

Climate & Care

Initiative

Intersections for
Systemic Change

Climate & Care Initiative Fund – FAQ

FAQ sheet last updated: 13th November 2024

1. Eligibility and Application Criteria

What types of organizations are eligible to apply?

The Climate & Care Initiative Fund is open to grassroots organizations, civil society organizations, community-based organizations, NGOs, ecofeminist groups, and coalitions from the Global South that meet the eligibility criteria and are based in the prioritized countries. Applicants must demonstrate experience in either the climate or care sector.

Can for-profit companies apply for this fund?

For-profit organizations may apply for funding as part of a partnership or alliance, but they cannot serve as the lead organization. To be eligible, they must partner with a non-profit organization that meets the fund's criteria and acts as the lead applicant.

The lead organization must meet all the criteria defined. Can they make alliances/consortiums with other organizations that might need to meet these criteria (e.g. subnational governments, Global North NGO, etc.)?

Yes, alliances or partnerships between two or more organizations are encouraged. The lead organization must meet all eligible criteria (see question “What types of organizations are eligible to apply?”). The other organizations in the alliances or partnerships do not need to meet all the criteria. They can be subnational governments, Global North NGO, for-profit organizations, etc.

Are international organizations with a permanent presence in eligible countries allowed to apply as lead organizations?

Yes, international organizations with a permanent base and registered in eligible countries may apply as lead organizations if they meet all of the fund’s eligibility criteria.

Climate & Care

Initiative

Intersections for
Systemic Change

Can a research center or organization apply for this fund?

Research centers or organizations may apply for funding as part of a partnership or alliance, but they cannot serve as the lead organization. To be eligible, they must partner with an organization that meets the fund's criteria and acts as the lead applicant.

Are social movements or collectives required to be legally registered?

Selected organizations must be legally registered or have a fiscal sponsor to receive the funding.

What is a fiscal sponsor?

A fiscal sponsor is an organization that provides legal and financial oversight to groups that do not have their legal registration, allowing them to receive and manage funds. Here is more information on the issue:

<https://www.councilofnonprofits.org/running-nonprofit/administration-and-financial-management/fiscal-sponsorship-additional-resources>

Can an international organization based in Mexico with social security institutions as members act as the lead organization?

Yes, if the organization meets eligibility requirements, including legal registration and experience in climate and care, it may act as the lead organization.

Can local or municipal governments apply to the fund?

The fund is primarily designed for civil society and grassroots organizations. Governments may be involved as partners but cannot apply as lead organizations.

2. Proposal Submission

Is there a deadline to submit proposals?

Yes, the application deadline is December 10, 2024 at 11:59 a.m. (Mexico City time).

Can an organization submit more than one project proposal?

Yes, organizations can present more than one proposal. However, a maximum of one proposal can be funded per organization.

Climate & Care

Initiative

Intersections for
Systemic Change

Are there specific requirements for the proposal format?

Yes, all proposals must follow the provided application template, covering project objectives, methodologies, target populations, budget, and expected impacts:

[Download English](#)

[Descargar en español](#)

[Baixar em português](#)

[Télécharger en français](#)

Will there be support for the application process?

Yes, informational sessions were held on November 6 (English) and 7 (Spanish), 2024. You can find the recordings of the sessions here:

[Session in English and French](#)

[Session in Spanish and Portuguese](#)

What is required regarding reference letters?

Reference letters should come from reputable organizations familiar with your work in the climate or care fields. Specific guidance on this is available in the application guidelines.

Can the proposal include multiple objectives, such as reforestation, water conservation, and food security?

Yes, multiple objectives are allowed, but they should clearly explain the climate and care nexus and fit within the project's capacity and scope.

Can I submit a proposal in a language other than English?

Yes, proposals can be submitted in Spanish, Portuguese, or French, as well as in English.

Where should I submit the proposal?

Submit the complete application template to the following email:

climateandcareinitiative@avina.net.

Climate & Care

Initiative

Intersections for
Systemic Change

3. Funding and Budget

What is the maximum funding amount available for each project?

Selected projects can receive up to USD 50,000, depending on alignment with the Fund's goals.

Is co-funding required?

No, co-funding is not required, though projects leveraging additional resources may be viewed favorably.

How detailed should the budget be in the initial proposal?

We expect a general budget at this stage, outlining the allocation of funds for activities planned over 14 months. A budget format is provided to be filled out.

Are there guidelines on budget percentages for staffing, activities, or other expenses?

The budget cannot include indirect or administrative expenses. We encourage the participants to have a budget that is coherent with the objectives and activities in your narrative proposal.

Can external subcontractors or consultants be included in the funded project?

Yes, as long as subcontractor roles are clearly defined and align with project goals.

Can the funds be used to cover administrative or staffing costs?

Administrative and indirect costs cannot be funded; however, staffing costs related to project implementation can be covered.

Does the fund cover only implementation costs, or can research and evaluations be included?

Research and evaluation may be included. Additionally, a research team will accompany funded projects to generate evidence and case studies. The research team's support will be financed separately.

Can the funding be used for infrastructure, construction-related activities and materials?

Climate & Care Initiative

Intersections for Systemic Change

Yes, a portion of the fund may be allocated to cover necessary infrastructure and materials that directly support the project's objectives, such as water systems, eco-technologies, or pilot project implementation.

How are funds disbursed to selected projects?

Funds are disbursed in two installments: 50% upon signing the agreement, and 50% upon achieving milestones, which include spending 80% of the initial disbursement and submitting progress reports.

What specific legal documents are required for signing the agreement?

Detailed documentation will be requested to selected organizations, including proof of registration and any agreements required with consortium partners. Information requested may include, but is not limited to, the following documents:

- Risk format
- Due diligence form
- Bank details
- Tax registration
- Power of attorney of signatory
- Valid identification of the signatory
- Audited financial statements or other evidence of their validity depending on the size of the organization

Should the budget be submitted in USD or local currency?

The budget should be submitted in USD; however, expenses can be justified in local currency during implementation.

Can funds cover bank fees or other financial charges associated with the project?

The fund cannot be used to cover bank fees or other financial charges. Generally, the budget should not include indirect or administrative expenses, including any fees associated with the transfer of the fund's resources.

Does the fund allow for in-kind contributions, such as services or goods, as part of co-funding?

Yes, in-kind contributions in the form of services or goods are acceptable as part of co-funding.

Climate & Care Initiative

Intersections for
Systemic Change

4. Implementation and Reporting

What is the project implementation period?

The implementation period spans 14 months from the agreement date that will be signed. The project implementation period will last 14 months, starting from the date the agreement is signed between Fundación Avina and the funded organization. All activities must be completed by March 31, 2026.

Can the funds be used to support projects that are already underway?

Yes, ongoing projects are eligible to apply. However, all proposals must clearly outline how the funding will be applied to specific activities within the project during the implementation period.

Is it possible to extend the project implementation period if delays occur?

No, extensions to the implementation period are not allowed.

What are the reporting and documentation expectations during project implementation?

Two financial and narrative reports are required: one mid-implementation and the other at the end of the project. Regular meetings are also expected to discuss project progress.

Is it possible to make adjustments to the project or budget once approved?

No, the project must continue once it is approved and the agreement has been signed.

How should resources and spending be justified, especially if expenses are in local currency?

All expenses should be justified according to the approved budget, with conversions documented for any local currency expenses.

Will participating organizations be required to engage in data collection for research purposes? And are there established criteria for data collection, such as quantitative vs. qualitative data?

Yes, selected organizations are expected to engage in applied research, which will involve data collection related to project outcomes and impacts. Both quantitative and qualitative data are essential for this process, with measurable results being highly valued. A research team from the Climate & Care Initiative will work alongside the funded organizations to guide the

Climate & Care Initiative

Intersections for
Systemic Change

data collection process, helping to define appropriate indicators, develop narratives, and create case studies.

Please note that the support provided by the research team is separate from the funding allocated by the Climate & Care Initiative Fund. The costs associated with this support will be covered by other funding sources and are not expected to be included in the proposal's budget.

5. Thematic Focus – Climate and Care Nexus

What are the key focus areas for funded projects?

The Fund prioritizes projects addressing:

- Care needs resulting from climate change impacts.
- Integration of care and gender perspectives in climate actions.
- Promotion of decent working conditions within a just transition framework.

You can find more details on the key focus areas on the template format [here](#).

Does the project need to align with national climate policies in the country of implementation?

While alignment with national climate policies is not mandatory, it is encouraged.

What types of activities fall under the category of “care work”?

Care work consists of the activities undertaken to ensure the day-to-day well-being and development of persons from various perspectives: physical, economic, moral, and emotional. As such, it ranges from the provision of elements essential to human life, such as food, shelter, sanitation, cleanliness, health, company, and a healthy environment, to support and the transmission of knowledge, social values, and practices via processes related to nurturing and other community dynamics. Care work consists of two overlapping activities: direct, personal, and relational care activities, such as feeding a baby or nursing someone who is ill, or supporting an older or disabled person; and indirect care activities, such as cooking and cleaning.

Based on this description, the Climate & Care Fund looks to encompass activities directly supporting caregivers, paid and unpaid work, and community-based care systems impacted

Climate & Care Initiative

Intersections for
Systemic Change

by climate change. You can find examples of this on the key focus areas included in the template format [here](#).

Do projects need to align with gender and human-rights perspectives to be considered?

Yes, projects must align with gender and human rights perspectives and clearly demonstrate how these considerations are integrated into the proposed activities.

Can the funding be used to test pilot projects?

Yes, the fund may implement pilot projects if they align with the climate-care objectives and the fund's requirements.

Does the scope of care include environmental and community care, such as psychological support for climate-affected populations?

Yes, care work encompasses both environmental stewardship and community support, including psychological assistance for communities facing climate-related trauma.

6. Additional Support and Opportunities

What additional support does the consortium offer to selected organizations, beyond funding?

The Climate & Care Initiative supports monitoring, evaluation, and feedback to ensure project success. Opportunities will be provided to share results achieved by the organizations, as well as connect and exchange experiences with other organizations working on the nexus. Further funding is not guaranteed.

Will there be opportunities for selected projects to share their experiences or connect with other funded projects?

The Climate & Care Initiative will facilitate spaces for organizations to share experiences and connect with others working on the nexus. Further funding is not guaranteed.

Climate & Care Initiative

Intersections for
Systemic Change

Who can I contact with questions about the application process?

For additional support or clarification, please contact the Climate & Care Initiative Team through climateandcareinitiative@avina.net