

**Culture of Solidarity Fund**

# **Just Transition Interregional Edition<sup>1</sup>**

**November 2023-February 2024**

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

<sup>1</sup> *Initiated by the European Cultural Foundation in partnership with Fondazione Cariplo, Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo, Fondazione CRC and Fondazione CRT*

**European  
Cultural  
Foundation**

Fondazione  
CARIPLO



Fondazione  
CRT

FONDAZIONE  
CRC



Fondazione  
Compagnia  
di San Paolo

**Culture of  
Solidarity  
Fund**

powered by the European  
Cultural Foundation

## Resubmissions, eligibility and submitting applications

*My proposal was not selected in the previous Just Transition edition. Can I apply again? Can I re-submit my proposal in this edition?*

If you applied for funding in the previous Just Transition edition, but were not selected, you are more than welcome to consider submitting your proposal again. However, please note that there are some changes in the thematic and geographic focus and strict eligibility criteria are in place for this round, so we recommend that you check these first and determine the adjustments you may need to make to the proposal to fit the scope of the call.

*Am I eligible to apply as an individual?*

No. Only organisations (non-profit and private as well as public cultural institutions) based and active in the provinces of Lombardy, Piedmont, Liguria or Aosta Valley are eligible to apply as lead applicants. These organisations can be active in the cultural, creative or civic sector.

*Where do I submit my application?*

You may access the full guidelines and criteria, the budget template and additional information on our grant platform: <https://culture-of-solidarity-fund.grantplatform.com/> In order to access and complete the application form, you will need to register. Please note that by creating your profile, you will be able to view and apply to any future open calls of the Culture of Solidarity Fund.

## General inquiry, project pitches

*Is it possible to speak with someone at ECF about this fund in particular, and get some advice whether our project is eligible and what exactly the ECF is looking for with this call?*

Generally, unfortunately we are not able to engage in in-depth conversations about applicants' proposals or project pitches, given the large number of incoming requests and in order to ensure the fair and equal treatment of applications. If you have any specific questions about the application or selection process that are not covered in this FAQ, you can share them with us at [cos@culturalfoundation.eu](mailto:cos@culturalfoundation.eu).

## Geographic scope

*What is the geographic scope of the Fund?*

Lead applicants must be based and active in (one of) the provinces of Lombardy, Piedmont, Liguria or Aosta Valley.

## Partnerships, matchmaking events

*Do applicants need to have European/international partners for the project to meet the criteria?*

Yes, the lead applicant must have at least one partner with a legal status and active outside of Italy, in one of the Council of Europe member states, operating in the cultural, creative or civic sector. It is also possible to have additional partners based in any of the Council of Europe member states, including anywhere in Italy.

*Is it only confirmed partnerships that can be included in the application or can I also add intended partnerships (ie: the ones I will establish once the project succeeds to get funding from you)?*

The lead applicant must have their partnership(s) confirmed for the purpose of submitting the proposal. In fact, they will need to clearly state in the application form which partner is responsible for delivering each of the proposed activities. Further, partners are expected to reach an agreement on how to allocate the requested amount covering the activities each partner is responsible for. Concretely, up to 60% of the grant amount may cover activities implemented by the Italian lead organisation while the remainder of the grant amount must be allocated to activities implemented by the partners.

*What if I don't have Italian/European partners yet?*

In order to support interested parties in search of suitable partners, we will organise two online matchmaking events. Registered applicants will be invited to create their digital profiles before the event, including their main interest and needs in relation to the call. At the events participants will have the opportunity to attend different info and matchmaking sessions and move to one-on-one exchanges on the details of the partnership. The first event is now confirmed to take place on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December. Please look out for further announcements and the link to register on our website and social media channels.

### **Number of applications per organisation**

*May I submit more than one application?*

Although we do not encourage it, you are allowed to submit more than one application provided that they are for entirely different projects.

*Is there any limit regarding the number of approved projects from one organisation?*

We do not have explicit limitations as this depends greatly on the number, quality and spread of the applications. However, please note that given the limited number of grants we will be issuing, chances of multiple proposals by the same organisation are very low.

### **Timeline of eligible activities, grant term**

*Is there a timeline in which the projects should take place?*

The complete timeline of awarded projects may be up to 12 months. Project activities may not take place before the start date, i.e. the date specified in the grant agreement (15 April 2024).

### **Budget, administration and reporting**

*Do I have to select the size of the grant upon submission of the application? Or is it possible to opt for the largest amount (30 000€) and if not selected, be automatically awarded with a lower amount?*

You have to indicate in your proposal, for which grant amount you are applying. It is also this amount based on which you will need to complete the budget form (including the total budget and any other income you may have secured for the project). This also means that in case your project is not selected, you will not be automatically considered for a lower amount.

*Can I apply for a grant to cover 100% of the project budget? Is there a minimum percentage of own resources or co-funding necessary for the project to be eligible?*

No. Grants may be used to cover a maximum of 80% of the total project budget. The remaining 20% must be financed through own resources and/or co-funding.

*If my proposal is selected, when will the grant be made available to use?*

You may request the first instalment (usually 80% of the total amount) of the grant upon the signing of the grant agreement. The remaining amount will be paid upon the completion of the project and submission and subsequent approval of the final report.

*What kind of reporting is required at the end of the grant term?*

Upon the completion of the project, grantees must submit a narrative and financial report. Grantees will receive a list of guiding questions for the narrative report as well as a budget template to work with. Please note that the copies of all receipts, invoices for expenses incurred must be kept for 7 years following the completion of the project.