

# CCG INSIGHT NEWSLETTER

Weekly Funding Insight  
Week Commencing 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026



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## New Opportunities

<b>Call Title:</b>	<b>Youth Climate Changemakers Fund for Informal Groups</b>
<b>Programme:</b>	<b>Generation Climate Europe</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<p>The Youth Climate Changemakers Fund offers micro-grants to informal youth groups seeking to strengthen grassroots climate activism across the European Union.</p> <p>The fund provides small grants to groups of at least three young people under 30, does not require applicants to be registered organisations, supports activities lasting between 6 and 12 months, and funds initiatives such as awareness-raising, public engagement, mobilisation, advocacy, capacity building, and training; it aims to strengthen the youth climate movement by providing financial, training and networking support, prioritises those who struggle to secure funding due to lack of formal registration, seeks to engage new and underrepresented audiences within the climate movement, focuses on creating long-term legacy and future growth for supported groups, and encourages grantees to become active members of the Funding Fairer Futures community.</p>
<b>Eligible Activities:</b>	<p>This opportunity is designed to empower youth-led groups that are committed to building stronger climate action at the grassroots level. By lowering barriers to funding, the initiative ensures that informal groups and emerging activists can access the financial support necessary to bring their ideas to life.</p> <p>Projects must run for a minimum of six months and be youth-led, meaning that day-to-day management or the governing body is primarily composed of individuals under the age of 30. Applicants must not have received or expect to receive support from another fund financed under the EU's DEAR programme, nor be involved in delivering any other project funded by that programme.</p> <p>Groups must demonstrate their ability to manage funds responsibly and provide the required financial and reporting information. Proposed projects must align clearly with the objectives of the fund and include eligible activities such as awareness raising, public engagement, mobilisation campaigns, advocacy efforts, and capacity building or training initiatives.</p> <p>Beyond financial assistance, the initiative—delivered through Funding Fairer Futures—seeks to build a collaborative and supportive network of young climate leaders who can sustain and expand their impact well beyond the grant period.</p>
<b>Eligible Applicants:</b>	<p>Applicants may apply either as a natural person representing a group or as a legal person such as an organisation. Those applying as individuals must represent at least three people who will jointly deliver the project. All applicants must be citizens of a member state of the European Union.</p>
<b>Total Budget:</b>	<b>€100,000</b>
<b>Deadline:</b>	<b>01/04/2026</b>
<b>More information and official documents:</b>	<a href="https://gceurope.org/fundingfairerfutures/informal-groups/">https://gceurope.org/fundingfairerfutures/informal-groups/</a>

<b>Call Title:</b>	<b>AGYLE Program 2026: Driving GreenTech Innovation for Sustainable Impact</b>
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<b>Programme: Germany – Land of Ideas</b>	
<b>Objective:</b>	<p>AGYLE 2026 invites young leaders and entrepreneurs to explore innovative solutions that drive environmental impact, economic scalability, and social value creation.</p> <p>The program focuses on renewable energies, climate and agritech, water and resource management, and sustainable mobility. AGYLE 2026 brings together young leaders and entrepreneurs from Africa and Europe who understand technological innovation as a lever for sustainable transformation, creating space for exchange, collaborative learning, and strategic development with the aim of rethinking responsible growth and fair value creation. The program serves as a platform for innovation, leadership, and intercultural exchange between Africa and Germany, allowing participants to work together on solutions for a sustainable future.</p>
<b>Eligible Activities:</b>	<p>Participants will experience AGYLE through live events, digital sessions, interactive workshops, and company visits, offering unique opportunities to develop professional skills, expand networks, and actively shape the future alongside other leaders. The highlight of the program is the AGYLE Live Week from September 14-18, 2026 in Berlin, where 40 young leaders from nine countries will engage in discussions, present business models, and share visions with stakeholders from business and politics. The week will feature interactive workshops, targeted matchmaking, and company visits.</p> <p>AGYLE emphasizes intercultural collaboration, encouraging participants to work on real-world GreenTech challenges with peers from Africa and Europe, putting their skills to the test. Leadership and skill development are core elements, with tailored formats designed to strengthen leadership capabilities and foster personal growth. Long-term business connections are also a key focus, providing access to an exclusive network of executives and lasting professional relationships. Additionally, digital events and online sessions allow participants to stay connected with the community, gain exclusive insights, and continuously expand their knowledge.</p>
<b>Eligible Applicants:</b>	<p>The program is open to managers under 40 with at least three years of management experience or founders of their own companies. Eligible candidates must be from or have worked for at least five years in Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Austria, Rwanda, Senegal, or Tunisia, and demonstrate a commitment to a sustainable future while showing interest in contributing to the AGYLE alumni network.</p>
<b>Total Budget: €Not Available</b>	
<b>Deadline: 01/04/2026</b>	
<b>More information and official documents:</b>	<a href="https://agyle.land-der-ideen.de/agyle-2026">https://agyle.land-der-ideen.de/agyle-2026</a>

<b>Call Title:</b>	<b>Evidence for AI in Health Initiative</b>
<b>Programme: Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)</b>	
<b>Objective:</b>	The Evidence for AI in Health is seeking proposals to support locally-led evaluations of AI-enabled clinical decision support tools (CDSTs) designed to assist



	frontline workers with clinical tasks within primary and community health care settings.
<b>Eligible Activities:</b>	<p>This call particularly welcomes evaluations that strengthen integration of service delivery across levels of care, examine integration of health commodities where regulation allows, assess system-level fit including interoperability with digital health tools, data systems, and referral processes, explore multimodal applications such as tools using voice, text, or image inputs, focus on reducing inequities by extending reach to vulnerable, underserved, or rural populations, and address high-burden conditions with potential for significantly improved outcomes.</p> <p>Researchers may apply for one of two funding pathways. Pathway A supports real-world evaluation of AI-enabled CDSTs that are early in deployment, focusing on usability, workflow integration, adoption, and safety, and provides up to USD \$1,000,000 for research that can inform future impact evaluations. Pathway B supports rigorous impact evaluations of AI-enabled CDSTs that are ready to be deployed at scale, focusing on measuring effects on health outcomes and system performance, with funding up to USD \$3,000,000.</p>
<b>Eligible Applicants:</b>	<p>This call is intended for organizations or consortia that have access to an AI-enabled CDST already deployed or ready for deployment in primary health care settings and the capacity to conduct or partner for rigorous evaluations. Eligible applicants may include nonprofit organizations, for-profit companies, international organizations, government agencies, academic institutions, or collaborations among these actors. Proposals should be led by institutions based in the regions of focus and designed to generate decision-relevant evidence for Ministries of Health, implementers, and funders on responsible integration of AI-enabled CDSTs into primary health care systems and to inform future scale-up decisions where appropriate.</p> <p>Applicants must meet eligibility requirements to be considered for funding. Organizations must include partners responsible for clinical implementation, overall project management, and the evaluation. Teams must demonstrate expertise in health systems research or impact evaluation. Only legally recognized entities operating in Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, or Southeast Asia with a PI/Project Lead based in the region are eligible.</p>
<b>Total Budget: \$3,000,000</b>	
<b>Deadline: 01/04/2026</b>	
<b>More information and official documents:</b>	<a href="https://www.povertyactionlab.org/initiative/evidence-ai-health-evah-rfp">https://www.povertyactionlab.org/initiative/evidence-ai-health-evah-rfp</a>

<b>Call Title:</b>	<b>Fulbright Foreign Student Program Competition (Botswana)</b>
<b>Programme:</b>	<b>U.S. Embassy in Botswana</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<p>The U.S. Embassy in Botswana is seeking applications for its Fulbright Foreign Student Program Competition to strengthen local institutions, through supporting the acquisition of Master’s degrees in the United States.</p> <p>The fellowship provides support for Master’s level study across a wide range of academic disciplines. Eligible fields include environmental science, information technology, mass communications such as journalism, media studies, and public</p>

	relations, agriculture and food science, business with specialization in finance or accounting, education, the arts, public policy, health sciences, as well as hospitality and tourism.
<b>Eligible Activities:</b>	<p>The financial award provides full funding for a maximum of two years of study at a U.S. university. The funding amount covers university tuition and fees, a maintenance allowance, health insurance, books and supplies, as well as course-required field trips.</p> <p>A complete application must include an electronically signed application form, scanned transcripts of previous studies, degree certificates certified by the issuing institution, at least two academic and two professional references, and an applicant-written essay. All documents should be properly labeled, and incomplete applications will not be reviewed.</p> <p>The program follows a strict zero-tolerance plagiarism policy. Plagiarism is defined according to the Oxford English Dictionary as the wrongful appropriation or publication of another's ideas or expressions as one's own. Application materials are processed using software to detect plagiarism, and any flagged cases may lead to disqualification after review. The application also includes a plagiarism certification.</p> <p>Applicants should be aware that some U.S. universities and colleges have policies regarding the use of generative artificial intelligence in admission or affiliation applications. Certain institutions may scan submissions for AI-generated language, and directly copying such content into an application may negatively affect admission or affiliation decisions.</p>
<b>Eligible Applicants:</b>	Applicants must be Botswana citizens between the ages of 23 and 40 with an outstanding academic record and a high level of English proficiency. Candidates are required to hold an undergraduate degree and demonstrate strong leadership skills. They must be well prepared to pursue a Master's degree in their current field or a related discipline, be affiliated with or committed to working in Botswana after completing their studies in the United States, and show a passion for civic engagement or public service. An endorsement from a home institution is mandatory, and preference is given to those who have not previously studied in the United States.
<b>Total Budget: €Not available</b>	
<b>Deadline: 03/04/2026</b>	
<b>More information and official documents:</b>	<a href="https://bw.usembassy.gov/funding-opportunities/">https://bw.usembassy.gov/funding-opportunities/</a>

<b>Call Title:</b>	<b>GSMA Innovation Fund for Green Transition for Mobile</b>
<b>Programme:</b>	<b>GSMA</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	The GSMA Innovation Fund for Green Transition for Mobile is offering grants and venture-building support to small and growing enterprises that use mobile and digital technologies to drive clean energy access and circular economy solutions in low- and middle-income countries.
<b>Eligible Activities:</b>	The Fund has three primary objectives: to improve clean energy access for vulnerable communities by supporting scalable and sustainable business models

	<p>that enhance energy affordability while enabling digital inclusion; to increase the circularity of mobile phones and improve handset affordability by extending device lifespans through repair and refurbishment, reducing e-waste and emissions, and strengthening circular economy practices; and to advance the mobile industry’s climate action and environmental, social and governance priorities by generating evidence and practical lessons that create enabling environments for clean energy and circular solutions. The Fund focuses on projects addressing the dual challenge of digital and clean energy transitions and innovative approaches to refurbished handsets, including renewable energy systems, smart metering, mini-grids, mesh grids, energy efficiency solutions, anchor-business-community models leveraging telecom towers, leasing and take-back schemes, trade-in models, repair and refurbishment services, supply chain and logistics innovations, refurbished device marketplaces, traceability systems, financial and incentive mechanisms, circular device design and production, and responsible e-waste collection and recycling.</p> <p>Eligible organisations are required to demonstrate the use of digital and mobile technologies, ranging from SMS, USSD, connectivity, and mobile payments to advanced tools such as AI, IoT, blockchain, big data analytics, and software-enabled service delivery. The use of technology must be context-appropriate, user-focused, and aligned with the Fund’s clean energy and circularity objectives. Applicants must show clear plans for sustainability beyond the grant period and demonstrate potential for strategic partnerships with mobile network operators, with preference given to organisations that already have existing relationships with such partners. Female-founded, female-led, or gender-diverse organisations, as well as locally led enterprises committed to strengthening local capacity and employment, are particularly encouraged to apply.</p> <p>Only one organisation may apply and act as the lead grantee, and it must be responsible for delivering the majority of the proposed project outputs. Previous recipients of GSMA grants may apply, provided their earlier grant is no longer active at the time the application window closes.</p>
<p><b>Eligible Applicants:</b></p>	<p>The Fund is designed to support for-profit, private-sector small and growing enterprises with up to 250 employees that operate in eligible low- and middle-income countries across Africa, Central and South America, and South and Southeast Asia. Applicants must already have active users and commercial revenue in at least one eligible country and must be registered and operating in the country where the proposed project will be implemented.</p>
<p><b>Total Budget: €500,000</b></p>	
<p><b>Deadline: 06/04/2026</b></p>	
<p><b>More information and official documents:</b></p>	<p><a href="https://www.gsma.com/solutions-and-impact/connectivity-for-good/mobile-for-development/gsma-innovation-fund/the-gsma-innovation-fund-for-green-transition-for-mobile/">https://www.gsma.com/solutions-and-impact/connectivity-for-good/mobile-for-development/gsma-innovation-fund/the-gsma-innovation-fund-for-green-transition-for-mobile/</a></p>

<p><b>Call Title:</b></p>	<p><b>EIT Food Accelerator Network 2026 – Empowering Agrifood Startups</b></p>
<p><b>Programme: EIT Food</b></p>	
<p><b>Objective:</b></p>	<p>The EIT Food Accelerator Network (FAN) 2026 invites ambitious agrifood and foodtech startups to accelerate their technologies and market readiness.</p>

<b>Eligible Activities:</b>	<p>The programme focuses on Smart and Low-Carbon Supply Chains, Circular Solutions for Food Systems, Biotech Ingredients, Products and Processes, Future Resilient Agriculture, Water-Smart Agrifood Systems, and Digital &amp; Autonomous Farming Solutions.</p> <p>Startups selected for the programme will join one of six specialised hubs across Europe, each dedicated to a specific theme shaping the future of food systems. The accelerator runs for 2–3 months from September to December 2026, providing tailored support in technology validation, commercial acceleration, and investment readiness.</p> <p>Participants undergo a rigorous selection process evaluated by entrepreneurs, investors, and industry experts. Once selected, startups gain access to expert mentorship, personalised coaching, European research facilities, validation infrastructure, industry and corporate connections, investment readiness support, and the broader EIT Food Innovation Community. The programme helps startups refine their technology roadmap, strengthen go-to-market strategies, and accelerate adoption in the market.</p> <p>At the conclusion of the programme, each hub will host a Technology Validation Pitch Event. The top three startups in each hub, 18 in total, will be awarded funding of €50,000 for first place, €30,000 for second place, and €20,000 for third place.</p>
<b>Eligible Applicants:</b>	<p>To be eligible, startups must be registered companies established in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe-associated country (including the UK) in or after 2016, with innovations underpinned by a technology prototype or pilot project with TRL 4-8. Eligible companies should be pre-series A, have revenues up to €1 million, a team of no more than 20 people, and ideally, completed customer validation or demonstrated traction through letters of support, sales, or signed letters of intent.</p>
<b>Total Budget:</b>	<b>€100,000</b>
<b>Deadline:</b>	<b>08/04/2026</b>
<b>More information and official documents:</b>	<a href="https://www.eitfood.eu/open-calls/eit-food-accelerator-network-fan-call-for-startups-2026">https://www.eitfood.eu/open-calls/eit-food-accelerator-network-fan-call-for-startups-2026</a>

<b>Call Title:</b>	<b>Building Human-First, AI-Powered Workforce Solutions</b>
<b>Programme:</b>	<b>VivaTech</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	ManpowerGroup is launching a transformative startup challenge to help organizations and workers navigate the evolving world of work by combining AI innovation with human insight.
<b>Eligible Activities:</b>	The focus areas of this challenge include agentic AI for workforce delivery at scale, enabling always-on talent with human judgment where it matters most, and creating solutions where AI provides speed and scale while humans make critical decisions. Another priority is positioning skills as currency, putting people in control of their careers by making skills visible, portable, and actionable, ensuring individuals can confidently navigate technological advancements and evolving job landscapes.

	This challenge invites startups to demonstrate how agentic AI can enhance workforce delivery, helping organizations fill roles quickly while humans provide the judgment calls that matter most. It also emphasizes solutions that empower individuals to own their careers, understand the fit of their skills, manage their personal data, and navigate the future of work proactively. By blending AI capabilities with human insight, these innovations aim to deliver results today while building skills and systems for tomorrow.
<b>Eligible Applicants:</b>	Eligible startups include those incorporated in the last eight years with fewer than 100 employees. Selection will be based on potential for human-first, AI-powered workforce transformation, originality and defensibility of the solution, scalability across markets and industries, the strength and vision of the team, and evidence of market traction or product-market fit.
<b>Total Budget:</b>	€Not available
<b>Deadline:</b>	13/04/2026
<b>More information and official documents:</b>	<a href="https://challenges-awards.vivatech.com/challenges/manpowergroup-2026">https://challenges-awards.vivatech.com/challenges/manpowergroup-2026</a>

<b>Call Title:</b>	<b>STRENGTHENING CIVIL SOCIETY FOR INCLUSIVE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES</b>
<b>Programme:</b>	<b>European Commission (EC) - International Partnerships</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	The general objective of this call for proposals is to strengthen inclusive, rights-based, and sustainable social and regional development in Armenia
<b>Eligible Activities:</b>	The general objective will be pursued through four complementary components, corresponding to the four lots of the present call for proposals, that ensure a coherent approach to inclusive, rights-based, and sustainable social and regional development: Lot 1: Community-Based Social Services Lot 2: Rights and Socio-Economic Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities Lot 3: Youth- and Women-led Local Sustainable Development Lot 4: Sustainable integration, protection services and reforms under the Visa Liberalisation Dialogue (VLD)  Actions must take place in Armenia.
<b>Eligible Applicants:</b>	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 non-governmental organisation.
<b>Total Budget:</b>	€9,600,000
<b>Deadline:</b>	20/04/2026
<b>More information and official documents:</b>	<a href="https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/prospect-details/186051PROSPECTSEN">https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/prospect-details/186051PROSPECTSEN</a>

<b>Call Title:</b>	<b>Entries open for the Nigeria Prize for Creative Arts 2026</b>
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<b>Programme: NLNG</b>	
<b>Objective:</b>	Applications are now open for the Nigeria Prize for Creative Arts, with a focus on Documentary Filmmaking. Under the 2025 theme, IDENTITY, filmmakers are invited to explore who they are as individuals, communities, and cultures, and how their identities shape their view of the world, through the powerful medium of documentary storytelling.
<b>Eligible Activities:</b>	The Prize recognises outstanding non-fiction works that are character-driven and centred on individuals, communities, or ideas. Each documentary must revolve around a protagonist's singular or collective experiences, emotions, or challenges, fostering deep emotional connections with audiences through well-researched and thoroughly explored narratives. All submissions must be accompanied by a short artistic statement of no more than 250 words explaining the story, vision, and creative process, along with proof of Nigerian citizenship through a passport data page, National Identity card, or NIN certificate. Entries must be submitted exclusively through the official, non-public FilmFreeway link accessible via The Nigeria Prize website and its verified social media pages. Applicants are required to complete all project and submitter information, upload the documentary through a secure viewing URL, attach the required documents including the consent form, and ensure all links are active and accessible to the judges. A confirmation email will be issued upon successful checkout, and no payment is required to submit an entry.
<b>Eligible Applicants:</b>	Eligibility is limited to Nigerians aged 18 to 35, irrespective of residence. Only completed non-fiction short documentary films not exceeding 20 minutes and produced between April 2024 and April 2026 will be considered. Entries must be original works, and films containing Artificial Intelligence generated imagery or music are not eligible. Only one entry per contestant is permitted each competition year, and submissions from members of the Advisory Board, Panel of Judges, NLNG staff, and their immediate families are not allowed during their period of service and for two years thereafter.
<b>Total Budget: €100,000</b>	
<b>Deadline: 30/04/2026</b>	
<b>More information and official documents:</b>	<a href="https://www.thenigeriaprizes.org/?page_id=24278">https://www.thenigeriaprizes.org/?page_id=24278</a>

<b>Call Title:</b>	<b>Prize for Science and Innovation 2026</b>
<b>Programme: Nigeria LNG Limited</b>	
<b>Objective:</b>	The 2026 Nigeria Prize for Science and Innovation invites innovators, scientists, startups, practitioners, and interdisciplinary teams worldwide to submit entries for groundbreaking solutions that leverage technology to drive development.
<b>Eligible Activities:</b>	The focus areas include Innovations in Artificial Intelligence (AI), Information Communication Technology (ICT), and Digital Technologies for Development, with an emphasis on high-impact, innovative, and scalable solutions that address clearly defined development challenges relevant to Nigeria.

	<p>The Prize seeks entries that demonstrate clear integration of AI, ICT, or Digital Technologies, practical applicability and operational clarity, evidence of deployment, piloting, or real-world testing, measurable or clearly articulated community or societal impact, and potential for scalability, sustainability, and adoption. Both research-led innovations and practice-led, field-tested solutions are strongly encouraged, with particular consideration given to innovations that have strong real-world impact.</p> <p>Instituted in 2004 by NLNG, the Nigeria Prize for Science and Innovation celebrates excellence in scientific and innovative breakthroughs, recognizing scientists and innovators from around the world who provide solutions that can be applied in Nigeria. The award is open to both Nigerians and non-Nigerians involved in the application of science and innovation to proffer solutions in AI, ICT, or Digital Technologies for Development.</p> <p>This Prize provides a platform for innovators to showcase transformative solutions that have the potential to improve lives sustainably, aligning with NLNG’s vision of fostering development through science and innovation. Entries must be submitted within the stipulated time frame, accompanied by all supporting materials to ensure consideration.</p>
<b>Eligible Applicants:</b>	<p>Eligibility criteria include the requirement that entries must be of outstanding merit, advancing the frontiers of knowledge or providing an innovative technology in AI, ICT, or Digital Technologies for Development. Entries should be completed scientific works or innovative technologies substantiated by either proof of concept or tangible societal impact. Only one entry can be submitted per individual or group. Members of the Advisory Board, Panel of Judges, and NLNG staff, along with their immediate family members, are restricted from participation according to the defined periods of service.</p>
<b>Total Budget: €Not available</b>	
<b>Deadline: 30/04/2026</b>	
<b>More information and official documents:</b>	<a href="https://www.thenigeriaprizes.org/?page_id=15384">https://www.thenigeriaprizes.org/?page_id=15384</a>

<b>Call Title:</b>	<b>Joint Innovation Facility: Cross-Border Digital Innovation Grants</b>
<b>Programme:</b>	<b>Africa–Europe Digital Innovation Bridge</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	The Joint Innovation Facility (JIF), implemented under the Africa-Europe Digital Innovation Bridge (AEDIB), provides a unique opportunity for African and European innovators to collaborate on scaling commercially viable, digitally enabled solutions that generate measurable climate-positive impacts.
<b>Eligible Activities:</b>	The focus areas of the JIF include promoting digital innovation where technologies such as advanced data solutions or artificial intelligence are central to the solution’s functionality, scalability, and impact; enabling cross-border scaling and market expansion between Africa and Europe; supporting high-quality, applied AI solutions that go beyond generic or experimental use; ensuring climate-positive outcomes through mitigation, adaptation, or resilience; providing non-dilutive funding of EUR 100,000 or EUR 200,000 through a milestone-based grant structure; offering tailored support via the JIF Venture Studio, including expert mentorship,

	<p>technical advisory, investment readiness support, and peer learning; and increasing visibility and strategic positioning within the Africa–Europe digital transformation transition agenda.</p> <p>JIF is co-developed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, and the European Union (EU), and jointly implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the Finnish Institute of Public Management (HAUS), leveraging extensive experience in international cooperation and innovation ecosystem strengthening. Eligible African lead partners must be based in Benin, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Côte d’Ivoire, Kenya, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, or Zambia, while European partners must be based in one of the 27 EU Member States.</p> <p>JIF supports innovations that are ready to scale across borders and ensures that funding accelerates the next phase of growth through non-dilutive grants and expert advisory support. By fostering strong cross-border partnerships, the facility strengthens Africa–Europe digital innovation ecosystems and contributes to sustainable and climate-positive market solutions.</p>
<b>Eligible Applicants:</b>	<p>The 2026 JIF call emphasizes cross-border cooperation projects between African and European actors that scale existing revenue-generating solutions, further develop their digital components, and enable cross-border market expansion. Eligible consortia should consist of at least two partners collaborating across Africa and Europe, led by an African partner, and may include for-profit companies, Entrepreneurship Support Organisations (ESOs), Innovation Support Organisations (ISOs), applied research organisations, and relevant non-profit organisations. Projects must demonstrate commercial viability, strong local grounding, and measurable climate-positive impacts while promoting gender representation in leadership and implementation teams.</p>
<b>Total Budget:</b>	<b>€500,000</b>
<b>Deadline:</b>	<b>30/04/2026</b>
<b>More information and official documents:</b>	<a href="https://project-spark.africa/joint-innovation-facility/">https://project-spark.africa/joint-innovation-facility/</a>

<b>Call Title:</b>	<b>Establishing Infrastructure Hubs to Power Evidence Synthesis</b>
<b>Programme:</b>	<b>Wellcome Trust</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<p>Wellcome Trust has launched a new funding call to establish global infrastructure hubs that will enable more timely, relevant, and affordable AI-enabled evidence synthesis to address policy-scale challenges in global health.</p> <p>This initiative is part of Wellcome’s first series of Evidence Synthesis Infrastructure Collaborative investments and aims to establish foundational evidence synthesis capabilities that can be used to address Wellcome’s strategic priorities in global health, strengthen production, use and dissemination of evidence synthesis, enable AI-enabled approaches, and build infrastructure that supports timely and policy-relevant decision-making.</p>
<b>Eligible Activities:</b>	<p>Wellcome plans to fund five new global infrastructure hubs through this competitive call. Each award will range from £1.5 million to £1.9 million, with a</p>

	<p>funding duration of three to five years. The hubs are expected to build sustainable infrastructure that strengthens evidence synthesis capacity in low- and middle-income countries and supports policy-scale responses to global health challenges. Teams of researchers, whether newly formed or existing, are eligible to apply if they demonstrate expertise in evidence synthesis production, use, and dissemination. The lead applicant must be based in a low- and middle-income country, and the administering organisation must also be located in a low- and middle-income country, excluding mainland China. Eligible administering organisations include higher education institutions, research institutes, healthcare organisations, and not-for-profit or non-governmental research organisations. While commercial organisations cannot serve as administering organisations, co-applicants and collaborators may be affiliated with them.</p> <p>Certain restrictions apply to this call. Applicants must not propose activities involving the transfer of funds into mainland China. Individuals may serve as lead applicant on only one application and co-applicant on another, or as co-applicant on two applications, provided the projects are distinct and there is no overlap in activities. Applicants must demonstrate sufficient capacity to manage multiple funded projects if applicable and must not exceed the maximum number of Wellcome awards. Members of the ESIC Steering Group are not eligible to apply. Through this investment, Wellcome aims to strengthen evidence synthesis infrastructure and support research communities in low- and middle-income countries to deliver high-quality, AI-enabled evidence that can inform policy and improve global health outcomes.</p>
<b>Eligible Applicants:</b>	Applications are encouraged from teams that bring diverse expertise and interdisciplinary perspectives, including researchers at different career stages from early-career to experienced professionals.
<b>Total Budget: €1,900,000 per call</b>	
<b>Deadline: 07/05/2026</b>	
<b>More information and official documents:</b>	<a href="https://wellcome.org/research-funding/schemes/establishing-infrastructure-hubs-power-evidence-synthesis">https://wellcome.org/research-funding/schemes/establishing-infrastructure-hubs-power-evidence-synthesis</a>

<b>Call Title:</b>	<b>Open Call for Food and Agriculture Startup Competition</b>
<b>Programme:</b>	<b>Grow-NY</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<p>The Grow-NY is a global business competition designed to strengthen the food and agriculture innovation cluster in the Grow-NY region by attracting high-growth startups and supporting their expansion within the Upstate economy.</p> <p>The competition focuses on high-growth food and agtech startups, early-stage and scalable business models, innovation in the Food and Agriculture Field, job creation and regional economic growth, mentorship and customized business development support, and annual funding awards totaling \$3 million including a \$1 million top prize.</p>
<b>Eligible Activities:</b>	Funded by Empire State Development, Grow-NY attracts innovative startups from around the world and integrates them into the region's expanding startup ecosystem. Up to 20 finalists are selected and matched with experienced mentors, while also receiving customized business development trips to the region to strengthen their growth strategies and local connections.

	<p>Finalists pitch their food and agtech business ideas for a chance to win a share of \$3 million awarded annually to seven startups, with the top prize set at \$1 million. Winning companies are required to implement ambitious plans to create jobs, collaborate with local industry partners, and contribute to a thriving Upstate economy.</p> <p>The Food and Agriculture Field includes products, technologies, services, or processes related to food production, fuels, fibers, raw materials, and systems that improve development, growth, production, distribution, or processing, as well as innovations that benefit agriculture, food, or related industries.</p>
<b>Eligible Applicants:</b>	<p>The competition is open to startups worldwide that operate within the defined Food and Agriculture Field and are in the formative stage with scalable business models. Eligible applicants must be registered business entities such as corporations or LLCs and meet at least two qualifying criteria, including being less than seven years old, having a product in testing or pilot production, generating pre-revenue or early revenue, or maintaining a leadership team focused on commercialization and profitability.</p>
<b>Total Budget: \$3,000,000</b>	
<b>Deadline: 15/05/2026</b>	
<b>More information and official documents:</b>	<a href="https://www.grow-ny.com/">https://www.grow-ny.com/</a>

<b>Call Title:</b>	<b>Mediterranean Capitals of Culture and Dialogue</b>
<b>Programme:</b>	<b>Mediterranean Capitals of Culture and Dialogue</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<p>The Mediterranean Capital of Culture &amp; Dialogue initiative invites eligible cities to design and deliver a dynamic cultural programme that celebrates the diversity, heritage, and dialogue of the Euro-Mediterranean region.</p>
<b>Eligible Activities:</b>	<p>The programme should offer a variety of events celebrating the diversity of the Euro-Mediterranean region, promote cultural involvement, ensure activity diversity, highlight local cultural heritage, prioritise local and regional efforts, address regional priorities identified by UfM member states, involve artists from across the region, build international partnerships, foster effective cooperation between the two designated capitals, demonstrate strong governance and management, ensure solid financial capacity, engage civil society actively, implement effective communication strategies, and minimise environmental impact.</p> <p>A strong Euro-Mediterranean dimension is essential for a successful bid. Cities must align their proposals with regional priorities identified by UfM member states, actively involve artists from across the region, and seek meaningful international partnerships. Although two cities are designated each year, they must collaborate effectively while preparing and submitting independent applications. Any previous cooperation agreements between the candidate cities should be clearly referenced where applicable.</p> <p>The active participation of civil society plays a decisive role in the selection process. Local authorities are expected to work closely with civil society actors in both the development and implementation of the programme. Partnerships with</p>

	<p>at least one civil society organisation belonging to the ALF National Networks are particularly valued and demonstrate a commitment to inclusive cultural dialogue. Applications will be assessed based on the strength and coherence of the programme, the depth of its Euro-Mediterranean dimension, the quality of cooperation between the two capitals, governance and management structures, financial capacity, civil society engagement, communication strategy, and environmental responsibility.</p> <p>Through this initiative, cities have the opportunity to position themselves as vibrant centres of culture and dialogue while reinforcing shared Mediterranean values and cooperation across borders.</p>
<b>Eligible Applicants:</b>	<p>Local and regional authorities, regardless of city size, are encouraged to apply provided they are located in a country that is a member of the Union for the Mediterranean, whether coastal or inland, and have not previously held the title of Mediterranean Capital of Culture &amp; Dialogue. The programme must be strategically structured and demonstrate a consistent approach, culminating in a large-scale celebration on the Day of the Mediterranean that showcases the city's proven ability to deliver high-quality cultural events.</p>
<b>Total Budget: €Not available</b>	
<b>Deadline: 31/08/2026</b>	
<b>More information and official documents:</b>	<a href="https://medculturecapital.com/call-for-application">https://medculturecapital.com/call-for-application</a>

<b>Call Title:</b>	<b>CIVIC EMERGENCY FUND</b>
<b>Programme:</b>	<b>CIVIC EMERGENCY FUND</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<p>The Civic Emergency Fund provides fast, flexible support to civil society actors facing urgent or escalating pressure that hinders their work in the public interest. It responds to situations that fall outside standard grant mechanisms, providing timely and proportionate support to reduce immediate risk and help organizations and activists continue operating safely in restrictive civic environments.</p>
<b>Eligible Activities:</b>	<p>The Civic Emergency Fund supports urgent and proportionate actions that help civil society actors mitigate immediate harm, manage acute pressure, and safeguard their ability to continue operating. Support is tailored to the situation and focused on addressing concrete risks related to legal pressure, safety and security, psychological well-being, and the ability to continue operating.</p> <p>The Fund operates in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia.</p>
<b>Eligible Applicants:</b>	<p>The Fund is open to civil society actors facing direct pressure or restrictive actions related to their work in the public interest. This includes watchdog organizations, human rights and feminist groups, minority-led initiatives, independent non-profit media, environmental organizations, and groups representing marginalized communities, etc. Informal groups, movements, and individual activists, including journalists, may also be supported through a fiscal agent (registered organizations) or by direct payment of costs. The Fund prioritizes safety-focused and confidential forms of assistance.</p>

<b>Total Budget:</b>	€100,000
<b>Deadline:</b>	Ongoing
<b>More information and official documents:</b>	<a href="https://civicemergencyfund.com/en">https://civicemergencyfund.com/en</a>

## Link to Previous Funding Newsletters

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

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