma strategic frameworks. While also new and other already established coalitions are encouraged to apply, this call aims to specifically build on the results achieved by the Roma Civil Monitoring project (2021-2025), through which National Roma Coalitions monitored the implementation of national Roma strategic frameworks and advocated for a better implementation of the framework on national level.	
Eligible Activities:	<ul> <li>The ROVA project launches its first call for proposals in 3 lots:         <ul> <li>LOT 1: Call for proposals from individual civil society organisations registered and operating in Bulgaria, Czechia+Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, and Spain (available funding 300,000€ per country/country pair in the case of Czechia and Slovakia; max. grant per project 30,000€)</li> <li>LOT 2: Call for proposals from individual NGOs registered and operating in other EU Member States (OTHER THAN Bulgaria, Czechia, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, and Spain, available funding 200,000€ – max. grant per project 20,000€).</li> <li>LOT 3: Call for proposals from national Roma coalitions from EU Member States (available funding 225,000€ – max grant per project 15,000€)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Actions can take place in Bulgaria, Czechia, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, and Spain.</li> </ul>	
Eligible Applicants:	Coalitions must consist of at least four (pro-)Roma civil society organisations from the same EU Member State.	
Total Budget: €1	1,925,000	
More information and official documents:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding- tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/competitive-calls-cs/11121	





Call Title:	STRENGTHENING THE HUMAN CAPITAL OF WOMEN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO IMPROVE THEIR CAPACITY TO DEFEND THEIR RIGHTS
Programme: Eu	uropean Commission (EC) - International Partnerships (IP)
Objective:	The general objective of this call for proposals is to: Continue and strengthen past and ongoing actions supported by the European Union to strengthen human capital so that women, men, girls, and boys can lead lives free from all forms of gender-based violence in the public and private spheres.
Eligible	The specific objectives of this call for proposals are:
Activities:	<ul> <li>SO1: The organizational and action capacities of civil society organizations, particularly women's and grassroots organizations (community, including informal), are strengthened so that they are able to identify social and cultural barriers and carry out actions and advocacy that contribute to long-term positive and transformative impacts on human rights, women's rights, and the fight against gender-based violence.</li> <li>SO2: The promotion of women's rights and the fight against gender-based violence is facilitated by improving prevention and support mechanisms, systems, and actions, whether at the level of individuals, civil society organizations, or through collaboration with social services provided by public administrations supported by Malagasy institutions responsible for these issues.</li> <li>OS3: Effective equality between women and men is promoted by addressing identified legal gaps and through outreach work against discriminatory cultural practices.</li> </ul>
	Actions can take place in Madagascar.
Eligible	In order to be eligible for a grant, the lead applicant must: (1) be a legal person and (2)
Applicants:	be a specific type of organisation such as: non-governmental organization, public sector operator, local authority, international organization and (3) be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary.
Total Budget: €5	5,000,000
Deadline: 04	/09/2025
More information	https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/online-services/#/
and official	

Call Title:	THEMATIC CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR CIVIL SOCIETY AND HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS IN PARAGUAY
Programme:	European Commission (EC) - International Partnerships (IP)
Objective:	The overall objective of this call for proposals is to contribute to promoting and protecting human, economic, and social rights, democracy, and the rule of law by encouraging the participation of CSOs.



documents:



Eligible	LOT 1: Defence, promotion and guarantee of Human Rights	
Activities:	LOT 2: Promotion of social cohesion and comprehensive development in territories of interest Global Gateway	
	Actions can take place in Paraguay.	
Eligible	In order to be eligible for a grant, the lead applicant must: (1) be a legal person and (2)	
Applicants:	be a specific type of organisation such as: non-governmental organisation and (3) be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the coapplicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary.	
Total Budget: €2	Total Budget: €2,452,000	
Deadline: 10/09/2025		
More information	https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/online-services/#/	
and official		
documents:		

Call Title:	SUPPORT TO THE YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD
Programme: E	uropean Commission (EC) - International Partnerships (IP)
Objective:	The global objective of this call for proposals is: The global objective of this assignment is to contribute to enhanced youth engagement and youth inclusion in the programmes and policies of the EU Delegation to North Macedonia. The specific objective(s) of this call for proposals is/are: To provide technical, administrative and communication support to the YAB to efficiently and effectively implement its role and fulfil its mandate.
Eligible Activities:	<ul> <li>The priority(ies) of this call for proposals is/are:</li> <li>Support the YAB to the EU Delegation to North Macedonia which will be a platform for ongoing dialogue between the EU Delegation and youth, including youth organisations and networks, in order for the EU initiatives in North Macedonia to continue being relevant, meaningful and useful for the young people;</li> <li>Create an opportunity for youth to be involved and contribute to the formulation and implementing of EU programmes and policies in North Macedonia in view of the European integration of the country, ensuring that the voices of young people are heard and taken into account;</li> <li>Contribute to incorporate the YAB perspectives, foresights and innovative approaches in the work of the EU Delegation, including for future programming, which in turn take into account the situation of young people, appropriately respond to the key challenges and opportunities of youth in North Macedonia.</li> </ul> Actions can take place in North Macedonia.
Eligible Applicants:	In order to be eligible for a grant, the lead applicant must: (1) be a legal person and (2) be a specific type of organisation such as: non-governmental organisation registered in





	line with the Law on Associations and Foundations and (3) be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary.	
Total Budget: €250,000		
Deadline: 12/09/2025		
More information	https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/online-services/#/	
and official		
documents:		

Call Title:	Integrated Approaches for Remanufacturing
Programme: Eu	uropean Commission (EC)
Objective:	The European Commission is now accepting submissions for the Integrated Approaches for Remanufacturing topic.
Eligible Activities:	Scope Proposals should demonstrate cutting-edge remanufacturing approaches, covering demanufacturing and appropriate manufacturing technologies, model-based systems engineering, quality control and business models. Repurposing of products (at the level of systems or components) may also be considered. This approach calls for remanufacturing technologies at the factory level, as well as for their integration into circular value loops – within specific industrial sectors or across industrial sectors. In general, the approaches should integrate traditional manufacturing processes, such as additive manufacturing, machining and welding, with automation, robotics and digitalisation. Proposals should address all of the following: Remanufacturing technologies and processes and/or system engineering, building on advances in data sharing and Al; Mass de-manufacturing, such as disassembly, separation and sorting; Capability to produce high-quality products from a wide range of resources (new and remanufactured components and materials); Methodologies to facilitate decisions made at the end-of-use or end-of-life phase at the level of components or systems; Measurement, verification and inspection approaches assuring high quality, traceability and compliance with quality standards; Stringent data sourcing, interoperability and processing, coupled to robust Al technologies (leveraging on existing ontologies and through the implementation of the FAIR data principles); International standards, building on existing standards or contributing to future standardisation, with a focus on remanufacturing implementation at the European level. Proposals aiming to develop new products should additionally cover the design of these products for circularity. Points to consider in this case are prioritising the use of recyclable materials and recyclable or reusable components; and increased adaptability, exchangeability and lifetime of components. Proposals should consider where relevant: The EU regulatory framework, notably the Ecodesign f





The Ecodesign approach, especially the circular-by-design approach including modularity, repairability, adaptability and exchangeability of components as well as refurbishment and repurposing of products or components; and

The Digital Product Passport: information about products along their overall lifecycle needs to be collected along the remanufacturing operations.

Proposals should include a business case and exploitation strategy, as outlined in the introduction to this Destination. It is essential that the business model address the entire lifecycle of remanufacturing, including logistics. They should assess the circularity and decarbonisation that can be achieved, as well as the economic case and competitiveness, and make a corresponding contribution to the standardisation of lifecycle performance metrics. Regarding decarbonisation, proposals should address the expected reductions in energy consumption and GHG emissions, and – where applicable – impact net-zero technologies and components.

**Expected Outcomes** 

The manufacturing industry should benefit from the following outcomes: Enable an industrial ecosystem to double the volume of remanufactured components in the Union, compared to 2021, for the sectors and products considered; Stimulate new synergies for circularity in manufacturing industries; Increase significantly the capability in Europe to implement remanufacturing technologies for retaining, reusing, upgrading or adapting the function of products and components:

Support skills and education capabilities for remanufacturing; and Support the development or revision of standards to better support remanufacturing.

#### Eligible Applicants:

**Eligibility Criteria** 

Entities eligible to participate:

Any legal entity, regardless of its place of establishment, including legal entities from nonassociated third countries or international organisations (including international European research organisations) is eligible to participate (whether it is eligible for funding or not), provided that the conditions laid down in the Horizon Europe Regulation have been met, along with any other conditions laid down in the specific call/topic.

A 'legal entity' means any natural or legal person created and recognised as such under national law, EU law or international law, which has legal personality and which may, acting in its own name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations, or an entity without legal personality.

To become a beneficiary, legal entities must be eligible for funding.

To be eligible for funding, applicants must be established in one of the following countries:

the Member States of the European Union, including their outermost regions: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden. the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) linked to the Member States: Aruba (NL), Bonaire (NL), Curação (NL), French Polynesia (FR), French Southern and Antarctic Territories (FR), Greenland (DK), New Caledonia (FR), Saba (NL), Saint Barthélemy (FR), Sint Eustatius (NL), Sint Maarten (NL), St. Pierre and Miquelon (FR), Wallis and Futuna Islands (FR).

countries associated to Horizon Europe;





Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

**Total Budget: €35,000,000** 

**Deadline:** 23/09/2025

More information and official

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-

tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-CL4-

documents: INDUSTRY-2025-01-TWIN-TRANSITION-01

#### **Programme:** European Commission (EC)

#### **Objective:**

Applications are now open for the AI Foundation Models in Science topic to tap into their potential and advance the development of AI technology specifically tailored for the needs of science.

**Focus Areas** 

Proposals should focus on:

- developing foundation models (not limited to Generative AI) for science in the chosen domain;
- showing a foundation model's usefulness by adapting it to subtasks/scientific problems in the chosen domain; and
- illustrating other possible areas of application.

#### Eligible Activities:

#### Scope

Proposals should address one of the following scientific domains:

Materials science: the development of new, innovative and advanced materials is essential for EU's economic security and for achieving a competitive and sustainable industry (especially sectors such as energy, mobility, construction, health and electronics). Employing AI in the process of materials design, characteristics and discovery could significantly accelerate and scale potential innovative solutions. Climate change science: advancing climate research is critical for achieving the EU's climate neutrality and resilience goals. AI foundation models can contribute to more accurate insights into climate dynamics, enhanced predictions of extreme weather events, regional impacts and the evolution of climate tipping points.

Environmental pollution sciences: advancing environmental sciences can support the detection and characterisation of pollution sources, as well as their pathways, distribution and impacts to the environment and human health. This is particularly relevant in the case of pollutants of concern, emerging and/or less known pollutants. Agricultural sciences: advancing agricultural sciences research is critical to achieve a competitive, resilient and sustainable agricultural system. Al foundation models can contribute to enhance crop, livestock, soil and water management.

The foundation models should provide researchers with access to essential AI-enabled capabilities for scientific discovery; employ the machine learning algorithms, models and architectures best suited for the chosen domain; be adaptable to different problems in the domain; and be based on a robust and reliable architecture, as any potential errors and problems would be propagated to the downstream applications. The foundation models should be placed at the disposal of the scientific community as open models, including the source code and, where possible, training datasets and





other associated assets needed for full reusability of the foundation models (unless justified otherwise). This will serve a wider scientific community, thus broadening access to such scientific infrastructure and facilitating the use and adaptation of the model to different problems. Proposers should provide a clear documentation on the use and limitations of the model, alongside case studies demonstrating the model's application to a variety of tasks/problems in the chosen domain.

Multidisciplinary research activities should involve both AI and domain scientists, and address some of the following:

Conceptualisation and planning: the scope, objectives and expected outcomes of the foundation model;

Suitable interfaces for domain experts without computer science background to contribute to and utilise the outcomes;

Data identification, collection and management of (preferably diverse, multimodal) datasets through semantically annotation data schemas;

Model development, validation, testing under relevant operational and environmental conditions (such as thermal gradients, fatigue, corrosion, etc.) and, as appropriate, model evaluation and benchmarking;

Integration of domain knowledge into the model.

Proposals should:

Prove access to high quality (multimodal) data needed for the development of the model. If in the process of developing the model, there is a need to create new data sets or adapt existing ones, they should follow the FAIR principles. Describe the data curation and quality control procedures that will be used to ensure the accuracy, completeness, and consistency of the training data.

Contribute to efforts to reach common standards for data formats, metadata, taxonomies and ontologies.

Demonstrate a strategy to access the computational resources needed for model training, evaluation/testing and inference.

Propose a model architecture that is designed with transparency in mind Ideally, employ methodologies for integrating domain/interdisciplinary knowledge into the model and seek synergies with solutions that facilitate the managing and making sense of vast amounts of data.

Identify at least four possible use cases and scientific challenges that can be addressed with the model and its adaptations.

Identify and assess the potential risks of misuse of the foundation model.

Propose a plan to make the model public, maintain and evolve it and promote it to the scientific community on a regular basis, in order to give visibility to the concept, discuss key findings and anticipate the technology evolution – possibly in synergy with other relevant projects.

**Funding Information** 

Budget (EUR) - Year 2025: 30 000 000

Contributions: around 6000000

**Expected Outcomes** 

Accelerate research and development in science, with focus on the domains of: materials science.

climate change science,

environmental pollution science (including PFAS) and

agricultural science;

Advance AI technology (not limited to Generative AI) tailored for scientific needs and potentially adaptable to other tasks in the area of application;





Contribute to the development of foundation models in the areas of application, and pave the way for future funding of foundation models in a broader range of scientific disciplines;

Advance solutions to societal or scientific challenges;

Bridge existing knowledge gaps and induce interdisciplinarity by design across different fields necessary to advance the area of application; and

Support open-source and open science, especially for research communities with limited access to modern AI tools.

## Eligible Applicants:

**Eligibility Criteria** 

Entities eligible to participate:

Any legal entity, regardless of its place of establishment, including legal entities from nonassociated third countries or international organisations (including international European research organisations) is eligible to participate (whether it is eligible for funding or not), provided that the conditions laid down in the Horizon Europe Regulation have been met, along with any other conditions laid down in the specific call/topic.

A 'legal entity' means any natural or legal person created and recognised as such under national law, EU law or international law, which has legal personality and which may, acting in its own name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations, or an entity without legal personality.

To become a beneficiary, legal entities must be eligible for funding.

To be eligible for funding, applicants must be established in one of the following countries:

the Member States of the European Union, including their outermost regions:
Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden. the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) linked to the Member States:
Aruba (NL), Bonaire (NL), Curação (NL), French Polynesia (FR), French Southern and Antarctic Territories (FR), Greenland (DK), New Caledonia (FR), Saba (NL), Saint Barthélemy (FR), Sint Eustatius (NL), Sint Maarten (NL), St. Pierre and Miquelon (FR), Wallis and Futuna Islands (FR).

countries associated to Horizon Europe;

Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

Total Budget: €1,000,000

**Deadline:** 23/09/2025

More information and official documents:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-

tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-CL4-

INDUSTRY-2025-01-DIGITAL-61

**Call Title:** 

**EC launches Co-funded Partnership Raw Materials for the Green and Digital Transition Programme** 





#### Programme: European Commission (EC)

#### **Objective:**

The European Commission (EC) has launched the Co-funded Partnership Raw Materials for the Green and Digital Transition Programme.

Scope

The objective of the European Partnership on Raw Materials is to strengthen the coordination of national and regional research programmes in the field of non-energy and non-agricultural raw materials, ensuring common understanding of R&I challenges to achieve the objectives of the Critical Raw Materials Act.

The Partnership will build on the experience of ERA-NETs: ERA-MIN, ERA-MIN 2 and ERA-MIN 3. The Partnership should cover the whole raw materials value chain including exploration, extraction, processing technologies, and recycling and improve circularity. Sea mining is excluded from this topic.

Proposals should pool the necessary financial resources from the participating national (or regional) research programmes with a view to implementing joint annual calls for proposals resulting in grants to third parties with EU co-funding in this area. Financial support provided by the participants to third parties is one of the primary activities of this action in order to be able to achieve its objectives.

Beneficiaries should preferably be national, regional or local institutions responsible for programming research and innovation activities in raw materials. To ensure alignment of R&I activities and raw materials policy participation is also additionally open to relevant Ministries and public institutions responsible for raw materials and R&I policy.

#### Eligible Activities:

**Eligible Activities** 

The following activities are generally eligible for grants under Horizon Europe: Research and innovation actions (RIA) — Activities that aim primarily to establish new knowledge or to explore the feasibility of a new or improved technology, product, process, service or solution.

Innovation actions (IA) — Activities that aim directly to produce plans and arrangements or designs for new, altered or improved products, processes or services. These activities may include prototyping, testing, demonstrating, piloting, large-scale product validation and market replication

Coordination and support actions (CSA) — Activities that contribute to the objectives of Horizon Europe.

Programme co-fund actions (CoFund) — A programme of activities established or implemented by legal entities managing or funding R&I programmes, other than EU funding bodies.

**Expected Outcomes** 

Projects are expected to contribute to the following outcomes:

Align national R&I priorities in raw materials with EU policy on raw materials.

Strengthen EU cooperation with countries the EU established strategic partnerships on Raw Materials;

Improve industrial viability, safety and environmental impacts of the operation in a way that leads to measurable improvements;

Improve EU sourcing diversification of critical raw materials from third countries; Improve responsible supply of raw materials to Europe in line with the EU principles for sustainable raw materials, which are a non-regulatory set of principles based on the EU acquis. They set out requirements for sustainable raw materials and extraction and processing in Europe in terms of social, environmental and economic performance.





Dissemination and exploitation of projects outputs is tailored for organisations and industry dealing with raw materials in the EU and project partner from Strategic partnership countries.

Promote the utilisation of UNFC (United Nations Framework Classification for Resources) and UNRMS (United Nations Resource Management System) in the raw materials sector.

## Eligible Applicants:

**Eligibility Criteria** 

Any legal entity, regardless of its place of establishment, including legal entities from no associated third countries or international organisations (including international European research organisations) is eligible to participate (whether it is eligible for funding or not).

A 'legal entity' means any natural or legal person created and recognised as such under national law, EU law or international law, which has legal personality and which may, acting in its own name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations, or an entity without legal personality.

To be eligible for funding, applicants must be established in one of the following countries:

the Member States of the European Union, including their outermost regions: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden. the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) linked to the Member States: Aruba (NL), Bonaire (NL), Curação (NL), French Polynesia (FR), French Southern and Antarctic Territories (FR), Greenland (DK), New Caledonia (FR), Saba (NL), Saint Barthélemy (FR), Sint Eustatius (NL), Sint Maarten (NL), St. Pierre and Miquelon (FR), Wallis and Futuna Islands (FR).

countries associated to Horizon Europe;

Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

**Total Budget: €45,000,000** 

**Deadline:** 23/09/2025

More information and official

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-

tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-CL4-

documents: <a href="https://www.ncbests.com/industry-2025-01-MATERIALS-64">INDUSTRY-2025-01-MATERIALS-64</a>

Call Title:	Building Resilience in Agriculture
Programme:	National Geographic Society
Objective:	The National Geographic Society is requesting applications for its Building Resilience in Agriculture Initiative to support innovative projects that apply science and innovation in a real-world context, focused on feasible, nature-positive solutions.  The projects should have measurable outcomes on the resilience of farms, farming communities, and natural ecosystems in the farming landscapes to the realities of changing climates and extreme weather events. The projects will demonstrate, measure, and support practices and approaches that are regenerative.





They will only consider projects with a predominant field or land component where solutions are applied and tested on a farm, in a farming community, or in a landscape adjacent to cultivated land. The projects should include one or more of the following terrestrial food crops: corn, wheat, oats, potatoes, sugar beets, oilseeds (i.e. canola, sunflower, rice bran), rice, oats, cocoa, oil palm, raisins and soy.

They are particularly interested in supporting applied science-based projects that address highly localized barriers in adopting more regenerative, climate smart land management approaches. This means that in addition to understanding the environmental outcomes, projects must also evaluate the cultural, social and economic feasibility of adoption and scalability.

#### Eligible **Activities:**

#### **Benefits**

Grant recipients become National Geographic Explorers, will join the Explorer Community, and will be eligible for future learning, capacity building, and networking opportunities.

In addition, grant recipients:

may need to be available to travel to Europe for an event soon after receiving notification of awards in January, 2026;

will travel to the National Geographic Society's Base Camp headquarters in Washington DC for a multi-day gathering to meet Society staff and key partners in 2026. may receive additional mentorship, training, and other elevation opportunities as individuals and as a cohort; and

might be featured in communications materials by the Society and/or the funding partner that may include (but are not limited to) video and photography related to themselves, the project, and their results, shared through various media platforms. **Expected Outcomes** 

The project's main goals must aim to make farms, farming communities, and natural ecosystems more resilient and demonstrate two or more of the following outcomes: Soil Health: Build the health and fertility of the soil to support a healthy and productive ecosystem above and below ground.

Climate Mitigation and Adaptation: Increase resilience to climate change impacts, sequester carbon, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Watershed Health: Improve watershed health through reducing nutrient runoff and the quantity of water needed for farms and communities to thrive.

Biodiversity: Protect and improve biodiversity across agricultural landscapes examples include forest conservation and restoration, bees and other pollinators for crops as well as improving the soil microbiome.

Improved Livelihoods: Improve livelihoods in locally contextualized ways, ensuring farmers' access to training, decision making and resources to implement sustainable agricultural practices and achieve improved farm performance.

#### **Eligible Applicants:**

#### **Eligibility Criteria**

This opportunity is awarded as a Level II grant, which is best suited for individual project leaders with sufficient experience leading solutions-based regenerative projects on a farm, in a farming community, or in an impacted landscape adjacent to cultivated land. These grants are highly competitive and are reserved for select projects that meet the criteria and achieve significant tangible impact.

Previous National Geographic Explorers as well as those new to their community are welcome to apply. You are not required to have previously received a grant from the National Geographic Society to apply for this opportunity.

Applicant must be over the age of 18.





Ineligibility Criteria

Applicant must not be a current National Geographic Society staff member.

They will not consider projects that:

are focused solely on crops used for non-food items like fiber production.

are focused solely on livestock or other animal farming practices, including grazing, breeding, welfare, and feed production.

are not co-created with farmers.

are exclusively focused on the basic research of technological innovations.

exceed the maximum budget of \$150,000 without other sources of funding secured at

the time the proposal is submitted

require land conversion: the projects must take place on existing cultivated land.

Total Budget: €500,000

**Deadline:** 30/09/2025

More information and official documents:

 $\underline{https://www.nationalgeographic.org/society/grants-and-investments/rfp-building-b$ 

resilience-in-agriculture/

OPEC Fund for International Development Grant Program 2025
PEC Fund for International Development
The OPEC Fund for International Development is accepting applications for its grant program to provide financial assistance to developing countries, particularly low-income countries, in support of their economic and social development efforts.
Types of Grants
Under its grant program, OPEC Fund could extend three types of grants: Grants for country-specific activities and projects: This type of grant could cover any of the following activities: Technical assistance grants for project preparation, including prefeasibility and feasibility studies, and final design of projects where there is potential for OPEC Fund's participation; Grant components of a larger project and program financed by the OPEC Fund through its public sector (sovereign loans) and/or private sector and trade finance facilities; Institutional capacity building of relevant government agencies of partner countries (training of staff in project design, preparation, monitoring and evaluation) with the aim of facilitating the implementation of OPEC Fund operations and helping these agencies better prepare future projects; Stand-alone projects or activities that are not directly linked to a specific OPEC Fund project Grants for special development initiatives of global or regional scope: This type of grant supports selected initiatives and programs aimed at addressing development challenges faced by OPEC Fund's partner countries and which require a high level of cross-border cooperation. Emergency aid grants: OPEC Fund provides this type of grant in support of humanitarian relief operations, including material or logistical assistance delivered for humanitarian purposes. This aid
also supports interventions aimed at rehabilitating basic infrastructure and restoring





access to basic services in partner countries in the aftermath of conflicts or natural disasters.

**Priority Sectors and Areas** 

While the OPEC Fund has financed projects in agriculture, energy, health, transportation and water and sanitation sectors, it aims to be a demand-driven organization responsive to the needs of its partner countries.

In addition, and as noted earlier, it provides emergency aid assistance and supports selected regional and global initiatives, especially those addressing priority issues in the sustainable development agenda.

**Funding Information** 

The amount of OPEC Fund contribution will vary according to the scope and the nature of the proposed grant activity or project. However, and with the exception of emergency aid and small grants in amounts of up to US\$100,000, OPEC Fund's contribution to a stand-alone project should not exceed 50% of the total cost of the said project.

#### Eligible Applicants:

Eligibility Criteria

In line with the Agreement establishing the OPEC Fund, developing countries other than OPEC Member Countries are eligible for OPEC Fund's grant assistance, with special consideration to the needs of LDCs.

While the main criteria for extending a grant will be the developmental impact of the activity or project concerned, for country-specific grants, particularly those linked to OPEC Fund's sovereign operations, other criteria will be also considered. These include countries' capacities as well as special circumstances. In this regard, and in recognition of their special circumstances and specific development challenges, the OPEC Fund will extend grants in support of selected initiatives targeting small island development states (SIDS), and conflict-affected and fragile states, especially SIDS that are also categorized by the United Nations as LDCs.

**Eligible Partners** 

Eligible partners are any government or non-government entity, including cofinancing partners, private sector entities, research entities, UN agencies and international NGOs. All grantees, should meet the following eligibility criteria:

Provide evidence of currently valid legal registration under the laws of the country in which they operate, as well as evidence of a certificate to do business in the country in which they intend to carry out the relevant activity, if different from the place of legal registration.

Have a good track record in the implementation of OPEC Fund projects and activities, and in the case of new partners, a good track record in executing/implementing similar donor Funded projects in the targeted region and country;

Have proven technical expertise in the area/sector covered;

Have appropriate organizational and management capacity, and show the existence of a sound financial system, including clear accounting and budgeting standards, audited financial statements that are audited by a registered auditor, a transparent budgeting process, and other indicators that confirm their capacity to assume fiduciary (supervision and implementation) responsibility for OPEC Fund.





Total Budget: €Not available	
Deadline: ongoing	
More information	https://opecfund.org/what-we-offer/grants/grant-application
and official	
documents:	

#### **Link to Previous Funding Newsletters**

#### https://www.consultcormack.com/funding-newsletter

#### Disclaimer:

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23