

SAFE TERRITORIES

Studying innovative solutions for communities at risk of landslides or flooding

Deadline September 25, 2024

GRANTING SCHEMES 2024 - SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Fondazione
CARIPLO

TUTE SERVARE MUNIFICE DONARE • 1816



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1. INTRODUCTION

"TERRITORI SICURI - Studying innovative solutions for communities at risk of landslides or flooding" is a call for proposals with a deadline that is part of the mandate line "Creating shared value by supporting the creation and sustainable development of territorial ecosystems".

The instrument is part of a larger, multi-year intervention in two phases. In the first phase, through this call for proposals, pilot projects will be identified and supported, which will develop and adopt innovative solutions and strategies to deal with landslide or flood risk in experimental sites. After careful and punctual monitoring, in the second phase, fellow projects will be identified and supported that will join the pilot projects with the aim of extending the applicability of the most successful solutions and strategies to different contexts.

In implementing the intervention, the Foundation will also benefit from the support of Community Foundations.

2. BACKGROUND

Italy, due to its geographical position and morphological characteristics, is particularly susceptible to events related to hydrogeological instability. Among the most widespread phenomena are landslides and floods. In our country, 7,423 municipalities (93.9% of the total) are at risk of landslides, floods and/or coastal erosion, 18.4% of the national territory is classified as more dangerous for landslides and floods, 1.3 million inhabitants are at risk of landslides and 6.8 million are at risk of floods¹. The Foundation's territory shows problems related to both

phenomena with landslides occurring frequently throughout the Alps and Apennines and floods in lowland areas.

Landslides and floods cause significant economic damage, compromising agricultural, industrial and commercial activities, the functionality of infrastructures, the practicability of residential complexes, and have a strong impact on the population in terms of loss of life and emotional effects.

Climate change - which is increasing the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events - unsustainable urban development, inadequate management of water resources and weak infrastructure contribute to aggravating the effects of hydrogeological disruption in communities.

As widely agreed, managing landslide and flood risks requires a vision that integrates several elements such as land morphology, urbanisation and the possible presence of infrastructure. Often, an effective strategy combines several preventive and response measures to best protect territories exposed to such risks. In this context, the active involvement of local communities is crucial to ensure the effectiveness and sustainability of protection measures and to create a sense of shared responsibility and greater social resilience in the face of hydrogeological risks.

Stimulating an active and aware participation of local communities can therefore make the difference in reducing the impacts of hydrogeological instability on territories².

¹ ISPRA – Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale. Rapporto Dissesto idrogeologico in Italia: pericolosità e indicatori del rischio. Edizione 2021.

² Piano di gestione del rischio alluvioni. (PGRA 2015-2021) Sezione A (D.Lgs. n. 49/10 art 7, comma 3 lettera a)

3. AIMS

Through this call, Fondazione Cariplo intends to support local research to develop and foster the adoption of innovative solutions and strategies to tackle hydrogeological instability. More specifically, participatory research projects will be supported to prevent, monitor and manage the risk of landslides or floods with the aim of improving the well-being and safety of communities.

Studies will be supported aimed at

- develop innovative solutions for landslide or flood monitoring;
- test/validate the solutions by applying them to an experimental site located in Fondazione Cariplo's area of reference;
- integrate and improve data collection and information analysis;
- develop advanced and accurate forecasting models to predict landslide or flood events;
- develop policy briefs and decision support systems to guide strategic risk management choices at both local and regional levels.

All projects should be characterised by a multidisciplinary approach, which is essential to provide solutions to the complex problems characterising hydrogeological instability. In this regard, interventions should involve experts from different disciplines - including economic and social ones - and be promoted by partnerships capable of activating all the skills and sensitivities useful for the success of the projects.

In order for the achievements to be shared and adopted by the communities of reference, it will also be necessary to valorise the heritage of local knowledge, including tacit knowledge, and to adopt participative methodologies to actively involve stakeholders in the various stages of project development. In order to make all actors mutually responsible for both the research process and the results produced, initiatives will have to

- have an advisory board composed of local stakeholders, including representatives of productive realities (e.g. industry, agriculture and tourism);
- stimulate the direct participation of citizens through involvement in monitoring and

reporting activities (e.g. citizen science and citizen engagement);

- envisage moments of citizen awareness and training.

4. GUIDELINES

4.1 ELIGIBLE SUBJECTS

The call is aimed at partnerships capable of activating all the skills and sensitivities useful for the development of interventions.

Each project must provide for a minimum compulsory partnership as follows:

- lead partner: university or public research body;
- partner: local public body.

Both partners must be located in the Foundation's primary area of reference, i.e. Lombardy and the provinces of Novara and Verbano Cusio Ossola.

In view of the fact that the call aims to involve local communities, it is hoped that other public or private organisations with specific competencies in the area of the call will also participate in the projects. These bodies may be involved as service providers or play the role of partners, where eligible, according to the "General Criteria for the granting of subsidies" available online for download. In both cases, the role and added value for the realisation of the project must be clearly explained.

4.2 ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

To be eligible, projects must:

- comply with the technical-scientific priorities as outlined in paragraph 3 "The objectives";
- provide for community involvement modalities as outlined in section 3 "The Objectives";
- be presented by a partnership as defined in section 4.1 "Target Groups";
- identify experimental sites located in Fondazione Cariplo's area of reference
- have a maximum duration of 24 months.

The total cost of the project should include additional costs³ and overhead only, according to eligibility criteria and thresholds listed below:

- A03 - "Equipment and software"
This entry cannot exceed 50% of project additional costs. It fully covers the costs for newly acquired equipment and software. It is mandatory to clearly motivate these costs in accordance to the specificity of the project.
- A04 - "Other amortizable costs"
This entry can only include patent costs.
- A06 - "Temporary staff"
This entry can only include research personnel costs. The cost of administrative staff is not allowed.
- A07 - "Sub-contractors and consultants"⁴
- A08 - "Materials and supplies"
This entry cannot include costs related to office supplies and photocopies.
- A09 - "Overheads"
This entry cannot exceed 5% of project additional costs.
- A10 - "Other costs"
This entry can only include travel expenses and conference participation fees for the research personnel involved in the project, scientific publications and activities of communication with the civil society and the amounts to be incurred in the case of the rental of equipment;

The grant request must be between EUR 500,000 and 800,000.

³ Sum of: A03, A04, A06, A07, A08, A10.

⁴ This entry should also include audit costs, where applicable. Exclusively certificated auditors are considered eligible. For the sole purpose of ascertaining whether the obligation to perform a financial audit applies or not, the amount which has to be considered is obtained by multiplying the eligible costs detailed in the Budget (sum of entries A06, A07, A08, A09 and A10) by the coefficient 1,25. It is also recommended to refer to the "Grant management and reporting guide" and to the guidelines for audit assignment "Linee guida per affidamento audit"; both documents are available on the Cariplo Foundation's website. However, it is anticipated that in case of funding, the

The grant will cover 100% of project costs, therefore the total cost of the project should correspond to the requested amount.

Proposals should provide the following mandatory documents:

- Letter of agreement⁵;
- Partnership agreement⁶;
- Detailed project, in PDF⁷;
- Budget, in EXCEL⁸.

With the participation to this call, organizations acknowledge, agree and irrevocably accept "Intellectual property rights policy", "Open access policy" and "Guidelines for the citation of the contribution in scientific communications" available online for download. Please note that all publications resulting from the project results must report the affiliation of the organization with which the proposal was submitted. Have a careful look at the FAQs specifically prepared for this call.

4.3 CRITERIA

In the following paragraphs we describe in detail the evaluation process.

1. SCIENTIFIC QUALITY OF THE PROJECT (weight 25%)

- relevance of the intervention in terms of prevention, monitoring, mitigation and management of the risk from landslides or floods;
- clarity in the formulation of the objectives and strategies adopted;
- appropriateness of the proposed methods and techniques;
- adoption of a multidisciplinary approach;

Foundation will confirm to each recipient any obligation to satisfy such fulfillment.

⁵ Host institution agreement must be drawn up on the basis of the form made downloadable from the website.

⁶ To be provided the involves partners the doc must be drawn up on the basis of the form made downloadable from the website.

⁷ The Project form must be completed using the form available for the call.

⁸ The Budget form must be completed using the form available for the call.

- assessment of the degree of risk of the proposed activities and adequate provision for alternative approaches;
- clear and effective monitoring plan.

2. INNOVATION (peso 10%)

- innovation in terms of proposed solutions and techniques
- originality in the way local communities are involved.

3. PARTNERSHIP (15%)

- scientific and management leadership of the project leader and the lead organisation
- adequacy of the skills involved, also in view of the multidisciplinary approach required;
- clear representation of the roles and added value of each subject involved;
- adequate rootedness in the territory.

4. SOCIAL IMPACTS AND DISSEMINATION (weight 40%)

- clear indication of the expected impact in terms of resilience, safety and well-being of local communities;
- adequate involvement of local communities in project activities (advisory board, citizen science and citizen engagement, awareness raising and training);
- provision of effective policy briefs and decision support systems to guide risk management choices at both local and regional levels;
- emblematicity of the intervention and coherence with the local socio-economic context;
- mutability of the solutions and strategies developed that constitute transferable best practices for the benefit of other contexts and communities.

5. FINANCIAL PLAN AND DURATION (weight 10%) 0

- adequacy and coherence of the budget plan and the duration of the project with respect to the activities envisaged in the proposal.

This criterion will also evaluate the adequacy of the contributions of any partners and third parties.

The evaluation of merit will be carried out by peer review, i.e. through a scientific evaluation

delegated to an independent third party made up of qualified experts who are subject to precisely defined rules and procedures aimed at exclude conflicts of interest, ideological bias, personal pressure and self-referentiality. In phase II, the offices will evaluate the consistency of the budget plan.

4.4 SUBMISSION PROCESS

Grant applications must be submitted by 5 pm (CET) on September 25, 2024.

Submission of pending applications is allowed within 30 minutes after the call deadline.

5. BUDGET AND ELIGIBLE COSTS

The overall budget available for the call is 3 million euros.

With the aim of supporting an adequate number of solutions to be transferred to other contexts, the Foundation's intention is to fund at least two projects in the area of landslides and at least two projects in the area of floods.

With reference to eligible and/or ineligible expenses, please check paragraph 4.2 "Eligible projects".

6. COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

Fondazione Cariplo, as a private entity, has full power to decide on the allocation of the budget. The text of the call and all the necessary documents are available at Fondazione Cariplo website: www.fondazionecariplo.it.

For the purposes of peer review process, any personal data reported in the detailed description of the project may be transferred to non-EU countries or organizations, in compliance with EU Regulation 2016/679. For more information, before submitting an application, please have a look at the new privacy policy on the processing of personal data and the transfer of personal data to countries or organizations outside the European Union.

7. SUMMARY*

Call	SAFE TERRITORIES - Studying innovative solutions for communities at risk of landslides or flooding
Type	Deadline call
Deadline	September 25, 2024
Available Budget	€ 3.000.000
Aims	Support the development and encourage the adoption of innovative solutions and strategies to tackle hydrogeological instability, with particular reference to landslides and floods
Eligible organizations	Partnerships capable of activating all the skills and sensitivities useful for the development of the interventions. Each project must provide for a minimum compulsory partnership as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• lead partner: university or public research body• partner: local public body
Budget limits	The grant request must be between EUR 500,000 and 800,000
Contact	Area Ricerca Scientifica Contact available at www.fondazionecriplo.it Contact e-mail: ritabacchella@fondazionecriplo.it

**The data in the "Summary" are a snapshot of the key elements of this Call. Please read carefully the full text of the Call for all details.*