

CCG INSIGHT NEWSLETTER

Weekly Funding Insight
Week Commencing 11th August 2025



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New Opportunities

Call Title:	Call for Participants: Fashion Adaptor Programme 2025
Programme:	European Commission (EC)
Objective:	<p>Applications are now open for the Fashion Adaptor Programme designed to help fashion brands transition from a wasteful, extractive model to a regenerative, circular one.</p> <p>The Fashion Adaptor Programme is part of the Transformation Area that is a catalyst for reimagining the systems that shape their cultural and creative ecosystems and their role in society. Driven by the values shared by the New European Bauhaus (NEB) of inclusion, beauty and sustainability, and inspired by the ethos of experimentation, it forges pathways to a better future by challenging traditional structures and exploring radical new possibilities.</p> <p>Building on its mission the EIT Culture & Creativity Transformation Area is launching a tailored programme to support SMEs in their journey to become more sustainable and introduce efficient circular processes and products in the Fashion Industry.</p> <p>By combining strategic education with a powerful digital tool, the programme enables brands to measure their impact, identify areas for improvement, and take actionable steps toward systemic change. Through this programme, EIT Culture & Creativity is actively empowering ambitious SMEs, helping them develop sustainable and circular processes, products and strategies, expand into new markets, and establish long-term partnerships with the EIT CC ecosystem.</p> <p>In 2025 the Fashion Adaptor Programme offers a training of 10 weeks to SMEs to empower them in developing circular solutions. Although the programme 2025 does not offer financial support in 2025, the travel costs will be covered to attend the final event.</p>
Eligible Activities:	<p>Scope and Objectives</p> <p>The primary objective of this call for applications is to identify and support SMEs in the Fashion Industry to participate in EIT Culture & Creativity's Fashion Adaptor programme.</p> <p>The programme is designed to enhance the capabilities of these companies, providing them with the necessary resources, extensive mentorship, coaching, peer to peer and strategic guidance to transition towards an ambitious and successful European circular Fashion SME.</p> <p>EIT Culture & Creativity's Fashion Adaptor programme aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catalyse innovation and creativity within the fashion sector, by supporting SMEs tackling key challenges such as overproduction, resource waste, and lack of transparency. Accelerate market readiness of transformative fashion solutions that contribute to a more resilient, circular industry—reducing carbon emissions, minimizing material waste, and enabling digital integration. Support the development of forward-thinking business models that embed circular practices, regenerative design, and emerging digital tools to strengthen the fashion ecosystem. Offer tailored mentorship and expert guidance through a robust network of universities, Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), and specialised partners in sustainable fashion, design, and innovation. Improve investment-readiness of participating SMEs by providing strategic preparation for fundraising, investor engagement, and long-term financial sustainability.

	<p>Enable balanced growth and resilience by connecting participants with industry stakeholders, supply chain allies, and funding opportunities that align with their mission and values.</p> <p>Empower social impact and just transformation by championing fair pay, equity and dignified working conditions along the full fashion value chain.</p> <p>Programme Content</p> <p>The SME Fashion Adaptor 2025 is a structured programme built around four key pillars - Capital, Quality, Globality, and Material Innovation - providing practical frameworks, case studies, and interactive exercises. It will guide fashion brands through the transition from conventional production models and design processes to circular, resource-conscious operations, combining strategic mentoring and coaching, peer to peer collaborations and use of a digital circular tool which will be a central component of the programme. A maximum number of 30 SMEs will be admitted in 2025. Through hands-on exercises, the selected participants will input their real data into the tool to visualize their impact and set measurable improvement goals. The tool will provide the SMEs with insightful benchmarks, industry comparisons, and scenario planning, helping brands understand how small shifts in production, material choices, and supply chain strategies can lead to significant change. It will enable the SMEs to:</p> <p>Track their production footprint, measure the scale of production, material sourcing, and supply chain emissions.</p> <p>Assess durability and repairability, logging product lifespan, customer repair behaviors, and material degradation rates.</p> <p>Quantify circularity efforts, monitoring the percentage of recycled or upcycled materials used, and analyzing waste reduction strategies.</p> <p>Evaluate localization potential, mapping supply chain dependencies and exploring opportunities for regional sourcing and manufacturing.</p> <p>Upon completing the Fashion Adaptor 2025, participating SMEs will develop:</p> <p>A clear strategy for circular transformation, respecting planetary boundaries that covers: Moving from a linear to a circular design process and business model o A structured approach to minimizing waste and overproduction</p> <p>Tangible data-driven goals for recycled and regenerative materials and supply chain resilience</p> <p>A roadmap for transitioning toward long-lasting, repairable products</p> <p>The ability to communicate impact transparently, building trust with consumers and regulators</p> <p>Showcase their social impact and for just transformation along the fashion value chain.</p> <p>Programme Details</p> <p>Overview</p> <p>The Fashion Adaptor Programme 2025 will run for 10 weeks followed by a Demo Day which will be scheduled at a later stage.</p> <p>Fashion Adapter Kick-off</p> <p>1-day immersive event held online includes:</p> <p>Introduction to the EIT CC network, key stakeholders, and industry experts.</p> <p>Responsible Mindset in the fashion sector & foundational knowledge.</p> <p>Sessions on fashion and circularity along the value chain and sustainable transitions.</p> <p>Introduction to the Digital Circularity Tool for Real-Time Insights</p> <p>Structured networking with peers, experts, and mentors.</p> <p>Weekly Online Sessions & Workshops</p>
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	<p>Conducted over approx. 10 weeks, the programme covers key focus areas:</p> <p>Responsible Strategy – Reducing waste and avoiding overproduction through thoughtful design and planning.</p> <p>Data-Driven Targets – Setting measurable goals for improving materials and supply chain sustainability.</p> <p>Transformation Roadmap – Planning for collections that prioritize circularity, durability, repairability, long-term use, social impact and just transformation.</p> <p>Transparent Impact Communication – Building trust through clear, honest reporting of sustainability outcomes to consumers and regulators.</p> <p>Peer learning session through collaborative discussions.</p> <p>In person workshop</p> <p>Mid-term in person meeting format through clusters in partnership with the CLCs.</p> <p>Mentor Sessions</p> <p>Participants will benefit from 10 mentor sessions, designed to provide:</p> <p>Expert guidance from mentors with deep industry knowledge.</p> <p>Personalised feedback on specific challenges and opportunities.</p> <p>Demo Day</p> <p>A Demo Day event where participants present their strategy for circular transformation and adapted business models to experts, investors, and potential partners</p> <p>Costs coverage for the Demo Day event</p> <p>The participants will receive a compensation package per person:</p> <p>150 euros of allowance per day during the weekday, aiming to ensure their participation in the Demo Day</p> <p>The travel costs including accommodation, flights/train, public transportation etc.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	<p>Eligibility Criteria</p> <p>This call for applicants is specifically designed for ambitious SMEs operating for a minimum of three years in the fashion sector located in an EU member state or a Horizon Europe-associated country, seeking to participate in EIT Culture & Creativity's Fashion Adaptor Programme.</p> <p>Companies meeting the following criteria are welcome to submit their application:</p> <p>Company Status: The applicant must be an SME that is registered for a minimum of 3 years.</p> <p>Legal Entity: The applicant must be a legally established entity in an EU Member State or in a third country associated with Horizon Europe.</p> <p>Circular Focus: The company should be developing circular solutions that align with the challenges identified by EIT Culture & Creativity.</p> <p>Financial and operational stage of development: Retail availability through stockists or DTC (Direct to Customer), with a sound financial plan for 2026/2027.</p> <p>Number of participants per applicant: A maximum of 2 people per SME are invited to join the different coaching, mentoring and peer-to-peer sessions.</p> <p>Design: The company should have Lookbooks and Line sheets</p>
Total Budget: €1,000	
Deadline: 29/08/2025	
More information and official documents:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/competitive-calls-cs/11422

Call Title:	Open Call: MRV System – Polish Regenerative Agriculture Landscape (Lower Silesia)
Programme: EIT Food	
Objective:	<p>EIT Food is seeking a consortium to deliver an MRV system for a regenerative agriculture landscape made up of four components—Farm Data Management Platform, Carbon Accounting Methodology, Soil Carbon Quantification Model, and Ongoing Technical Support.</p> <p>EIT Food, in collaboration with its partners, is initiating a Regenerative Agriculture Landscape Programme in the Lower Silesia region of Poland. This initiative aims to deliver measurable reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, improve soil health, enhance biodiversity, and support farmer wellbeing. The programme will contribute significantly to the decarbonisation of the partners’ value chains through the promotion of sustainable and regenerative agricultural practices. To support these goals, EIT Food will establish a comprehensive methodology and system for measuring and reporting progress under the landscape.</p>
Eligible Activities:	<p>Programme Objectives and Scope</p> <p>As part of its broader Regenerative Innovation Portfolio, delivered in collaboration with Food Valley NL, EIT Food is developing regenerative landscapes across Europe. This Portfolio is the flagship initiative of Food Innovation Hub Europe (FIH Europe), part of the World Economic Forum’s Global Food Innovation Hubs Initiative, with the mission to unlock practical, scalable models for regenerative farming that work for farmers, ecosystems, and value chains.</p> <p>The Lower Silesia initiative will focus on four key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting European farmers in transitioning to regenerative agriculture Measuring and tracking progress through robust data systems Partnering with agri-food companies to implement sustainable practices across the value chain Communicating the health and environmental benefits of regenerative agriculture to consumers <p>Funding Information</p> <p>The total budget for this call is €150,000 to €550,000. Implementing participant recipients will receive a subgrant to fund their cost.</p> <p>The project runs from October 2025 to March 2029. The maximum funding available for that period per application is €550,000. The payment instalment schedule and required milestones for each element of the MRV system will be finalised following implementing participant selection.</p> <p>Description of Activities</p> <p>The purpose of this call is to recruit the infrastructure and methodological expertise necessary to quantify greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions, carbon removals and other co-benefits like soil health, biodiversity and farmer wellbeing achieved through the transition to more sustainable and regenerative agricultural practices.</p> <p>They are seeking a qualified consortium to develop and deliver the four essential components required to operationalise the Polish Regenerative Agriculture Landscape. These core activities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farm Data Management Platform – A robust and scalable system for collecting, storing, and managing farm-level data relevant to regenerative practices and carbon performance

	<p>Carbon and Other Co-Benefits Accounting Methodology – A scientifically sound, transparent, and verifiable approach to calculate GHG emissions reductions and carbon sequestration associated with practice changes as well as an approach to measure other Project benefits, incl. soil health, biodiversity, and farmer wellbeing.</p> <p>Soil Carbon Quantification Model – A modelling framework capable of estimating changes in soil carbon stocks across diverse agricultural landscapes under varying management regimes.</p> <p>Technical Support – An organisation providing dedicated support to align the various elements of the MRV system to ensure effective delivery and coherence according to the project's needs.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	<p>Eligibility Criteria</p> <p>Consortium Eligibility</p> <p>Each implementing participant must:</p> <p>Be a legally incorporated entity in one of the EU or Horizon Europe eligible country listed above for a minimum of 2 years.</p> <p>Provide a PIC Number</p>
Total Budget: €1,000,000	
Deadline: 03/09//2025	
More information and official documents:	https://www.eitfood.eu/open-calls/mrv-system-for-polish-regenerative-agriculture-landscape

Call Title:	CFAs: YSEALI Regional Workshop "CyberSafe ASEAN"
Programme:	U.S. Mission to ASEAN
Objective:	<p>Applications are now open for the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) Regional workshop that contribute toward the international effort to combat transnational crime – specifically online scams, which fall under cybercrime, international economic crime, trafficking in persons, economic migration, and more –directly affecting the United States, the 10 ASEAN members states, and observer Timor-Leste.</p> <p>The regional workshop will help participants to avoid becoming scamming fraud and trafficking victims by teaching them cybersecurity best practices and helping them understand the complexities and challenges affecting different member states. It will also foster region-wide cooperation to promote the rule of law, strengthen relevant legal and regulatory systems in ASEAN member states, learn best practices from the United States, and ultimately prevent the victimization of Americans.</p> <p>Goals and Objectives</p> <p>This YSEALI regional workshop will take place in Phnom Penh and/or Sihanoukville, Cambodia, or Jakarta, Indonesia.</p> <p>Teach Young Leaders to Avoid Scams, Enlist them to Spread the Message, Curb Scam Proliferation: Criminals target digitally-engaged youth from Southeast Asian countries not just to defraud them but also to trick them into becoming scammers, making them victims twice over and growing the scam industry. As online scams become more sophisticated with the help of AI, these young people are more exposed but in many ways are the most prepared to receive this training. They are</p>

	<p>also the most effective messengers to their peers. Once they have learned, they can use their digital influence to highlight how to identify and avoid scams, the personal dangers of accepting the “lucrative employment” offers that pervade this kind of crime, and the social and economic costs to countries that don’t go all in on shutting down these scams.</p> <p>Participants will be better able to combat the proliferation of online scams that that victimize Americans, as they gain increased awareness of how criminals recruit potential victims to unwittingly perpetuate online fraud, and receive cross-border collaborative opportunities to work together against this scourge.</p> <p>Weaken Scams, Strengthen America: Fostering a cohort of informed and proactive young leaders makes America safer by strengthening the digital resilience of future leaders and their communities against transnational cybercrime. Promoting measures to protect against digital fraud has the secondary benefit of supporting the economic growth and stability of these countries, fostering a stable and trustworthy marketplace for American investments, and enabling these countries to invest in the United States. The workshop will also broaden individual perspectives to consider how false or fraudulent jobs that enable and support scams affect legitimate job markets and harm economic strength and development.</p>
Eligible Activities:	<p>Key Objectives</p> <p>Raise Awareness: Educate digitally engaged youth from Southeast Asian countries on how criminals target them with false offers of lucrative employment to defraud and/or traffic them to participate in online scams.</p> <p>Prepare Young Leaders: Provide young leaders with the knowledge, skills, and strategies to become effective mouthpieces, informing their peers about the dangers and tactics of cybercriminals.</p> <p>Highlight Personal and Societal Costs: Emphasize the personal dangers and societal costs of involvement in online scams, including the inability to predict personal negative outcomes and the broader impact on countries that allow scammers to flourish.</p> <p>Foster Collaboration: Create a network of informed and proactive young leaders who can spread awareness and develop cross-border solutions to combat online scams.</p> <p>Program Details</p> <p>This intensive YSEALI Regional Workshop, “CyberSafe ASEAN: Equipping Young Leaders to Outsmart Scammers,” will bring 60 youth (aged 20-35) from all ten ASEAN countries and Timor-Leste to Phnom Penh and/or Sihanoukville, Cambodia, or Jakarta, Indonesia, for a three-to-five-day workshop that will include the following components:</p> <p>Classroom Sessions</p> <p>Objective: Provide a structured learning environment with expert-led sessions in cybersecurity, digital forensics, criminology, social psychology, and the law, delivering comprehensive overviews of key topics and themes related to online scams and fraud on how criminals lure youth into becoming victims of scams, the tactics used, and the personal and societal costs involved.</p> <p>Activities: Engaging presentations, interactive case studies, and skill-building exercises to understand the evolving threat landscape, tactics used by perpetrators, and the principles of digital self-defense.</p> <p>Field Trips/Site Visits</p>

	<p>Objective: Offer experiential learning opportunities through direct observation and hands-on experience in a simulation environment.</p> <p>Activities: Visits to organizations and government entities involved in addressing online scams, including law enforcement agencies, consumer protection organizations, non-governmental institutions, and financial institutions' fraud prevention units. In Sihanoukville, briefings from journalists or other engaged parties to understand how the city's economy has changed as a result of scams and how the city's leaders are trying (and struggling) to recover. Hands-on demonstrations such as how scammers use AI to simulate fake voices/faces/text conversations in foreign languages they don't speak by partnering leaders who are native speakers of the target language; how crypto is used to launder money by buying/redeeming tiny amounts of crypto for cash at the various exchanges to see the lack of customer protections and transparency/reliability</p> <p>Workshop Sessions</p> <p>Objective: Foster collaboration, critical thinking, and practical application of learned knowledge.</p> <p>Activities: Panel discussions with experts in various fields, collaborative project development sessions focused on scam prevention initiatives, and simulation exercises to give participants a chance to practice workshop skills. Participants will develop solutions and actionable plans to implement in their communities, creating a network of proactive "Digital Shields."</p> <p>Funding Information</p> <p>Award amounts: Awards may range from a minimum of \$100,000 to \$200,000</p> <p>Length of performance period: 12 months</p> <p>Expected Outcomes</p> <p>Enhanced Awareness: Participants will gain a critical understanding of the tactics criminals use to target youth with fraudulent pretenses, including fake job offers.</p> <p>Increased Digital Resilience: Young leaders will develop robust personal protection strategies and insights into reporting mechanisms and legal frameworks, breaking the cycle of victimization and scam network growth.</p> <p>Community Impact: Participants will become effective communicators and educators within their communities, creating a ripple effect of awareness and prevention across ASEAN and Timor-Leste.</p> <p>Regional and International Impact: A strong network of digitally savvy YSEALI members and their communities will contribute to a safer and more secure digital future for the broader region, stemming the tide of scams that target Americans.</p> <p>Participants and Audiences</p> <p>The grant recipient will coordinate with the U.S. Mission to ASEAN and U.S. Embassy Phnom Penh to coordinate arrangements, manage travel logistics for, and recruit approximately 60 dynamic youth leaders (aged 20-35) from all ten ASEAN member countries (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam) and Timor-Leste to participate in "CyberSafe ASEAN: Equipping Young Leaders to Outsmart Scammers." Participants must be residing in an ASEAN member state when applying and when attending the workshop.</p> <p>Ideal participants will be youth who are eager to take action to build safer digital communities and demonstrate a combination of foundational digital literacy, a strong interest in combating online scams, and active engagement in community or youth initiatives. They should exhibit leadership potential, experience in peer education or awareness campaigns, strong understanding of social media, critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and effective communication abilities.</p>
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	All participants must be proficient in written and spoken English. The recipient will be responsible for, but not limited to, arranging participant travel, logistics, call for applications, communications plan, seeds grants, and more.
Eligible Applicants:	<p>Eligibility Criteria</p> <p>Eligible Applicants</p> <p>The following organizations are eligible to apply:</p> <p>U.S. not-for-profit organizations, including think tanks and civil society/non-governmental organizations</p> <p>U.S. public and private educational institutions</p> <p>International not-for-profit organizations, including think tanks and civil society/non-governmental organizations</p> <p>International public and private educational institutions</p>
Total Budget: \$500,000	
Deadline: 05/09/2025	
More information and official documents:	https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/360184

Call Title:	PROMOTE TRANSPARENCY BY ENHANCING CITIZENS' ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON PUBLIC REVENUES
Programme: U.S. Mission to Mauritania	
Objective:	<p>Objective</p> <p>Goal: Promote Transparency by Enhancing Citizens' Access to Information on Public Revenues.</p> <p>Objective One: By September 30, 2027, ensure the existence of a centralized and accessible platform in Mauritania for monitoring and reporting revenues from natural gas, mines, and fisheries, that is accessible to all Mauritanian citizens, local organizations, and interested private sector investors.</p> <p>Objective Two:</p> <p>By September 30, 2027, ensure the public availability of Mauritanian government and state-owned enterprise debt, through a dedicated platform, like the one that monitors natural resources income, and through credible and accessible media channels. This is intended to increase public awareness and engagement on the status of Mauritanian government and state-owned enterprise debt by 50 percent.</p> <p>Objective Three: By September 2027, operationalize Mauritania's Citizens' Budget through a user-friendly, multilingual web and WhatsApp-based application with chatbot capacity, making 80 percent of budgetary data accessible and understandable to the public and engaging at least 60,000 people annually.</p>
Eligible Activities:	Actions must take place in Mauritania.
Eligible Applicants:	The following organizations are eligible to apply: U.S.-based non-profit/non-governmental organizations subject to section 501(c) (3) of the U.S. tax code, Foreign-based non-profit organizations/non-government organizations (NGO), Public International Organizations, Foreign Public Organizations, Private, public, or state institutions of higher education, Governmental institutions.

Total Budget:	€600,000
Deadline:	08/09/2025
More information and official documents:	https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/360246

Call Title:	(RISE) GRANTS CHALLENGE
Programme:	IUCN
Objective:	<p>Objective</p> <p>The Resilient, Inclusive and Sustainable Environments (RISE) grants challenge aims to address the complex and multi-layered linkages between gender-based violence (GBV) and environmental issues. Funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) and managed by IUCN, the challenge supports activities designed to prevent, mitigate, and respond to GBV within and linked to environment and climate-related sectors. Through this initiative, RISE seeks to promote gender equality, social inclusion, and environmental protection while fostering cooperation and shared commitment across sectors.</p>
Eligible Activities:	<p>The RISE grants challenge seeks proposals that embed gender-based violence risk mitigation in existing or continuing environmental projects with communities within and around marine and terrestrial Indigenous-managed lands, protected areas, and lands considered using other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs).</p> <p>RISE grants challenge projects must be implemented in one or more of the targeted countries or be non-area based global policy focused projects: Brazil, Cambodia, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Mozambique, Nepal, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Congo, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, Vietnam, Zambia.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	<p>Eligible applicants for the RISE grants challenge include civil society organizations, networks, indigenous peoples, and community-based organizations operating regionally and/or globally. Projects must be implemented in one or more of the targeted countries or focus on global-level policy to address GBV in environmental programming. Applicants must demonstrate operational and administrative capacity, thematic responsiveness, and a commitment to self- and collective care.</p>
Total Budget:	\$600,000
Deadline:	08/09/2025
More information and official documents:	https://iucn.org/sites/default/files/2025-08/final-2025-call-for-proposals050825.pdf

Call Title:	CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS AS ACTORS OF DEVELOPMENT AND GOVERNANCE
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Programme: European Commission (EC) - International Partnerships	
Objective:	<p>Objective</p> <p>The overall objective (impact) of this action is to strengthen local CSOs as independent actors of good governance and development in their own right. The action aims to contribute to an inclusive, participatory, empowered, and independent civil society, which is pivotal for promoting a democratic space in partner countries.</p>
Eligible Activities:	<p>The action also seeks to promote an inclusive and open dialogue with and between Civil Society Organisations at local, regional and global levels. The global objective of this call for proposals is to strengthen local civil society organisations' engagement as actors of good governance and development at country level.</p> <p>The specific objective (outcome) of this call for proposals is to strengthen local Civil Society Organisations' (CSOs) engagement as actors of good governance and development at country level through increased enabling environment and stronger participation in policy-making in partner countries.</p> <p>Actions must take place in Jamaica.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	<p>In order to be eligible for a grant, the lead applicant must: (1) be a legal person and (2) be non-profit-making and (3) be a specific type of organisation, such as: civil society organization, including non-governmental non-profit organisations and independent political foundations, community-based organisations, and private-sector non-profit agencies, institutions and organisations and networks thereof and (4) 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.</p>
Total Budget: €1,069,000	
Deadline: 10/09/2025	
More information and official documents:	https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/online-services/#/

Call Title:	RFAs: Develop Mitigations for Safety and Security Risks from Misaligned AI Systems
Programme: AI Security Institute	
Objective:	<p>Applications are now open for the Develop Mitigations for Safety and Security Risks from Misaligned AI Systems to develop mitigations for safety and security risks from misaligned AI systems.</p>
Eligible Activities:	<p>Funding Information</p> <p>The Alignment Fund will provide funding, typically ranging from £50,000 to £1,000,000 per project. The coalition partners may consider funding higher value projects.</p> <p>As a recipient you will receive:</p> <p>Funding: Up to £1 million for researchers across disciplines from computer sciences to cognitive science,</p>

	<p>Compute access: Dedicated compute resources from AWS, enabling technical experiments beyond typical academic reach,</p> <p>Venture capital: Investment from private funders to accelerate commercial alignment solutions.</p> <p>Expectations</p> <p>Your funding package may include:</p> <p>Cash funding to support salaries, operations, or research expenses.</p> <p>Compute credits to access cloud-based resources for training, experimentation, and scaling.</p> <p>Support from expert researchers, drawn from their network of AI alignment experts and domain specialists.</p> <p>They will work with successful applicants to design a package that fits your project's goals and practical needs. Funding decisions will take into account:</p> <p>The amount requested and the rationale behind it.</p> <p>The duration of your project.</p> <p>Your organisational status (e.g. academic team, start-up, independent researcher).</p> <p>Your technical infrastructure requirements, including compute and specialist input.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	<p>Eligibility Criteria</p> <p>Eligible applicants: Researchers based at academic institutions, non-profit organisations and for-profit entities, subject to due diligence requirements.</p> <p>To be eligible for The Alignment Project the applicants must confirm that:</p> <p>The organisation named in the application is one of the following: Academic institution: defined as an institution that is eligible to receive funding from the research funding agency of the country in which it is based (e.g. eligible for Research Council funding in the UK, eligible for NSF/NIH funding in the USA, eligible for ERC funding in the EU, etc.) Relevant non-profit: defined as an organisation that is a legal entity operated for a collective, public or social benefit and is registered as such in the country in which it is based (e.g. registered with the Charities Commission in the UK, registered as a 501(c)(3) in the USA, etc.). Relevant for-profit: defined as an organisation that is primarily a commercial entity. These applications will be subject to additional terms according to the requirements of their funding partners.</p> <p>The named person on the application has the authority to begin the application process on behalf of the affiliated organisation.</p> <p>The named person on the application will provide AISI and the funding partners with all information required to undertake due diligence checks. AISI and the funding partners reserve the right to remove applications from the process if the information provided does not satisfy the due diligence requirements.</p> <p>The named person on the application gives AISI and the funding partners permission to process data in this form in compliance with GDPR.</p> <p>Selection Criteria</p> <p>Stage 1: Initial Screening and EOI review</p> <p>Applications will undergo an initial screening to ensure they meet the basic eligibility requirements and pass due diligence checks.</p> <p>Eligible EOIs will then go through a quality review based on pre-defined selection criteria.</p> <p>Following this initial assessment, applicants will be notified of the outcome.</p> <p>Stage 2: Full Application Assessment</p>

	<p>Shortlisted applicants will then collaborate with their assigned Research Sponsors to refine and develop their full application.</p> <p>Once the full application has been submitted, they will undergo a final assessment to be undertaken by a panel, independent of assigned Research Sponsors, against pre-defined selection criteria. Each funder in the consortium may review and score applications according to their own criteria.</p> <p>Based on this review, final funding decisions will be made.</p> <p>Shortlisted applicants will be informed of the outcome following the completion of the final assessment.</p>
Total Budget: €3,000,000	
Deadline: 10/09/2025	
More information and official documents:	https://alignmentproject.aisi.gov.uk/how-to-apply

Call Title:	SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN AFRICA
Programme:	International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
Objective:	The International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), as part of the Artificial Intelligence for Development (AI4D) program, are pleased to announce a call for concept notes on the socio-economic impacts of artificial intelligence (AI) in Africa.
Eligible Activities:	<p>This call supports research that explores how AI is reshaping labour markets, productivity, and inequality across Africa, supporting policy makers to ensure AI works for everyone, especially the most vulnerable. They invite concept notes that explore the socio-economic impacts of AI in African LMICs, with a focus on differential impacts, inequality and marginalized populations. Projects should address key knowledge gaps and generate evidence to guide responsible AI policies.</p> <p>Actions must take place in Africa.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	Applicants must be legally registered organizations based in African low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), with relevant expertise and institutional capacity. Proposals and team expertise must align with the call's themes.
Total Budget: CAD\$4,000,000	
Deadline: 17/09/2025	
More information and official documents:	https://idrc-crdi.ca/en/funding/call-concept-notes-socio-economic-impacts-artificial-intelligence-africa

Call Title:	CONNECTING INDIGENOUS RESEARCH LEADERSHIP IN CANADA AND THE GLOBAL SOUTH
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Programme: International Development Research Center (IDRC)	
Objective:	Objective IDRC is pleased to announce a call for proposals to connect Indigenous research and leadership in Canada and in the Global South to complement the Tri-agency strategic funding opportunity Indigenous Capacity and Leadership in Research Connection Grants being led by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC).
Eligible Activities:	The call expects to fund up to seven grants for Indigenous organizations in the Global South that are interested in connecting with First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities in Canada through knowledge-sharing activities. These activities aim to co-develop an interdisciplinary, Indigenous research agenda and build alliances between Indigenous researchers in the Global South and First Nations, Métis and Inuit researchers in Canada, potentially leading to broader joint research endeavours in the future. Actions must take place in the Global South.
Eligible Applicants:	This call is open to Indigenous organizations or organizations supporting Indigenous-led research programs based in the Global South.
Total Budget: CAD\$700,000	
Deadline: 23/09/2025	
More information and official documents:	https://idrc-crdi.ca/en/funding/connecting-indigenous-research-leadership-canada-and-global-south

Call Title:	PRIZE FOR INNOVATION IN GLOBAL SECURITY
Programme: Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP)	
Objective:	Objective They are pleased to announce that the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP) and its Geopolitics and Global Futures Programme are now open for applications for the 2025 GCSP Prize for Innovation in Global Security. The prize is designed to reach across all relevant disciplines and fields. It is intended to encourage and recognise excellence in contributing to new approaches to enhancing sustainable global security. A broad range of projects could qualify for consideration, including, but not limited to, technological and conceptual innovations, original research or grassroots initiatives.
Eligible Activities:	Esteemed judges, comprising renowned practitioners from international organizations, governments, and the private sector, will carefully evaluate submissions based on the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated commitment to sustainable global security • Upholding human dignity, security, and justice • Displaying creativity and originality Applications are welcome from all countries, provided that the projects extend beyond national borders in scope or concept, and seek to tackle global security issues in innovative ways. A wide range of projects may qualify for consideration,

	including technological and conceptual innovations, original research, or grassroots initiatives.
Eligible Applicants:	Eligible applicants are individuals, or group of individuals, or organisation (from private or public sectors).
Total Budget:	€100,000
Deadline:	25/09/2025
More information and official documents:	https://www.gcsp.ch/events/apply-2025-gcsp-prize-innovation-global-security

Call Title:	Applications open for CyberSecDome Open Call Round 2
Programme:	European Commission (EC)
Objective:	<p>The European Commission invites proposals for the deployment, testing, and validation of the final integrated CyberSecDome platform in real-world operational environments.</p> <p>Selected projects will support the project's final validation and deployment phase, contributing to the assessment of its scalability, usability, interoperability, and cross-sector relevance.</p>
Eligible Activities:	<p>Objectives</p> <p>The CyberSecDome Open Call aims to engage cross-sector and cross-border third parties to accelerate the integration of advanced security solutions into digital systems and infrastructures. Through this initiative, they seek to enhance trust, security, and resilience across ICT products, services, and processes within the digital ecosystem.</p> <p>Funding Information</p> <p>The total budget available is 1.200.000 € which will be divided between the two rounds.</p> <p>The maximum funding for any proposal is €120,000, regardless of the total project budget, the number of topics addressed, or the size of the consortium. The grant supports up to 100% of eligible costs, including indirect costs, for SMEs, while larger industries are funded at 50%. If the total project budget exceeds €120,000, applicants must cover the remaining costs from their own resources. Additional resources provided by the applicants on their own budget will strengthen the proposal.</p> <p>To who is it directed</p> <p>Micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs): Companies in the IT, ICT, and digital infrastructure sectors seeking to enhance their operations with innovative cybersecurity solutions, including AI and VR technologies.</p> <p>Research institutions and academics: Universities, research centers, and academic professionals specializing in IT, ICT, or cybersecurity research and innovation, eager to collaborate on refining and testing advanced solutions in practical settings.</p> <p>Public and private sector entities: Institutions managing complex digital systems and infrastructures that aim to strengthen their resilience and security using cutting-edge, AI-driven cybersecurity frameworks.</p>

	Industry professionals and large enterprises: Big companies and industry leaders looking to contribute to or adopt advanced cybersecurity innovations to protect and optimize their digital ecosystems.
Eligible Applicants:	<p>Eligibility Criteria</p> <p>Open to organizations and individuals from EU Member States and countries associated with Horizon Europe. Participants from non-associated non-EU countries, specifically the UK and Switzerland, may apply but may not be eligible for funding due to regulations under Horizon Europe in place as of 2023.</p> <p>Applicants can apply individually, in teams of two, or as part of a consortium of up to three organizations. Each consortium must include at least one SME as a partner. All partners in the consortium must meet the eligibility criteria and contribute to the project's objectives.</p>
Total Budget: €1,200,000	
Deadline: 30/09/2025	
More information and official documents:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/competitive-calls-cs/11445

Call Title:	WHITLEY AWARDS 2026
Programme:	Whitley Fund for Nature
Objective:	<p>Objective</p> <p>The Whitley Fund for Nature (WFN) is a UK registered charity offering Whitley Awards and ongoing support to outstanding nature conservationists around the developing world.</p>
Eligible Activities:	<p>The fund aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) find and fund the most effective grassroots conservation leaders in developing countries; (2) support the scale-up of projects with a track record of success, founded on scientific evidence and community involvement; (3) fund practical work that will have a long-lasting impact on the ground; (4) provide a platform for winners to boost their national and international profile; and (5) work with winners to improve awareness of the serious problems facing biodiversity worldwide and address them through effective and inspiring solutions. <p>Wildlife conservation projects must be based in countries that are not defined as a High Income Economy by the World Bank. Exceptions to this criterion include Equatorial Guinea and certain island nations in the Caribbean.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	<p>The Whitley Award is given to an individual. Eligible are grassroots conservationists who are embedded in and/or from the communities where they work. Applicants should work for or lead locally incorporated NGOs in the Global South, rather than be in-country staff employed by NGOs headquartered in the Global North.</p>

Total Budget:	€100,000
Deadline:	31/10/2025
More information and official documents:	https://whitleyaward.org/apply-for-conservation-funding/apply-for-a-whitley-award/

Call Title: Entries open for Wellcome Career Development Awards	
Programme: Wellcome	
Objective:	<p>Applications are now open for the Wellcome Career Development Awards to provide funding for mid-career researchers from any discipline who have the potential to be international research leaders.</p> <p>They will develop their research capabilities, drive innovative programmes of work and deliver significant shifts in understanding related to human life, health and wellbeing.</p>
Eligible Activities:	<p>Funding Information The annual expenditure for a Career Development Award is usually below £250,000 excluding the applicant's salary. Usually 8 years, but may be less for some disciplines and may only be longer if held on a part-time basis.</p> <p>Eligible Costs A basic salary (determined by your administering organisation) Staff Continuing professional development and training Materials and consumables Animals Equipment Access charges Overheads Travel and subsistence Overseas allowances Fieldwork expenses Inflation allowance Open access charges Clinical research costs Public engagement and patient involvement costs Contract research organisations Other costs</p>
Eligible Applicants:	<p>Eligibility Criteria You can apply for a Wellcome Career Development Award if you are a mid-career researcher and you are ready to lead a substantial and innovative research programme. You must aim to make a key contribution to your field by: Generating significant shifts in understanding Developing methodologies, conceptual frameworks, tools or techniques that could benefit health-related research During the award, they expect you to: Develop your research capabilities and leadership skills</p>

	<p>Support others to undertake research responsibly and promote a positive and inclusive culture</p> <p>Start training the next generation of researchers and develop their research skills and careers</p> <p>By the end of the award, you should have achieved international standing in your area of research</p> <p>You should also have the skills and experience to apply for permanent positions at research organisations</p> <p>Lead applicant career stage and experience:</p> <p>To be eligible, you will already be driving your own research.</p> <p>You must have:</p> <p>Completed one or two substantial periods of research after your initial research training</p> <p>Made important contributions to your area of research.</p> <p>You will probably have experience of working collaboratively. You may have directed, or closely guided, the work of others.</p> <p>At the point of application, you may also have been appointed to:</p> <p>Your first permanent, open-ended or long-term rolling contract, or to a tenure track contract. If this applies to you, you cannot ask for your own salary with this award unless you are based in a low- or middle-income country and have to get your salary from external grant funding.</p> <p>A fixed term position with four years or less remaining on your contract at the point of application. If this applies to you, you can ask for your own salary with this award.</p> <p>A fixed term position with more than four years left on your contract at the point of application. If this applies to you, you cannot ask for your salary with this award and your host organisation must underwrite your salary costs for the duration of the award.</p> <p>For permanent, open-ended or long-term rolling contracts, you must have been appointed within the last three years unless, during this time, you:</p> <p>Spent time away from research due to personal circumstances (for example, for a career break, parental leave, long-term sick leave or a chronic illness)</p> <p>Worked part-time and research was not part of the role, for example, if you have been employed as a healthcare professional</p> <p>Have worked part-time and your cumulative research time is less than three years</p> <p>Changed research discipline, for example, moving from astrophysics to computational neuroscience, or environmental chemistry to social anthropology. There may be some crossover, such as in research sites or techniques, but the shift should still be a significant change.</p> <p>Were based in a low- or middle-income country where it is normal to be appointed to a permanent, open-ended or long-term rolling contract early in your research career</p> <p>Ineligibility Criteria</p> <p>You are not eligible to apply if:</p> <p>You hold, have held, or have accepted an offer for an equivalent award at this career stage (an exception to this is that their current Wellcome grantholders at an equivalent stage can apply to this scheme)</p> <p>You have made an application to this scheme and you are waiting for a decision</p> <p>You cannot apply to carry out activities that involve the transfer of grant funds into mainland China</p> <p>Assessment Criteria</p>
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	<p>To be competitive, your research proposal will be:</p> <p>Bold: It aims to deliver a significant shift in understanding and/or it provides a significant advance over existing methodologies, conceptual frameworks, tools or techniques. It has the potential to stimulate new and innovative research.</p> <p>Creative: Your proposed approach is novel – it develops and tests new concepts, methods or technologies, or combines existing ideas and approaches in a new way.</p> <p>High quality: It is well-designed, clear, supported by evidence and the proposed outcomes/outputs are feasible</p>
Total Budget: £500,000	
Deadline: 20/11/2025	
More information and official documents:	https://wellcome.org/research-funding/schemes/wellcome-career-development-awards

Call Title:	Innovative approaches for the deployment of Positive Energy Districts HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D4-04
Programme: European Commission (EC)	
Objective:	<p>Expected Outcome:</p> <p>Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:</p> <p>Increased number of approaches and solutions enabling a net positive yearly energy balance at district level and the export of excess renewable energy to the grid outside its geographical boundaries, with enhanced replicability on a larger scale in other positive energy districts (PEDs) in different contexts;</p> <p>Measurable increase in inclusiveness and public acceptance of the implementation of PEDs;</p> <p>Improved user-friendliness and user-awareness of guidelines, tools, and training materials targeting key professionals for overcoming the different types of barriers towards the realisation of PEDs.</p>
Eligible Activities:	<p>Scope:</p> <p>Recent projects have demonstrated the feasibility of PEDs, but there is a need to further demonstrate climate-neutral impact, while developing and demonstrating innovative approaches and solutions for overcoming technical, business, social and organisational constraints in several domains. Such domains include, for example, climate mitigation, integration of renewable energy sources and energy storage in buildings, grid connections, accommodation of distributed energy generation and storage at district level, permitting, data privacy and security and the application of new technologies such as artificial intelligence. Presently, these constraints, which inhibit the demonstration of complete and qualified PEDs, require the cooperation of key professionals from the public and private sector, such as municipal and regional authorities and those from the energy and construction sectors, in complex implementation processes.</p> <p>Proposals are expected to address all of the following:</p> <p>Demonstrate innovative approaches and solutions for overcoming constraints which prevent the successful implementation of PEDs;</p>

	<p>Develop supportive local planning frameworks for the design and realisation of PEDs;</p> <p>Demonstrate the proposed approaches, solutions, and supportive local planning frameworks in at least three districts in diverse geographical areas that implement energy efficiency measures alongside renewable energy installations, storage solutions, digital and smart technologies, and local energy communities;</p> <p>Develop and/or update existing guidelines, tools, and training materials for key professionals that will enable other cities to successfully replicate these innovative approaches, solutions and supportive local planning frameworks in their district/cities;</p> <p>Ensure the active involvement of all relevant public and private stakeholders, including citizens, through co-creation processes and community engagement activities.</p> <p>This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise (including social innovation), in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	<p>Entities eligible for funding</p> <p>To become a beneficiary, legal entities must be eligible for funding.</p> <p>To be eligible for funding, applicants must be established in one of the following countries:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) linked to the Member States: Aruba (NL), Bonaire (NL), Curaçao (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).</p> <p>countries associated to Horizon Europe</p> <p>Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom.</p> <p>the following low- and middle-income countries</p> <p>Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Comoros, Congo (Democratic Republic), Congo (Republic), Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt (Arab Republic), El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Korea (Democratic People's Republic), Kyrgyz Republic, Lao (People's Democratic Republic), Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Niue, Pakistan, Palau, Palestine, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Samoa, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan,</p>

	Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic), Vietnam, Yemen Republic, Zambia, Zimbabwe. International organisations — International European research organisations are eligible to receive funding.
Total Budget: €15,000,000	
Deadline: 17/02/2025	
More information and official documents:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-CL5-2026-02-D4-04

Call Title:	UNSOLICITED CONCEPT NOTES WITH IDRC
Programme:	International Development Research Center (IDRC)
Objective:	<p>Objective</p> <p>The IDRC's mandate is to conduct research into the problems of the developing regions of the world and into the means for applying and adapting scientific, technical, and other knowledge to the economic and social advancement of those regions. In doing so, they make an important contribution to Canada's foreign policy.</p>
Eligible Activities:	<p>They fund research in the areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate-Resilient Food Systems: they fund research that helps build inclusive and sustainable food systems. Their work helps develop resilience among communities severely affected by climate change and address emerging health threats that arise from food systems. • Health: they strengthen health systems and policies so they can deliver better maternal and child health, improved sexual and reproductive health and rights for women and girls, and more effective and equitable preparedness and responses to epidemics. • Education and Science: they support research to ensure children and youth from vulnerable populations are in school and benefit from high-quality education. They also support women's leadership in strong science systems that produce knowledge and innovation and improve lives. • Democratic and Inclusive Governance: they invest in research and innovation so that people around the world can enjoy the benefits that democracy and inclusive governance bring to everyday life. Their work on democracy and how countries are governed supports tangible improvements for everyone, especially women, minorities, refugees, and other groups that are denied their rightful place in civic life. • Sustainable Inclusive Economies: they build the evidence base to support sustainable development that reduces greenhouse gas emissions. They enhance climate resiliency, foster shared prosperity, and expand economic opportunities for women and youth. <p>They are working in selected countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Middle East.</p>

Eligible Applicants:	Developing-country researchers, institutions, and Canadian researchers are eligible.
Total Budget:	€ Average research project size is \$400,000. Their annual budget is around \$120m
Deadline:	ongoing
More information and official documents:	https://www.idrc.ca/en/funding/applying-funding

Link to Previous Funding Newsletters

<https://www.consultcormack.com/funding-newsletter>

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