Objectives



Encourage and facilitate

innovation, wherever it might come from



Support the scaling

and widespread deployment



Rigorously evaluate

new ideas through collaboration with the research community

What kinds of innovation are eligible for funding?

The Fund's view of innovation encompasses a wide range of solutions intended to improve the lives of the poor. This includes new approaches to improve delivery of essential goods and services, process or managerial innovations, improvements in public services that facilitate access and improve outcomes, as well as new technologies or new applications of existing technologies.

New "low-tech" approaches designed to be useful, sustainable and accessible and which can have a significant impact on the lives of the poorest will also be eligible. Whatever its dimensions, FID seeks to support any innovation that more effectively or efficiently addresses poverty and inequality around the world, with a specific focus on innovations targeting particularly acute problems of marginalized populations.

What? Where? Who?



Which sectors does FID fund?

FID will accept applications for innovations in any sector, but specifically encourages applications for innovations in education, health, climate change, and gender equality.



Who can apply to receive FID funding?

FID will accept applications from nearly any type of applicant (independently or in partnership with others), including: research institutes, governments, NGOs, for-profit companies, working on initiatives in all low- and middle-income countries. FID specifically encourages applications from consortia of multiple organizations.

Selection Criteria



Rigorous evidence of impact in improving the lives of people living in poverty (or a clear strategy for generating it)



Cost-effectiveness of the innovation



Potential for scale, widespread adoption, and sustainability

These grants support small projects in the development of proposals for Stage 1, 2 or 3 grants for promising applicants who otherwise would have less opportunity to obtain funding from a competitive fund.

Stage 1 | Pilot

UP TO €200K

These grants support the piloting of innovations that are post-prototype and are ready to be piloted in the real world to refine the basic model and establish the viability of the innovation at small scale.

Stage 2 | Test and Position for Scale

UPTO €1.5M ·

These grants support further testing and continued growth of innovations to assess the likelihood that they can achieve both impact and viability at a larger scale.

Stage 3 | Transition to Scale

UP TO €4M

These grants support the transition of rigorously validated solutions to widespread scaling, such as bringing a tested innovation to national scale or to new contexts, with the goal of eventually achieving widespread adoption in one or more countries.

Transforming Public Policy

UPTO €150K

These grants support the accelerated adoption of innovations with demonstrated cost-effectiveness as well as proposals to strengthen the capacity of governments to bring evidence-based innovations to scale.

Capturing performance at multiple levels



At the Fund portfolio level

Social benefits of investments, estimated aggregate impact of all projects.

At the project level

What the grants recipients achieved, the impact achieved through the intervention.

At the ecosystem level

Ability to influence the international development landscape, demonstrating the value of funding evidence-based, public policy-oriented innovation.

Join us

We look forward to receiving your project proposals! FID will launch calls for proposals throughout the year to identify and select the most innovative and impactful solutions.



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