

INNOVATION FUND - LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - CALL 2023

Eligibility criteria:

Which countries are eligible to participate?

Civil organizations from the regions of Latin America and the Caribbean are eligible to participate.

Which organizations can apply?

The civil social organizations allowed to apply are non-for-profit organizations within Latin America and the Caribbean, legally registered and with a bank account in their name in which they can accept transfers in USD.

Can unregistered organizations apply?

No, applying organizations must be legally registered.

Is there a minimum seniority for an organization to be eligible?

No, the call is open for all CSOs in Latin America and the Caribbean that are legally registered and have a bank account in their name that can accept transfers in USD.

Is it necessary for the organization to make a compensation in order to receive the funds?

It is not necessary to compensate in order to receive the funds.

Is it necessary to have a bank account in the name of the organization?

It is fundamental that the organization has a bank account in its name.

Can two projects be submitted by the same organization?

Only one project per organization will be accepted.

Can the project be presented between various Organizations?

Yes, the project can be presented by two or more Organizations. However, one of them should act as signatory of contracts and will be in charge of receiving the grant.

About the project:

What topics can the project cover? What does each thematic axis mean?

Eligible projects must promote one or more of the following topics:

- **Promoting enabling spaces:** Activities dedicated to strengthening and improving conditions developed by the Civil Society and their organizations.

- **Inclusive democracy and civic participation:** Activities that pertain to the strengthening of democratic institutions and/or the involvement of citizens in decision making processes.
- **Actions against disinformation:** Actions that promote strategies to counteract the circulation of false, misleading or inaccurate news and generate good citizen practices with respect to information.
- **Transparency and accountability:** Activities related to "an openness with respect to decisions and actions that affect society, economy and the environment, and a willingness to communicate these decisions and actions in a clear, exact, timely, honest, and complete manner", assuming responsibility for its own actions.

- How rigid are project deadlines? Is a project applicable if it takes more or less time?***

Projects should take up to 4 (four) months. Therefore, initiatives can take less time, but not more.

- What if the address of my organization does not match the address of the project site?***

This will not be an issue. In "Section A - Organization Information," please indicate the address of the organization, and in "Section B - Project Information," please indicate where the project will be implemented.

- Can beneficiary persons be included in the execution of the project?***

Yes, involvement of beneficiaries in the project is encouraged.

- Can virtual activities be included?***

Yes, virtual activities are considered as valid as in-person activities.

About the budget:

- What is the total amount that can be financed?***

The Grant has a maximum of USD 8.000 (eight thousand US dollars) per project.

- In what currency should budget requests be expressed?***

In the application form, the amount requested must be expressed in US dollars. While, on the other hand, in the excel spreadsheet to be filled in with the budget details, the amounts must be expressed in local currency (you will find filling instructions in the spreadsheet).

- What activities are not eligible for funding?***

Organizations cannot apply for funding from the Innovation Fund for expenses corresponding to:

- ✓ International travels / participation in conferences abroad and accommodations.

- ✓ Political, religious, or evangelical activities. Religious associations will not be excluded as long as the proposed project meets the criteria, does not exclude followers of other religions, and does not plan to use funds to support proselytizing activities.
- ✓ Ongoing or recurring expenses of the organization and its function and operation, such as salaries and wages, office supplies, or submissions not specifically pertaining to the presented project.

About the application process:

How is the application process?

In this edition, the process consists of a single stage. In this first stage, interested organizations must create a user to log-in the following platform <https://fondodeinnovacion.vform.io/>. Once the user is registered it will be able to access the application form. Please note that only one user per organization can be registered.

The period for submission of forms will be open from **Thursday, March 23 until Sunday, April 9, 23:30** (Argentina time). **During this process, RACI's team will be available for consultation and support through the following e-mail address: fondoinnovacionalc@raci.org.ar.**

Is there any tutorial for the use of the platform?

Yes, you can watch a tutorial video by clicking [here](#)

What language does the form have to be completed in?

Forms must be completed in either English or Spanish.

Should documents that account for the organization be included?

Yes, within the online application form there are questions that require you to attach files with documentation showing that the organization has legal status in your country (articles of incorporation, bylaws, authorities, etc.) and also proof of bank account.

What is the time period for submission of forms?

The receptions of forms will be open from Thursday, March 23rd until Sunday, April 9th, 23:30 (Argentina time).

What are the evaluation criteria? Will personalized feedback be given?

RACI will not be able to provide personalized feedback to each organization that applies. In this regard, in order to ensure objectivity, proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria:

1. Organization profile – 10%

The organization's trajectory and capacity in terms of the activity and theme presented in their project. The possibility of creating alliances and collaborating with other organizations will also be considered.

2. Project feasibility – 20%

The proposal must be carried out in the mandated time frame, with Smart, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Temporary (SMART) objectives.

3. Project characteristics – 25%

The project will be analyzed for its characteristics, the clarity and specificity of its proposal, and if its proposed activities contributed to the stated objective. Projects must cover a specific and well-defined necessity that is relevant to a public goal and the local context.

4. Budget – 20%

The project will be reviewed for effectiveness in function of costs and expected results.

5. Innovation and sustainability – 25%

It will be evaluated to what extent the project realizes a novel and better (efficient, effective, of higher quality) solution (process, product, service) to a social problem within traditional approaches. On the other hand, it is expected that the objectives and the positive impact of the project are able to last after the date of its conclusion.

SCHEDULE

Receipt of application forms - March 23 to April 9

The RACI team will review the concept notes received, taking into account the five dimensions mentioned in the call for proposals under "selection criteria".

Selection - Tentatively from April 10 to May 10 The RACI team together with the I4C Regional Executive Committee will evaluate and discuss the submitted proposals based on the same selection criteria mentioned above. Eight (8) projects will be selected.

Contact with selected organizations - Tentatively After May 11

The RACI team will contact the selected organizations to proceed with the administrative and legal requirements.

Announcement of selected projects - Tentatively between May 11 and 19

Winners will be published on the RACI website and the I4C LAC HUB social networks.

Please note that these are estimated dates which may change for reasons beyond RACI's control. Selected organizations may be required to postpone the start date of projects while the end date will have to remain the same.

MEANS OF CONTACT AND REFERENCES

Is there a telephone number/email to send consultations?

All consultations can be made to the following email address: fondoinnovacionalc@raci.org.ar.

Is there a website where I can check past winning projects/organizations?

You can refer to the list of previous winners on our website, <https://raci.org.ar/>. Once the selection process is completed, we will publish results and winners here.