

# Climate Action Engagement Fund

## Funding Fairer Futures – Call for Proposals - 2025 - Cycle I

### Introduction

Funding Fairer Futures is a project co-funded by the European Commission under the Development Education and Awareness Raising (DEAR) Programme. It focuses on providing capacity-building and financial support to civil society organisations (CSOs)/groups to deliver impactful awareness-raising, campaigning, advocacy and community engagement projects for climate justice and just transition. Together, supported projects, CSOs/groups and partners will raise awareness and interest of people living in Europe and empower them to take action, while promoting gender-transformative actions and policies. Funding Fairer Futures will launch several calls for proposals until 2027: this is the first cycle.

This call for proposals is one among 5 launched by the different partners of the project. In order to find information about the rest of the funds, you can visit our webpage.

### Background

As the devastating impacts of the climate crisis become increasingly visible, the urgency to act is undeniable. Yet, many people fear that the green transition could exacerbate burdens, including job losses and higher costs for mobility and housing. Recognising the climate crisis as a social crisis is vital, as it worsens inequalities and disproportionately affects marginalised and vulnerable groups such as women and people with disabilities. The costs of inaction are heaviest for the most vulnerable, threatening living standards, public services, and social protections. We see an opportunity to build bridges between different social struggles for a fairer and greener society that operates inside planetary boundaries and prioritises equity and justice.

### Objectives and priorities

The Climate Action Engagement Fund will aim to provide financial support to CSOs/groups promoting **just transition and climate justice** in the European Union, Western Balkans and Turkey, via awareness-raising, campaigning, mobilisation, public engagement and advocacy activities.

### Specific objectives

Each funding proposal should address one or more specific objectives:

- Promote climate justice and just transition, with a focus on gender equality, social justice, inclusivity, and/or stronger solidarity between people from the Global North and Global South:
  - **Raise awareness, critical understanding, and public engagement** about climate justice and just transition
  - **Mobilise people in Europe to act** for climate justice and just transition (e.g. street mobilisation, digital campaigns, petitions, other events...)
  - **Engage with decision-makers** in order to drive policy change (e.g. letter-writing, media outreach, public hearings...)
- Build **trust, connections and joint work** among the climate justice movement and with organisations beyond the climate movement which will be key allies for a just transition (e.g. social justice organisations, trade unions, housing right collectives...)

## Priorities

Each proposal should address one or more priorities:

### 1. CAMPAIGNING ON JUST TRANSITION:

We are looking for partners that will **actively shape and engage in our Europe-wide campaign for Just Transition**, which we understand as *a comprehensive, systemic shift toward a more equitable and sustainable society that tackles the root causes of injustice within economic, political, and social structures*. With this campaign we aim to advance the justice dimension of four guiding pillars:

1. ending reliance on fossil fuels and boosting green transition,
2. leveraging the transition to create better lives,
3. transforming food systems and agriculture,
4. and securing the financial resources necessary to drive the transition.

Different levels of engagement will be offered.

- **The Core Team Engagement Track** requires you to organise your own mobilisation actions linked to the campaign and actively engage in the campaign planning.
- **Low Engagement track** requires you to support our key campaign moments and to attend approximately three open briefing calls per year.

### 2. SUPPORTING SOCIAL JUSTICE AND INCLUSIVITY:

We are looking to support:

- climate organisations that demonstrably foresee **joint work and planning with social justice organisations** and other actors beyond the climate movement (e.g. trade unions,

energy communities, housing right collectives, economic justice movements) to advance Just Transition.

- **organisations that extend beyond the climate bubble**, when they present a proposal to work with climate organisations or on climate topics.
- **matched projects**, when climate organisations present a project proposal linked to another project proposal from an organisation working on social justice or from other actors beyond the climate movement.

### 3. SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS THAT LACK ACCESS TO CLIMATE FUNDING:

We are looking to support smaller CSOs/groups with organisational development needs. In particular, we will favour CSOs/groups led by and/or reaching women/non-binary, youth, frontline communities, people with disability or people with a marginalised background or identity (LGBTQIA+, ethnic, religious, low-income, etc.).

#### Project Scope and Requirements

In order to accommodate a diverse range of projects and ensure effective allocation of resources, the funding for this Call for Proposals is divided into two categories. Each category offers different levels of financial support and comes with specific reporting requirements and expectations for participation in the annual campaigning priorities.

Please review the below table carefully to determine which category best aligns with your project's needs and objectives.

Category	Number of projects to be supported	Funding Limits	Reporting Requirements	Participation to Campaigning Priorities
<b>Category 1</b>	At least 5 projects	From €10,000 to €100,000	- Detailed Financial Report - Narrative Report on activities and results	Encouraged
<b>Category 2</b>	At least 5 projects	From €1,000 to €10,000	- Narrative Report on activities and results	Encouraged

**Number of projects to be supported:** While we aim to award grants to the listed number of organisations. The final number of funded projects will depend on the availability and distribution of funds among the selected subgrantees. The Selection Committee reserves the right to not allocate all the available funds if the quality of applications does not meet the required standards. In such cases, unallocated funds will be carried over to the budget of the subsequent funding cycle.

**Funding Limits:** Applicants should propose budgets within the limits specified for each category.

**Reporting Requirements:** It is important to note that this funding is provided under the European Union's funding framework, which entails rigorous reporting and results monitoring requirements. All subgrantees will need to submit periodic narrative on activities and results, along with supporting documents such as photos, outreach materials. In addition to these, Category 1 subgrantees will be required to submit a detailed financial report with supporting documentation such as invoices, proofs of payments, and timesheets. We are committed to providing comprehensive support to all subgrantees throughout this process and will try to address any challenges that may arise.

**Project Duration:** All projects can have a duration between 6 to 30 months. Projects should end no later than October 2027.

**Co-financing:** Wherever possible, Category 1 applicants are encouraged to include a percentage of co-financing in their budget proposals. The co-financing can be fulfilled by the applicant's own funds, or other funding sources excluding European Union origin funding. Contributions in kind are not eligible and will not be treated as co-financing.

**Visibility Requirements:** All selected projects must adhere to the visibility and communication requirements by including the logo of the donor in all publications, references, documents, news and any other visibility and communication action relating to the project.

## Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for funding under this Call for Proposals, applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

### Eligible Entities

Applicants must:

- i) be a legal person (category 1, 2, 3) or an entity without legal personality (category 2 and 3 only)
- ii) be non-profit making
- iii) if a legal person, be a Civil Society Organisation (CSO) or an association of CSOs constituted in accordance with the legislation in force in the country
- iv) be established in a country listed in this Call for Proposals
- v) not be a beneficiary of a grant (neither lead, nor co-applicant, or affiliated entity, nor associates or contractors) in the frame of the European Commission's DEAR programme
- vi) not have the financial, administrative or operational capacity to compete directly for EU funding under the EC DEAR 2022 CfP EuropeAid/173998/DH/ACT/Multi

- vii) adhere to EU due diligence requirements, as listed in the Declaration on exclusion criteria
- viii) declare that they have not received and are not expecting to receive financial support from another project resulting from the EC DEAR 2022 CFP EuropeAid/173998/DH/ACT/Multi

**Matching applications:** Only single entities can submit applications. However, we encourage the submission of matching applications supporting collaborative projects, whereby climate organisations present a project proposal that is linked to another project proposal presented by an organisation working on social justice or other actors beyond the climate movement.

**Eligible Locations:** The applicants must be based in the below-listed countries:

Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Turkey.

**Eligible Activities:**

- Awareness-raising
- Public engagement
- Campaigning
- Advocacy
- Projects funded are encouraged to include capacity-building (internal/external), networking and organisational development components.

Please ensure that the proposed activities are in line with the overall objectives and campaigning priorities set out in this Call for Proposals.

## Application Process

**Application Deadline:** The proposals must be submitted in English by **7 March 2025, 23:59 CET**.

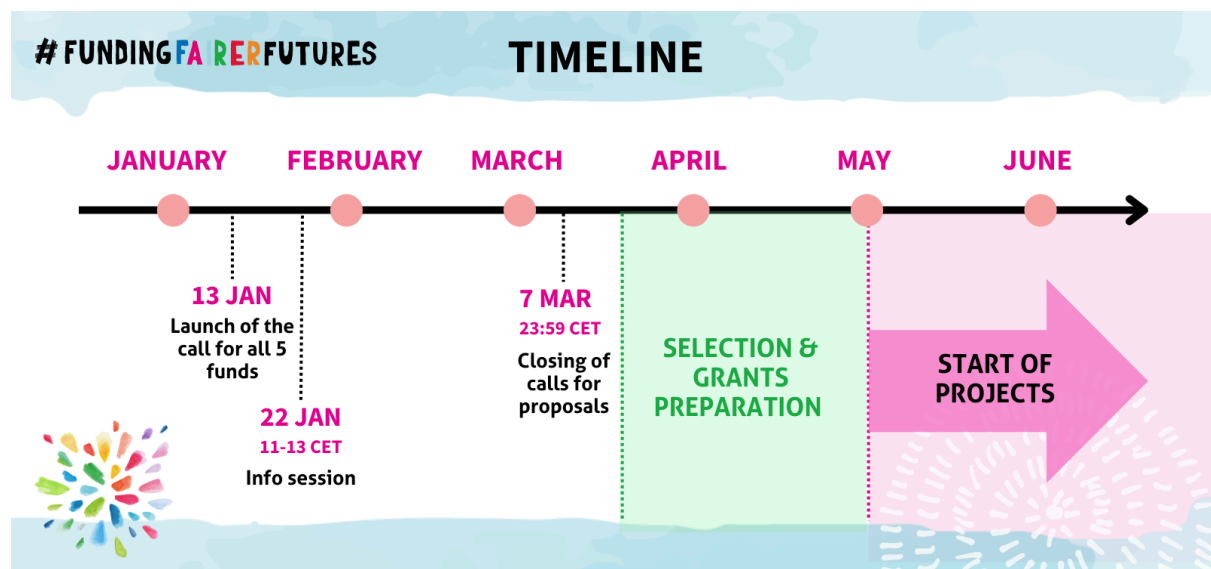
**How to Apply:**

1. Complete the following required documents
  - a. [Annex I. Narrative Proposal](#)

- b. [Annex II. Budget Proposal](#)
  - c. [Declaration on Exclusion Criteria](#)
  - d. [Declaration of Honour](#)
2. Submit the completed application to [fundingfairerfutures@caneurope.org](mailto:fundingfairerfutures@caneurope.org)

**Application Process Support:** Applicants can send their questions following email address: [fundingfairerfutures@caneurope.org](mailto:fundingfairerfutures@caneurope.org)

**Information webinar:** The project team will organise an information webinar on the Funding Fairer Futures funding opportunities on 22 January 2025, 11:00-13:00 CET, to further explain the process and answer the questions. You can **register [here](#)**.



### Evaluation and Selection Criteria

The exact amount of financial support will be decided by the Selection Committee following the principles of sound financial management, in particular regarding economy (ensuring best value for money by minimising costs while maintaining quality standards) and efficiency (optimising the use of time, money, and effort to achieve desired results).

The Selection Committee will respect adequate representation of organisations in respect to geographical location, size, and thematic focus areas.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- *Relevance (30%)*
- *Potential Impact (20%)*
- *Coherence of project design (20%)*
- *Capacity and credibility (15%)*
- *Added-value of the funding (15%)*

Preliminary results will be communicated to applicants via email. Shortlisted applicants will be subject to a partnership assessment, to evaluate their organisational, operational and financial capacity, and will be required to submit additional documentation as part of this assessment.

The Selection Committee may engage in a process of mutual communication with the shortlisted applicants to discuss potential adjustments or improvements to their proposals. Applicants will then have the opportunity to refine and resubmit their proposals based on this dialogue.

All applicants will be informed individually via email about the results of the selection process.

Applicants are encouraged to review all sections of this Call for Proposals carefully and ensure that their proposals meet all requirements.

### Other Benefits for subgrantees

What is in it for you with the Funding Fairer Futures initiative? In addition to providing subgrants, we offer a tailored and comprehensive program designed to build capacity, foster engagement, and provide ongoing support. Depending on your funding category, there will be mandatory in-person or online training.

- **Capacity building:** We will provide training (in-person and online) along with tailored support, on key topics such as project management, finance, HR, organisational management, fundraising, inclusivity, and gender. Our goal is to help strengthen your internal policies and practices, enhance organisational and project delivery capacity, and share useful toolkits and resources.
- **Campaigning and Advocacy:** You will receive capacity-building support in advocacy, policy development, and campaigning strategies. Engage as a co-creator in the Funding Fairer Futures Just Transition Campaign, share impactful stories, join key campaign moments and develop your own actions.
- **Fundraising Support:** Fundraising and crowdfunding will be an important pillar of the sustainability of the financial support provided to organisations. We will provide training on how to develop a fundraising strategy and funding plans, how to submit institutional funding applications and how to develop a winning crowdfunding campaign.
- **Network Weaving and Collaboration:** You will have the opportunity to participate in both online and in-person events designed to foster value exchanges and build meaningful relationships. You will get to connect with diverse NGOs and movements across Europe, and be empowered to enhance your strategic engagement, strengthen collaboration, and deepen connectivity.

- **Visibility, Communication and Mobilisation:** You will have access to communication and mobilisation workshops including training on how to speak to the media. Your organisation will benefit from added visibility and recognition through the Funding Fairer Futures and consortium communication channels. For instance, you can share your stories (blogs, photos, videos) in our “Climate Justice in Practice” virtual repository.
- **Collective Impact:** Join forces for greater collective impact, catalysing and empowering people and civil society engagement in collective action for climate justice, sustainability, and a just transition.

### Further information

For any questions, please contact [fundingfairerfutures@caneurope.org](mailto:fundingfairerfutures@caneurope.org).

If you would like to stay updated on upcoming news related to the Funding Fairer Futures project, sign up to our [mailing list](#).