



Foundation

in partnership with Co-op

## Carbon Innovation Fund - Round 2 - Application Questions

To be considered for funding, all applications must be submitted through our [online form](#), which will **open on 1 February 2023** and **close on 28 February 2023**. **Overview**

We're offering grants of between £75,000-100,000\* to support work that will reduce our reliance on soy-based feed and/or synthetic fertilisers. We're looking for innovative projects that not only deliver environmental benefits, but also demonstrate working collaboratively and co-operatively with others.

\*Organisations working in formal partnerships with others may request between £75,000 - £200,000.

Please ensure you have read the guidance notes before writing your application. You can also re-watch our information webinar about the fund [on our website](#) (please note, this link will not be live until 1 February).

NB: you can save and resume your form at any time using the box on the top-right. **Please note that the form will not automatically save.**

If you have any questions about the fund, please email [foundation@coop.co.uk](mailto:foundation@coop.co.uk)

### Section 1 - Eligibility Checks

1. Can you commit to open-source sharing of your work and learning? [Y/N] \*  
*We can only fund projects which are deemed charitable, i.e., **projects must not solely generate private financial gain. We cannot fund work protected by intellectual property rights.** It is important that work and learnings can be shared openly in a non-competitive way.*

2. Do you have at least 2 unconnected people on your management board? (by unconnected, we mean people to whom you are not related or married) [Y/N] \*

3. Has a pilot already been carried out to test your project as described in this application? \*

*We can only fund projects that have already completed pilot-stage work. This pilot could have been conducted by the applicant, or another organisation. [Y/N]*

### Section 2 - About your organisation

4. Tell us about your organisation's mission and vision. [150 words]

### **Section 3 - About your Carbon Innovation Fund project**

5. Sum up your project in a sentence. [30 words] \*
6. Please fully explain what you plan to do for your Carbon Innovation Fund project. [250 words] \*

*Ensure your answer is clear and without jargon.*

7. Where will the project take place? [30 words]\*
8. Over what timeframe do you expect to deliver your project? (Projects must start within 6 months of funding being awarded, but can last as long as they need ) [20 words] \*
9. How will your proposed project help reduce the sector's reliance on synthetic fertilisers and/or soy-based feed? [200 words]\*  
*Ensure your answer is clear and without jargon.*

### **Section 4 - Carbon Innovation Funding Criteria [essential]**

***It is essential that all applicants can answer questions 10, 11, 12 and 13***

10. How can you demonstrate that your project will reduce greenhouse gas emissions? *Are you able to measure reductions? Can you evidence reductions using a standard methodology? Can you point to credible, existing research that supports your claims?* [250 words] \*
11. We can only fund projects that have completed a pilot. Tell us about the pilot/proof of concept work, what was learnt and how this project will build on that work. If possible, tell us about how it measured greenhouse gas reduction. [250 words] \*
12. Have you considered any potential unintended adverse consequences of this project? What are they? *Consequences could be human or environmental knock-on effects.*

*We know that most projects will have some knock-on consequences and ask that you are open and honest in sharing these challenges. [250 words] \**

13. Tell us how you demonstrate collaboration and/or co-operation within your project, to plan/share/deliver benefits.

*This could be through formal or informal partnerships with various stakeholders, open-source sharing, dissemination of findings, working with local communities etc. [250 words]\**

14. If you are applying as a formal partnership, please tell us who the other organisations are and what they will do. To qualify as a formal partnership, you must have a contract and/or memorandum of understanding in place. [250 words]

### **Section 5 - Carbon Innovation Fund criteria [desirable]**

**Applicants that can demonstrate the following are more likely to be shortlisted, although meeting each of these criteria is not essential.**

15. What wider social or community benefits would your proposal create, and how? [150 words]

16. What wider environmental benefits would your proposal create, and how? [150 words]

17.

- Please tell us what change will happen as a direct result of your project during the grant lifetime, and what its reach will be (local, regional, national).
- Tell us whether there is the opportunity for long-lasting legacy, and what you expect this to be. [200 words]

18. Does your work have the potential to be scaled-up? If yes, tell us more about how this might happen. If not, tell us why.

*Within this answer, you should think about current UK policy regulations, cost implications and affordability associated with scaling up your project. [150 words]*

19. How will you measure the change that you hope to achieve? [150 words]

## **Section 6 - Budget and finance**

20. How much money are you applying for?\*(between £75,000 - £100,000).

**Formal partnerships may apply for up to £200,000.**

21. Provide a brief budget (in the form of a list), outlining how you would spend the grant. Funding can be used on both overheads and capital costs, so you are welcome to use full cost recovery. *Please present the budget as a list. We need to know the main items or activities in your project and how much they will cost. If you are successful after this stage, we'll ask for a more detailed budget. [150 words] \**

22. If our funding would make up part of a larger funding package, what is the total estimated cost of your project, and what is the status of other contributions? (150 words)

23. Please outline here if you have any particular concerns about your organisation's financial stability, your ability to meet costs and how you are building inflation into your cashflow. [150 words]

24. We can offer up to £5,000 per organisation [with the exception of private limited companies] to support you with your organisation's capacity building work. This could look like support to refresh your strategy, consultancy fees for expert advice, training, upskilling, conference attendance, social media support etc. Are you interested in applying for this funding? [y/n] \*

- If answered 'yes' to question 24

- How much funding would you like to apply for? [up to £5,000] \*

- If answered 'yes' to question 24

- Briefly outline what would you like to use this funding to do? [medium answer]  
*Successful applicants may change what they spend this money on, depending on timing and emerging needs. We know that things change and will work in a flexible way to accommodate the needs of the organisation. \* [100 words]*

### **Section 7 - Working with the Co-op supply chain**

There is an opportunity to present projects to Co-op suppliers, who may be interested in the work you are doing, and potentially want to collaborate.

25. Are you a current Co-op supplier? [Y/N] \*

26. Would you be interested in potentially working with a Co-op supplier on this project, or in the future? \*

*This could mean scaling up your project into a larger organisation, collaborating on trials, or sharing learning together. More information can be found in the guidance notes. [Y/N]*

- If answered 'yes' to question 26

- Do you give consent to us sharing your application information with Co-op suppliers and their networks? [Y/N] \*

### **Section 8 - Final questions**

27 . If your application is shortlisted but unsuccessful, we would love to pass it on to potential alternative environmental funders for their consideration. If this scenario arises, do you give consent to sharing this application with other funders? [y/n] \*

28. Where did you hear about this fund? \*

29. How was your experience applying for this fund? \*