

# ACTION FUND GREECE

## USING DATA FOR LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The following document outlines the terms and conditions for the ICLEI Action Fund in Greece; using data for local environmental action. By entering the call, participants agree to these terms and conditions. All decisions made by the organisers are final and cannot be appealed.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Action Fund Greece is a granting scheme led by ICLEI Europe, with support from Google.org. The goal is to boost the development of data-driven environmental and climate action projects in Greece. Civil society organisations, academic institutions and non-profit research institutes are invited to participate and develop innovative projects in this field. This call will provide financial support of up to 2,7500 EUR to projects that use open data from different sources, including data from [Google Environmental Insights Explorer](#), to foster inclusive environmental and climate action at the local level. Private data can also complement projects and should be focused on non-profit, charitable or educational purposes.

The call welcomes projects under the topic of environment and climate action, with an emphasis on the following fields: sustainable mobility, sustainable and energy-efficient buildings, solar energy development, climate adaptation and resilience, and air quality management. Projects should contribute to enhancing social and climate justice in the city of implementation.

#### 2. OBJECTIVES OF THIS CALL

The Action Fund Greece aims to promote the development of projects that could leverage the use of data and technologies to drive local environmental and climate action.

This Action Fund Greece call aims to identify and provide financial support (grants) to organisations able to implement projects that use and apply environmental, climate or other sustainability-related data to promote environmental and climate actions at a local level.

The Action Fund Greece encourages proposals that contribute to a just transition and aligns with cities' climate and smart city goals. Specifically, cities with defined commitments for carbon neutrality by 2030 or

established climate adaptation plans are well-suited for this funding opportunity.

#### 3. REQUIREMENTS TO PARTICIPATE

The call is open to established non-profit organisations, civil society organisations<sup>1</sup>, academia and research institutions operating in the following cities:

- Thessaloniki
- Athens
- Larissa
- Kozani
- Trikala
- Ioannina
- Vari - Voula - Vouliagmeni (Athens Metropolitan Area)
- Chalkis
- Heraklion (Crete)
- Kalamata

Participating organisations must have the operational capacities to effectively execute, implement monitor and evaluate the results of the project.

Local governments, public institutions, and for-profit organisations or companies are not eligible to receive funding directly in this call. However, they may be involved as project supporters, partners and/or sub-contractors. Therefore, receiving funding through the awarded organisation. Through this, the call aims to foster multi-stakeholder collaboration thereby increasing project sustainability impact.

The duration of the proposed project should be between 18 to 24 months. The steps for the selection of projects are detailed on the [Action Fund website](#).

<sup>1</sup> Civil society refers to all forms of social action carried out by individuals or groups who are neither connected to, nor managed by, the State. A civil society organisation is an organisational structure whose members serve the general interest through a democratic process.

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### 4. ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

The project can be in the design, planning, or implementation phase as detailed below:

- **Design stage:** you have a new project idea that you would like to develop based on existing project experiences or initiatives, that respond to your organisation's strategic goals and are aligned with the objectives of this call. You have defined the desired outcomes and have developed some initial planning to get the project off to a good start. You have identified a problem that needs to be solved, the team to make it happen, the approximate budget needed and a timescale. Before being able to go to the Planning stage, you need to make it ready for funding.
- **Planning stage:** Your project's goals are defined and developed into a specific and workable plan ready to be carried out. The plan includes the project's scope and an appropriate approach, a schedule for the tasks involved, and an estimate of necessary resources. You have identified your key stakeholders and have a detailed plan for implementation. Your project plan is aligned with the objectives of the Action Fund. The Action Fund gives you the possibility to adjust your project plan to create more impact.
- **Implementation stage:** You have an ongoing project aligned with the objectives of this call. You are coordinating project work, people and resources, and resolving conflicts and issues. You are producing the project deliverables in accordance with the project plans. Through the Action Fund, you can scale up your activities and deliverables and thereby generate more impact.

Projects expected in this call include:

- **Sustainable Mobility:** Projects that contribute to the reduction of transport GHG emissions and improve the efficiency of local transport systems, fostering multimodality and sustainable mobility patterns.
- **Sustainable and Energy Efficient Buildings:** Projects that reduce energy consumption and promote energy efficiency in public, private, commercial or industrial buildings.

- **Solar Energy Development:** Projects fostering the use and development of solar energy on a local level.
- **Air Quality Management:** Projects aimed at supporting the management and improvement of local air quality.
- **Climate adaptation and resilience:** Projects that help cities and citizens to adapt to the effects of climate change and enhance local climate resilience.
- Other projects for environmental and climate action.
- The Action Fund Greece welcomes projects that use data from different sources like Google's EIE. Such projects should foster the use of new technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, etc for enhanced local climate action.

### 5. PARTICIPANTS OBLIGATIONS

Civil society organisations, academic institutions and non-profit research institutes are invited to participate. Project applications must be original, be owned by the organisation and must not violate the intellectual property rights of other parties. In addition, submissions must not be illegal under applicable national and international laws; depict or incite hatred, defame, abuse, harass, violence or conflict, stalk, threaten a specific person or social group, or otherwise violate the legal rights of third parties (including those of privacy and publicity). Projects with AI components should follow responsible AI use guidelines, for example, [Google Guidelines](#).

No purchase or payment of any kind is required to enter or win this call. Participants are responsible for any expenses made in order to submit their application.

ICLEI staff and Google.org staff are not eligible to participate in this call.

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### 6. CALL DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

#### 6.1 Application Process

Competing organisations and institutions must fill in the application form according to these terms and conditions. By participating in the call, applicants accept that these terms and conditions will be applicable to them.

Submissions should be made online and in English only. Organisations may submit more than one application.

The submission period begins on 30 November 2023 at 12:00 PM Central European Time and ends on 29 February 2024 at 12:00 PM Central European Summer Time. Only complete submissions entered during this period will be accepted. Once an application is submitted, the participant cannot make any changes or alterations to it.

Projects outside this time frame will not be accepted. ICLEI Europe will acknowledge receipt of the submissions by email. For any clarifications about the submission procedure, please email:

[actionfund@iclei.org](mailto:actionfund@iclei.org)

#### 6.2 Project selection

The application forms will be received and evaluated by a Selection Committee formed by ICLEI Europe representatives. This Committee will assess the submissions on a rolling basis until the deadline for the call has expired. A short-list of applicants will be made based on the project selection criteria (Item 7)

The Selection Committee will officially communicate its final decision to the selected applicants via email. Please note that only selected participants will be informed.

### 7. SELECTION CRITERIA OF PROJECTS

The criteria to evaluate and select the awarded projects include:

- **Strategic vision and impact of the project:** alignment with the goals of the call and contribution to local environmental and climate action at a local level. Alignment of the organisation's aims with the aims of the projects.
- **Data-driven project:** level of usage and applicability of existing data sources, including [Google's Environmental Insights Explorer \(EIE\)](#).
- **Innovation:** the degree of originality; degree of innovation and differentiation of the proposal. This can include the use of new technology for enhanced climate impact.
- **Multi-Level Stakeholder Engagement:** The project encourages collaboration between various stakeholders coming together to achieve project goals.
- **Experience:** skills and abilities of the proposed organisation or institution and its team. Demonstrated experience in similar projects, and knowledge of the city.
- **Climate justice:** the project explicitly endeavours to engage with injustices/ inequalities linked to climate change. This may include direct or indirect support to vulnerable communities, neighbourhoods and districts, as well as approaches that seek to make visible and address existing patterns of exclusion. The project also considers its potential negative impacts in terms of climate justice and puts in place measures to mitigate these risks.
- **Clarity and consistency of the project:** consistency on project goals versus defined activities and a clear description of how budget and expenses are linked to project outcomes. Clear and demonstrated project management experience.
- **Suitability and replicability:** solving a real local environment or climate change challenge. Could this project be scaled up or replicated in another part of the city after funding under the grant has been completed?
- **Implementation and project outcome:** How feasible and coherent is the plan to implement the proposed project. Projects adopting an action-oriented and outcome-based approach with clear, verifiable and concrete results.

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#### 8. REQUIREMENTS TO RECEIVE THE GRANT

The grant is a donation and must only be used for charitable, educational and non-profit purposes and in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in this document. Granted institutions and organisations should have the necessary legal status (non-profit status in the case of CSOs and NGOs, and research institute status in the case of academic and research institutes) to receive funding under this scope.

After selection, the applicant will have a period of up to 3 months to prepare a detailed project plan. ICLEI Europe may provide support in the preparation of this plan.

ICLEI Europe will provide support to the selected grantee to develop and implement the project during the project timeline of up to 24 months.

The selected grantees commit to finalise the project in a maximum of 24 months and to sign a grant agreement that will include among others, the following requirements:

- a. Submit regular periodic reports on the activities developed and the expenditure of the grant resources.
- b. Do not use the funds for anything other than the stated purpose and objectives of the project,

meaning non-profit, charitable or educational purposes.

- c. Deliver the results expected in the project planning and any change in this process must be communicated and agreed with ICLEI Europe in writing.
- d. Use of data mainly from public sources to develop the project.
- e. Not use any portion of the received funds to carry out propaganda or to attempt to influence specific legislation either by direct or grassroots lobbying.

#### 9. DATA PROTECTION

ICLEI Europe respects the privacy of all applicants and seeks to ensure that any personal data we collect is processed securely and responsibly. ICLEI Europe only collects personal data that we need in order to operate and administer the Action Fund Greece. We are using Jotform to collect the data, with which we have a data processing agreement.

[See here](#) for more information on Jotform's data protection policy. For more information about ICLEI Europe's data protection policy, [click here](#).

#### CONTACT EMAIL:

[actionfund@iclei.org](mailto:actionfund@iclei.org)



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