

CCG INSIGHT NEWSLETTER

Weekly Funding Insight
Week Commencing 19th February 2024



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New Opportunities

Call Title:	Call for Tenders: Children's Learning - Effects of Climate Change and Environmental Degradation
Programme:	Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO)
Objective:	<p>The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) is inviting applications to conduct a systematic review of the effects of climate change and environmental degradation on children's learning in low- and middle-income countries.</p> <p>Purpose</p> <p>The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) is seeking to commission a systematic review (SR) of the research literature on the effects of climate change and environmental degradation on children's learning in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).</p> <p>Systematic reviews are a type of literature review which require equivalent standards of rigour as primary research. Systematic reviews:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use explicit and transparent methods, Are a piece of research following a standard set of stages, Are accountable, replicable and updateable, and Involve users to ensure a review is relevant and useful. <p>This SR is intended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the actual and potential, direct and indirect, effects of climate change and environmental degradation on children's learning in LMICs, Identify the mechanisms by which climate change and environmental degradation impact learning in LMICs, Evaluate what is known about the nature and scale of these effects on learning in LMICs, and although not a primary focus of the review, Identify effective approaches for mitigating or remediating the effects of climate change and environmental degradation on learning in LMICs. <p>Sectors</p> <p>Climate change, Education, Environment, Girls and women</p> <p>Research Questions & Scope</p> <p>FCDO has identified the following priority questions for the review. The review team should discuss the research questions with FCDO, challenge where this is appropriate and finalise the research questions as part of the development of the review protocol.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the actual or potential, direct or indirect, adverse effects of climate change and environmental degradation on children's learning in LMICs? Looking across sectors (health, nutrition, social, infrastructure, livelihoods, growth, water and sanitation), what are the mechanisms or pathways by which climate change and environmental degradation are actually or potentially, directly or indirectly, affecting children's learning in LMICs? What is known about the nature and scale of these effects on children's learning in LMICs? What promising interventions promote learning resilience (either at individual, community or system level)?
Eligible Activities:	<p>Expected Approach</p> <p>Systematic review</p> <p>Steps involved in developing an SR include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalising research questions, scope, and key terms and concepts Systematically searching for and screening research literature Extracting and coding data from identified studies Critically appraising relevant studies Conducting transparent analysis and reporting

	<p>The research team will be expected to conduct and report the research in line with relevant methodological standards. There is a range of guidance for systematic reviews, including Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses. The Systematic Review Toolbox provides a repository of guidance and tools for undertaking systematic reviews. Some journals may require the SR to be conducted and reported according to their guidelines for publication.</p> <p>Co-production</p> <p>A successful SR will involve FCDO decision-makers in the design and delivery of the research. At a minimum, the research team will be expected to:</p> <p>Understand the need for the research, how it is intended to be used in FCDO and ensure that the review is asking the right questions to meet the policy need.</p> <p>Involve users in the development of the protocol and the finalisation of research outputs to ensure the SR meets needs.</p> <p>Support users to digest and apply the findings of the research in their decision-making, e.g., via the development of supplementary products and provision of advice.</p> <p>Research teams are welcome to propose and explore further means of involving users in the design and development of the research, including creating opportunities to build skills in systematic review methods among FCDO staff. Research teams are also encouraged to identify and involve potential users outside of FCDO in the work.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	<p>Eligible Countries</p> <p>Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo, Congo (Democratic Republic), Gabon, Ghana, India, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe</p>
Total Budget:	£500,000
Deadline:	15/03/2024
More information and official documents:	https://www.gov.uk/international-development-funding/childrens-learning-effects-of-climate-change-and-environmental-degradation-in-low-and-middle-income-countries

Call Title:	12TH CALL FOR PROJECTS FROM FONDATION NEXANS
Programme:	FONDATION NEXANS
Objective:	<p>Objective</p> <p>The purpose of the Nexans Corporate Foundation is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support sustainable electrification projects designed to help reduce energy poverty and poverty around the world. • promote training and education for local people in the technical, energy and environmental fields • to support environmental projects (climate, energy sobriety, protection of resources and biodiversity, etc.) linked to the challenges of electrification.
Eligible Activities:	<p>They give priority to the countries in which the Group is present: (1) South America (Chile, Peru, Brazil, Colombia); (2) Africa (Morocco, Tunisia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Nigeria); (3) Near and Middle East (Turkey, Lebanon); (4) Asia Pacific (Australia, New Zealand, Korea, China); (5) North America (Canada, USA) and (6) Europe (France, Ukraine). But they also support projects in countries where they are not present if they meet all the other criteria's.</p>

Eligible Applicants:	Eligibility is limited to international NGOs or recognized associations (i.e.: law 1901 in France) that exist for at least 2 years.
Total Budget:	€200,000
Deadline:	26/03/2024
More information and official documents:	https://fondation.nexans.com/en/newsroom/news/details/2024/01/12th-call-for-projects.html

Call Title:	Call for Proposals: Evaluating the Impact of AI on Poverty, Health, Energy and Climate SDGs
Programme:	Future of Life Institute
Objective:	<p>The Future of Life Institute is calling for proposals for research evaluating in detail how artificial intelligence (AI) has so far impacted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) relating to poverty, healthcare, energy and climate change, and how it can be expected to impact them in the near future.</p> <p>This current request for proposals is part of FLI's Futures program, which aims to guide humanity towards the beneficial outcomes made possible by transformative technologies. The program seeks to engage a diverse group of stakeholders from different professions, communities, and regions to shape their shared future together.</p>
Eligible Activities:	<p>This research can examine either cases where AI is intended to address respective SDGs directly, or where AI has affected the realisation of these goals by its side effects. Each paper should select one SDG or target, analyse the impact of AI on its realisation up to the present, and explore the ways in which AI could accelerate, inhibit, or prove irrelevant to, the achievement of that goal by 2030. They acknowledge that AI is a broad term, encompassing systems that are both narrow and general with varying degrees of capability. Hence, for the purposes of this RFP they encourage using this taxonomy as a guide for exploring and categorising AI's current and future uses.</p> <p>Levels</p> <p>Level 0: No AI</p> <p>Level 1: Emerging equal to or somewhat better than an unskilled human</p> <p>Level 2: Competent at least 50th percentile of skilled adults</p> <p>Level 3: Expert at least 90th percentile of skilled adults</p> <p>Level 4: Virtuoso at least 99th percentile of skilled adults</p> <p>Level 5: Superhuman outperforms 100% of humans</p> <p>The SDGs</p> <p>The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) remain the most broadly supported repository of high-priority problems for the world to solve, especially with regards to poverty, health, energy and climate-related challenges. The centrepiece of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, the 17 SDGs constitute</p>

	<p>an ambitious hope for a better world, but also, for their purposes, a set of concrete measurable targets against which to assess the extent of progress in the four defined areas. For clarity, the goals directly relevant to those focuses are 1 (Poverty), 3 (Health), 7 (Energy) and 13 (Climate).</p> <p>The goals are interconnected. Solving one may involve or assist the solving of another. According to the UN, the goals “recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve the oceans and forests.” Indeed, a 2020 paper written by Vinuesa et al. analysed the effect AI could have on all of the goals. It concluded that while AI could have both positive and negative impacts on the SDGs, the net effect of AI would be positive.</p> <p>Filling a Gap</p> <p>As noted in the overview analysis by Vinuesa et al, “self-interest can be expected to bias the AI research community and industry towards publishing positive results.” As a result, they lack objective, independent analysis of the impact of AI thus far. Given that AI is rapidly being integrated into all aspects of society, this gap in the research community now needs filling.</p> <p>Sample Proposal Titles</p> <p>These samples are to get researchers thinking about various approaches. The selection of SDGs does not imply a preference for those particular goals in the research proposed.</p> <p>SDG 1</p> <p>How has AI been affecting the implementation of social support systems?</p> <p>What data do they have to suggest how AI will impact the goal of reducing poverty by half in 2030?</p> <p>What is the risk that general-purpose AI will significantly increase poverty by then?</p> <p>SDG 3</p> <p>How has AI affected the goal of decreasing maternal mortality?</p>
Eligible Applicants:	<p>Evaluation Criteria & Project Eligibility</p> <p>Proposals will be evaluated according to the track record of the researcher, the quality of the evaluation outline, the likelihood of the research yielding valuable findings, and the rigour of the proposed projection method.</p> <p>Grants applications will be subject to a competitive process of external and confidential peer review. They intend to support several proposals.</p>
Total Budget: €100,000	
Deadline: 01/04/2024	
More information and official documents:	https://futureoflife.org/grant-program/impact-of-ai-on-sdgs/

Call Title:	Culture, Heritage and Climate Action Scheme
Programme:	The British Academy
Objective:	<p>The British Academy is inviting proposals on culture, heritage and climate action from researchers based in the UK, Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries.</p> <p>This call is supported from the UK's International Science Partnerships Fund managed by the Department for Science, Innovation & Technology. In the context of this call, funding</p>

	from the International Science Partnerships Fund is funded by Official Development Assistance (ODA), therefore applications for this funding must be ODA-eligible.
Eligible Activities:	<p>Programme Aims & Scope of the Call</p> <p>The aim of this call is to support ODA-eligible international research collaborations between humanities and social sciences researchers in the UK and researchers in Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries on culture, heritage and climate action. Applications that are not considered ODA-eligible will not be taken forward through the assessment process.</p> <p>Furthermore, whilst it is not a requirement, applications are welcome to work across the humanities and social sciences AND the natural, medical and engineering sciences. The Academy particularly encourages applications led from the humanities.</p> <p>The Academy intends to be able to support policy-relevant research that can be either novel research or research that builds on existing or ongoing research in culture, heritage and climate action.</p> <p>The Academy envisages the awards made through the Programme will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide opportunities for researchers based in the UK and Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries to develop and/or deepen international research collaborations; Deliver policy-relevant ODA-eligible research in culture, heritage and climate action that provides clear insights and deliverables for action at local, national and/or regional levels in Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries; Co-creates and engages with local and/or national community, societal, business and/or policy stakeholders to design, develop and embed the research findings. <p>This call has a focus on culture, heritage and climate action. The Academy wishes to support diverse policy-relevant thinking related to this challenge. The Academy does not have any pre-determined ideas regarding the exact type of project, outputs, and dissemination of the research other than that it must be policy-relevant. Instead, the onus is on the applicants to convince the Academy that their projects bring genuine added value to addressing the Programme Aims and Scope of the Call and bring valuable insights and perspectives of relevance to the policy challenges of culture, heritage and climate action. Climate change is the existential challenge of the time and climate action is key to supporting inclusive economies and societies in the future, however, culture and heritage are often not sufficiently included in current climate actions. Evidence from the social sciences and humanities is critical to supporting this agenda and how they can shape a positive future. The Academy wishes to support policy-relevant research in the humanities and social sciences that will help demonstrate and develop how culture and heritage can create opportunities to enhance climate adaption and mitigation in Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries.</p> <p>Through this call, the Academy is looking to support awards that engage in exploring the needs, impacts and implications of culture, heritage and climate action in diverse settings, for diverse groups and communities, and that include diverse approaches to climate action, and consider how to build capacities and capabilities for climate action centred on culture and heritage.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	<p>Eligibility Criteria</p> <p>Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:</p>

	<p>Each project will be led by a named Principal Investigator (PI). The PI must be a researcher in a discipline within the social sciences or the humanities. The PI is expected to direct the research and the management of the project and has responsibility for the overall project reporting requirements.</p> <p>The PI must be of postdoctoral or above status (or have equivalent research experience). The PI must hold an established role in an eligible university or research institute in the UK, Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries. The PI's position must last at least the duration of the grant funded by the Academy.</p> <p>The PI can spend a minimum of 20% of their time and a maximum of 100% of their time on the grant. The time spent on the grant can change over the course of the award but may not be under 20% across the duration of the award. Staff employed on the award may be employed full or part time regardless of the time the award holder spends on the award. PIs may not hold more than one British Academy award of a comparable nature at any one time.</p> <p>An individual cannot be the PI on more than one bid under this Programme.</p> <p>Applicants can be of any nationality but they must be based in the UK, Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries.</p> <p>Applicants must hold a doctoral degree (or have equivalent research experience).</p> <p>Awards are available to individuals, to be held in an institutional context.</p> <p>Applications under this call will not be accepted if the applicant or any collaborators have any outstanding reports or statements of expenditure which are still to be submitted to the Academy following previous awards.</p> <p>Duplicate applications to more than one British Academy funding programme will not be accepted.</p> <p>Co-Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:</p> <p>Must include at least one researcher who is based in Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries if the Principal Investigator is based in the UK or one researcher based in the UK if the Principal Investigator is based in Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries.</p> <p>Must be of postdoctoral or above status (or have equivalent research experience).</p> <p>Can include other researchers based in the UK or internationally at all career stages.</p> <p>No individual may be a Co-Applicant on more than two projects under this call (nor may a PI be additionally a Co-Applicant on more than one other project).</p> <p>Other Participants: Projects may also include any number of specified 'Other Participants', who may, for example, be relevant stakeholders participating in networking or dissemination events, academic or policy advisers, practitioners, industry representatives, etc.</p> <p>Institutions: The award must be held at an institution recognised by the Academy. The following types of organisations will be eligible to apply to host the award:</p> <p>Higher Education Institutes that received funding from one of the UK higher education funding bodies.</p> <p>Research institutes (RIs), for which research councils have established a long-term involvement as major funder as part of the national research base.</p> <p>Approved relevant Independent Research Organisations.</p> <p>Public Sector Research Organisations.</p> <p>Research organisations based in Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries and</p>
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	<p>approved as eligible by the British Academy no later than 2 weeks before the deadline of this call and who have responded to the question in the application form related to Due Diligence.</p> <p>All grants will be paid to the employing institution of the PI, and not to the individual researchers involved. Institutions must be officially recognised by the British Academy prior to the proposal being submitted.</p>
Total Budget:	€300,000
Deadline:	10/04/2024
More information and official documents:	https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/funding/culture-heritage-and-climate-action/

Call Title:	Societal Challenges and Approaches to Responsible Technologies Scheme
Programme:	The British Academy
Objective:	<p>The British Academy is inviting proposals on societal challenges and approaches to responsible technologies from researchers based in the UK, Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries.</p> <p>This call is supported from the UK's International Science Partnerships Fund managed by the Department for Science, Innovation & Technology. In the context of this call, funding from the International Science Partnerships Fund is funded by Official Development Assistance (ODA), therefore applications for this funding must be ODA-eligible.</p>
Eligible Activities:	<p>Programme Aims & Scope of the Call</p> <p>The aim of this call is to support ODA-eligible international research collaborations between humanities and social sciences researchers in the UK and researchers in Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries on societal challenges and approaches to responsible technologies. Applications that are not considered ODA-eligible will not be taken forward through the assessment process.</p> <p>Furthermore, whilst it is not a requirement, applications are welcome to work across the humanities and social sciences and the natural, medical and engineering sciences. The Academy particularly encourages applications led from the humanities.</p> <p>The Academy intends to be able to support policy-relevant research that can be either novel research or research that builds on existing or ongoing research in societal challenges and approaches to responsible technologies.</p> <p>The Academy envisages the awards made through the Programme will:</p> <p>Provide opportunities for researchers based in the UK and Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries to develop and/or deepen international research collaborations;</p> <p>Deliver policy-relevant ODA-eligible research in societal challenges and approaches to responsible technologies that provides clear insights and deliverables for action at local, national and/or regional levels in Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries;</p>

	<p>Co-creates and engages with local and/or national community, societal, business and/or policy stakeholders to design, develop and embed the research findings.</p> <p>This call has a focus on societal challenges and approaches to responsible technologies. The Academy wishes to support diverse policy-relevant thinking related to this challenge. The Academy does not have any pre-determined ideas regarding the exact type of project, outputs, and dissemination of the research other than that it must be policy-relevant. The Academy wishes to support policy-relevant research in the humanities and social sciences that will engage with the societal challenges and approaches to responsible technologies in Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	<p>Eligibility Criteria</p> <p>Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:</p> <p>Each project will be led by a named Principal Investigator (PI). The PI must be a researcher in a discipline within the social sciences or the humanities. The PI is expected to direct the research and the management of the project and has responsibility for the overall project reporting requirements.</p> <p>The PI must be of postdoctoral or above status (or have equivalent research experience). The PI must hold an established role in an eligible university or research institute in the UK, Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries. The PI's position must last at least the duration of the grant funded by the Academy.</p> <p>The PI can spend a minimum of 20% of their time and a maximum of 100% of their time on the grant. The time spent on the grant can change over the course of the award but may not be under 20% across the duration of the award. Staff employed on the award may be employed full or part time regardless of the time the award holder spends on the award. PIs may not hold more than one British Academy award of a comparable nature at any one time.</p> <p>An individual cannot be the PI on more than one bid under this Programme.</p> <p>Applicants can be of any nationality but they must be based in the UK, Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries.</p> <p>Applicants must hold a doctoral degree (or have equivalent research experience).</p> <p>Awards are available to individuals, to be held in an institutional context.</p> <p>Applications under this call will not be accepted if the applicant or any collaborators have any outstanding reports or statements of expenditure which are still to be submitted to the Academy following previous awards.</p> <p>Duplicate applications to more than one British Academy funding programme will not be accepted.</p> <p>Co-Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:</p> <p>Must include at least one researcher who is based in Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries if the Principal Investigator is based in the UK or one researcher based in the UK if the Principal Investigator is based in Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries.</p> <p>Must be of postdoctoral or above status (or have equivalent research experience).</p> <p>Can include other researchers based in the UK or internationally at all career stages.</p> <p>No individual may be a Co-Applicant on more than two projects under this call (nor may a PI be additionally a Co-Applicant on more than one other project).</p>



	<p>Institutions: The award must be held at an institution recognised by the Academy. The following types of organisations will be eligible to apply to host the award:</p> <p>Higher Education Institutes that received funding from one of the UK higher education funding bodies.</p> <p>Research institutes (RIs), for which research councils have established a long-term involvement as major funder as part of the national research base.</p> <p>Approved relevant Independent Research Organisations.</p> <p>Public Sector Research Organisations.</p> <p>Research organisations based in Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam and/or Least Developed Countries and approved as eligible by the British Academy no later than 2 weeks before the deadline of this call and who have responded to the question in the application form related to Due Diligence.</p> <p>All grants will be paid to the employing institution of the PI, and not to the individual researchers involved. Institutions must be officially recognised by the British Academy prior to the proposal being submitted.</p>
Total Budget: €300,000	
Deadline: 10/04/2024	
More information and official documents:	https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/funding/societal-challenges-and-approaches-to-responsible-technologies/

Call Title:	FY23 J/IRF SUPPORTING RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE IN SRI LANKA
Programme:	US Department of State
Objective:	<p>Objective</p> <p>The U.S. Department of State, Office of International Religious (J/IRF) announces an open competition for organizations interested in submitting applications for projects that support freedom of religion or belief through the protection of religious and cultural heritage sites in Sri Lanka.</p>
Eligible Activities:	<p>This program cannot fund the construction, repair, or maintenance of religious properties, artifacts, or cultural heritage sites.</p> <p>Actions must take place in Sri Lanka.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	J/IRF welcomes applications from U.S.-based and foreign-based non-profit organizations/nongovernmental organizations (NGO) and public international organizations; private, public, or state institutions of higher education; and for-profit organizations or businesses.
Total Budget: \$700,000	
Deadline: 15/04/2024	
More information	https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/352335

and official documents:	
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Call Title:	FY23 J/IRF COMBATING RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION IN KENYA
Programme:	US Department of State
Objective:	Objective The U.S. Department of State, Office of International Religious (J/IRF) announces an open competition for organizations interested in submitting applications for projects that combat religious harassment and discrimination in Kenya.
Eligible Activities:	Actions must take place in Kenya.
Eligible Applicants:	J/IRF welcomes applications from U.S.-based and foreign-based non-profit organizations/nongovernmental organizations (NGO) and public international organizations; private, public, or state institutions of higher education; and for-profit organizations or businesses.
Total Budget:	\$700,000
Deadline:	15/04/2024
More information and official documents:	https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/352331

Call Title:	1st Open call for NebulOuS - Trailblazing Research Project
Programme:	Eurocat
Objective:	Apply for the NebulOuS Open Call 1 Research Project to give selected applicants an opportunity to discover NebulOuS at the second half of the project, when a mature release of the Meta-OS stack will be available. Selected teams will test components of the NebulOuS architecture, by providing additional use cases where an IoT to Edge to Cloud infrastructure is needed. NebulOuS, standing for A META OPERATING SYSTEM FOR BROKERING HYPERDISTRIBUTED APPLICATIONS ON CLOUD COMPUTING CONTINUUMS, is a European Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Project. NebulOuS aims to advance state-of-the-art (SOTA) in cloud and fog brokerage, cross-cloud applications deployment, self-adaptive reconfiguration, SLAs, secure network overlay, and model-driven quality assurance. The project aspires to integrate NebulOuS innovations into real-world settings, ensuring applicability in cloud and fog computing ecosystems. The ambition includes extending SOTA in optimization, serverless support, IoT/fog data management, semantic models, and efficient monitoring with AI-driven anomaly detection, achieving target Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs) for each aspect. NebulOuS envisions surpassing existing solutions and contributing to the evolution of cloud and fog computing technologies.
Eligible Activities:	Objectives Fog brokerage for facilitating cloud computing continuum

	<p>Non-repudiable SLAs and security in the NebulOuS Meta-OS</p> <p>Intelligent management of applications, business processes, and data streams lifecycle</p> <p>Model-driven quality assurance in fog brokerage</p> <p>Efficient, fault-tolerant monitoring and AI-driven anomaly detection</p> <p>Test and validate the NebulOuS Meta-OS platform in complementary use cases</p> <p>Project Use Cases</p> <p>During NebulOuS project, will be implemented use cases as pilots to test the platform usability and applicability in cloud and fog computing ecosystems in different domains.</p> <p>Domain: environment</p> <p>Use Case: crisis management</p> <p>In the face of large-scale disasters like floods, earthquakes, and wildfires, coordinating response efforts becomes a monumental challenge. NebulOuS takes centre stage in crisis management, offering an adaptable fog computing platform designed to overcome communication disruptions and elevate the efficiency of response teams.</p> <p>Domain: transportation and logistics</p> <p>Use case: supply of fresh food to a city and last mile delivery optimization</p> <p>Under this environment, the main challenge of Mercabarna is to improve the management of the fresh and frozen products, and in general freight exchange, from the point of view of the product value chain considering the logistics, especially focusing inside Mercabarna's premises, but also considering information and decision-making indicators coming from outside.</p> <p>The pilot has two goals, which are divided into two use cases:</p> <p>Development of Mercabarna's internal traffic Digital Twin to support Mercabarna's intra-logistics operations management, and</p> <p>Capture and management of the data on trucks' destination (city areas) to improve the last-mile goods distribution in the city. Every objective will be addressed in a separate application.</p> <p>Domain: smart city</p> <p>Use case: computer vision for city maintenance</p> <p>Cities use the IoT to collect real-time data to better understand how demand patterns are changing and respond with faster and less expensive solutions. With a 5G connection, cities will be able to gain knowledge at every social iteration and protect their data lakes from external access. From sensors, street furniture, and user equipment, cities are constantly producing data which requires connecting the sources and storing their data. As more knowledge is gained and more data is collected, there is an increasing need to process and secure data analysis mechanisms and exchange between geographically distributed places.</p> <p>Domain: energy and utilities</p> <p>Use case: windmill maintenance</p> <p>The goal of the use case is to validate the NebulOuS framework in deploying wind turbine inspection software in an optimal way, making appropriate use of cloud and fog resources. Drones capture highresolution images of wind turbine blades, which are processed by AI-enabled algorithms to automatically detect turbine damages and discover other valuable information for turbine maintenance.</p> <p>Domain: agriculture</p> <p>Use case: precision agriculture</p> <p>Precision agriculture (PA), satellite farming or site-specific crop management (SSCM) is a farming management concept based on observing, measuring and responding to inter and intra-field variability in crops.</p>
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Eligible Applicants:	<p>Countries Entities legally established in any of the following countries are eligible to participate in the NebulOuS Open Call #1: The Member States (MS) of the European Union (EU), including their outermost regions. Horizon Europe associated countries.</p> <p>Applicant NebulOuS will fund third-party projects that may be from: Single entity - Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) working on the IoT, Edge, Cloud or other related technologies. Consortium of maximum of 2 entities - Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) working on the IoT, Edge, Cloud or other related technologies AND a research organisation provided that the SMEs is a leader of the consortium. These entities are eligible under the following conditions: Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are considered eligible ONLY if complying with the Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC and the SME user guide. In summary, the criteria which define an SME are: The headcount in the Annual Work Unit (AWU) is less than 250. Annual turnover less or equal to €50 million OR annual balance sheet total less or equal to €43 million. Start-ups that do not have yet annual turnover or balance sheets are also considered eligible given that they fulfil the criteria (a) and (b) at submission time. Research organisation is considered as eligible when is a legal entity established as non-profit organisation carrying out research and/or technological development as its main objective. It might be a public or private research and technology organisation (RTOs), university, and other non-profit research organizations and research centres.</p>
Total Budget:	€500,000
Deadline:	17/04/2024
More information and official documents:	https://nebulouscloud.eu/open-calls/

Call Title:	Open call for EU-LAC Digital Accelerator
Programme:	EU-LAC Digital Alliance
Objective:	<p>Applications are now open for the EU-LAC Digital Accelerator, an initiative funded by the European Commission and part of the EU-LAC Digital Alliance, the first regional digital partnership between the Latin America and the Caribbean countries (LAC) and the European Union (EU).</p> <p>It is a multi-sided platform that connects business opportunities identified by large corporations with solutions proposed by start-ups and innovative SMEs. The accelerator supports partnerships generated between the parties to address these business opportunities jointly. Its objective is to support the development of these partnerships by providing specific services tailored to the needs of each of them.</p> <p>EU-LAC Digital Accelerator is led by TECNALIA and major international benchmark institutions such as IESE Business School, WAYRA-Telefónica, the European Business and Innovation Centre Network (EBN), the European Business Angels Network (EBAN), Expertise France, TECNALIAVentures, Inter-American Development Bank IDB-Lab, TECNALIA-Colombia and Caribbean Export.</p>

Eligible Activities:	<p>Scope of the Open Call #1</p> <p>The EU-LAC Digital Accelerator has established a mechanism of Open Calls to support the development of partnerships between large corporations and start-ups or innovative SMEs. Partnerships can be diverse and are not limited to any specific scope.</p> <p>The Open Call is not bound to any specific priority. The EU-LAC Digital Accelerator will provide services which are valued up to 30,000 Euros (up to 40,000 Euros if partners from the Caribbean are involved) to selected partnerships. The services will be provided by the partners of the EU-LAC Digital Accelerator. Therefore, no transaction or transfer of funding will be made to the beneficiaries.</p> <p>The EU-LAC Digital Accelerator offers a programme to develop partnerships between large corporations and start-ups or innovative SMEs from the European Union, Latin America or the Caribbean.</p> <p>Delivery of Acceleration Services</p> <p>This phase will last approximately five months and includes the following activity:</p> <p>Delivery of acceleration services: The service providers will work together with the partnership in the implementation of the roadmap by providing the agreed services. Follow up meetings will be held both with providers and the mentor.</p> <p>The services available for selected beneficiaries is structured into four main categories:</p> <p>Phase: Road mapping</p> <p>Objective: Define your customised plan and services to achieve your goals.</p> <p>Phase: Proof-of concept</p> <p>Objective: Find the problem-solution fit to decide how to address your business opportunity.</p> <p>Phase: Business Case</p> <p>Objective: Identify the product-market fit to define how to implement your business opportunity.</p> <p>Phase: Investment & Scaling</p> <p>Objective: Define your growth plan and connect with investors.</p> <p>Development of the Acceleration Roadmap</p> <p>This phase will last approximately one month and includes the following activities:</p> <p>Mentor assignment: A mentor from the EU-LAC Digital Accelerator network will be assigned to the beneficiary, supporting the partnership during the programme. The mentor will be assigned based on the needs identified by the applicant.</p> <p>Assessment: Supported by the mentor, the partnership will assess and define the technical, business or investment goals to be reached during the acceleration pathway. A prioritization of goals will be agreed with the mentor.</p> <p>Identification of services: Guided by the mentor, the partnership will identify the services required from the EU-LAC Digital Accelerator. These must be aligned with the roadmap submitted and the available services listed in the catalogue.</p> <p>Signature of the collaboration agreement: Once services have been identified, the partnerships will meet with the providers to adjust the scope of work, signing an agreement which defines the work plan, commitments, and deliverables.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	<p>Who can apply to the Open Call #1?</p> <p>To be considered into evaluation, all partnerships must fulfil the following criteria:</p> <p>The partnership must be established with at least one corporation and one start-up or innovative SME, and all partners must be legally established in any country from the European Union, Latin America, or the Caribbean. The criteria which define a start-up or SME according to the EU definition are:</p>



	<p>Be independent (not linked or owned by another enterprise), in accordance with Recommendation 2003/361/EC.</p> <p>Have a headcount in Annual Work Unit (AWU) less than 250.</p> <p>Have an annual turnover less or equal to EUR50 million OR annual balance sheet total less or equal to EUR43 million.</p> <p>Companies that do not have the values of the annual turnover or balance sheets yet are also considered eligible given that they fulfil the criteria (a) and (b).</p> <p>Partnership members must come from at least two of the following geographical regions: the European Union, Latin America or the Caribbean.</p> <p>Any kind of existing partnership between the parties involved must be declared. Even though the agreement or other confidential information will not be requested, applicants must indicate its scope and date of signature.</p>
Total Budget:	€100,000
Deadline:	30/04/2024
More information and official documents:	https://eulacdigitalaccelerator.com/open-call/

Call Title:	DEMOCRACY COMMISSION SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM 2024
Programme:	U.S. Mission to North Macedonia
Objective:	<p>Objective</p> <p>The Embassy of the United States in North Macedonia announces an open competition for organizations/independent media to submit a statement of interest (SOI) to carry out a program (or programs) that support the development of democratic institutions.</p>
Eligible Activities:	<p>The FY 2024 program has five priority areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Strengthen democratic values, including security, anti-corruption, good governance, and transparency in elections; 2) Bolster civil society, foster volunteerism or activism in local communities; 3) Addressing social division, encourage social cohesion and/or combat intolerance; 4) Cyber security, media literacy, and/or anti-disinformation efforts focused on sustainable results; and 5) Environmental and health-focused initiatives. <p>Actions must take place in North Macedonia.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	The U.S. Embassy Public Affairs Section (PAS) in Skopje encourages applications from not-for-profit, non-governmental organizations and independent media registered in North Macedonia.
Total Budget:	\$490,000
Deadline:	31/05/2024
More information and official documents:	https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/352321

Call Title:	CONSORTIUM PROJECTS FOR CLINICAL TRANSLATION AND YOUNG INVESTOR GRANTS
Programme:	Helmut Horten Foundation
Objective:	<p>Objective</p> <p>Established in the 1970s by Helmut Horten, the Foundation aims at supporting the health care system through financial contributions to medical research facilities, hospitals, and other health care institutions, as well as to individuals who are in need of medical care. Eligible for funding are measures intended to protect and maintain people's health. Today, the Foundation provides funding to the following two main programs: (1) the Horten Centre for Patient-Oriented Research and Knowledge Transfer: this service enables general practitioners to apply the latest medical knowledge in their practices as well as work on patient-oriented research with a focus on the quality of diagnostics; and (2) the Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB): the institute's work is upon advancing biomedical research with scientists focusing on the mechanisms of host defence against bacteria, viruses, tumours and neuro-degenerative diseases.</p>
Eligible Activities:	<p>They offer two grant types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young Investor Grants: accelerate the careers of talented young group leaders to develop their independent research within the medical sciences • Consortium Projects for Clinical Translation: Create the desired impact of sustainably improving quality of life and life expectancy for patients by investing in multidisciplinary teams who can best generate scientific innovation and translate this into clinical, practice-changing outcomes. <p>Actions must take place in Switzerland and other countries provided they meet the Foundation's requirements.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	Eligible are: (1) medical research centres; (2) hospitals; (3) health care institutions; and (4) individual researchers.
Total Budget:	€1,000,000
Deadline:	Ongoing
More information and official documents:	https://www.helmut-horten-stiftung.org/en/applications/

Call Title:	GRANTS FROM WEEDEN FOUNDATION
Programme:	WEEDEN FOUNDATION
Objective:	<p>Objective</p> <p>The Weeden Foundation's primary mission is to protect biodiversity. The Foundation is working to protect old-growth forests, expand habitats for endangered species on public and private lands, and link key wildlife corridors. Their goal in Global Biodiversity is to support campaigns and/or groups in biodiversity hotspots. Specific objectives are to (1) protect global temperate rainforests, (2) support creation of wildlife corridors, (3) land acquisition and protection of endangered species and, (4) support projects that involve indigenous peoples in the process and stewardship of conservation projects.</p>

Eligible Activities:	<p>The Foundation's Environment Education program area focuses on supporting grantees that will provide future leaders with the tools to effect environmental policies. These policies complement the other grantees of the Foundation including biodiversity and habitat protection. Sustainable environmental policies must include both immediate actions as well as education to anticipate and to prevent future environmental impact.</p> <p>The Foundation's International Population program is focused on reducing population growth rates in countries recognized for their rich biodiverse landscapes and that have a total fertility rate exceeding replacement levels. To achieve this goal, the Foundation funds groups that facilitate initiatives related to family planning, women's education and women's empowerment in countries with such rich and recognized biodiversity.</p> <p>They work in Latin America and Africa as well as globally.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	Non-governmental organisations are eligible. Applicants need a IRS tax exemption 501(c)(3) certification letter or an equivalency document for non-U.S. based organisations (obtained in-country).
Total Budget:	€100,000
Deadline:	Ongoing
More information and official documents:	https://weedenfoundation.org/applications/

Call Title:	GRANTS FROM ISHIBASHI FOUNDATION
Programme:	ISHIBASHI FOUNDATION
Objective:	<p>Objective</p> <p>The Ishibashi Foundation is dedicated to upholding the tradition of cultural initiatives established by its founder, and is committed to supporting artistic, cultural, and educational initiatives aimed at the development of a more caring and humane world. It keeps a watchful eye on regions that tend to be overlooked by society, putting effort in recent years in particular into grant programs with an international focus.</p>
Eligible Activities:	<p>They fund the following activities: (1) art: publication of the official journal of a scientific society, having art exhibition; (2) education: raising the standard of educational system, expanding the educational facilities, having commemorative event and symposium; and (3) culture: publication of the official journal of a scientific society, having commemorative event and symposium.</p> <p>Actions must take place in Japan and across the globe.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	Eligible applicants are non-profit organisations (including no profit-making enterprises or private businesses) with a track record in implementing projects that align with the Foundation's mission: institutes, associations, schools, research institutes etc.

Total Budget:	\$1,800,000
Deadline:	Ongoing
More information and official documents:	http://www.ishibashi-foundation.or.jp/english/

Call Title:	COMMUNITY GRANTS
Programme:	Lyford Cay Foundation
Objective:	<p>Objective</p> <p>The Lyford Cay Foundations are dedicated to enhancing community development in The Bahamas through transformative learning opportunities. As a key grant-making organization in the country, their focus is on investing in initiatives that support education and skill development across various sectors including the arts, sports, environmental awareness, health, and economic and human resource development. Their programs are tailored to empower Bahamian children, young adults, families, and communities, especially those who are most in need.</p>
Eligible Activities:	<p>The Foundations provide financial assistance to Bahamian non-profits, promoting both traditional and diverse educational experiences. A significant contribution of the Foundations includes a \$4 million donation to the University of The Bahamas' Harry C. Moore Library. Their approach extends beyond mere financial support, aiming for a lasting and sustainable impact in the community.</p> <p>Actions must take place in Bahamas.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	<p>Eligibility for the grants is restricted to non-profit organizations registered in The Bahamas. The projects seeking grants must take place within The Bahamas and align with the mission of the Lyford Cay Foundations. Additionally, organizations receiving grants are required to provide a report detailing the use and impact of the funds.</p>
Total Budget:	€100,000
Deadline:	Ongoing
More information and official documents:	https://lyfordcayfoundations.org/our-programmes-grants/

Call Title:	SUPPORT OF PROJECTS
Programme:	Fritz Thyssen Foundation
Objective:	<p>Objective</p> <p>Support of projects by the Fritz Thyssen Foundation focuses on scholars in the humanities, social sciences and biomedicine fields. The planned project should be limited in terms of the subject and time.</p>

Eligible Activities:	<p>An application can be filed in the following areas of support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History, Language & Culture • State, Economy and Society • Medicine and the Natural Sciences • Interdisciplinary projects are also welcomed by the foundation. <p>Funding is basically reserved for projects that are related to the promotion areas of the Foundation and have a clear connection to the German research system. This connection can be established either at a personal level through German scientists working on the project, at an institutional level through non-German scientists being affiliated to German research institutes or through studies on topics related thematically to German research interests.</p> <p>They work in Germany and globally.</p>
Eligible Applicants:	<p>Applications can generally only be accepted if they come from universities or non-profit research institutions. In the case of applications from non-governmental institutions within the EU/EEA, the application must be accompanied by a copy of the currently valid tax exemption notice for corporations.</p>
Total Budget:	€1,000,000
Deadline:	Ongoing
More information and official documents:	https://www.fritz-thyssen-stiftung.de/en/funding/types-of-support/support-of-projects/

Link to Previous Funding Newsletters

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

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