

## ISLANDS FUND – CALL FOR PROPOSALS

### CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Call launch:  
**February 1 2022**

Call end:  
**April 1 2022**

**Eligible projects:** Actions carried out on small islands of less than 150 km<sup>2</sup> that are in SMILO's certification process *Sustainable Island* or active members of SMILO network

**Type of organisation:** Local organisations, in particular civil society organisations

**Grant amount:** €1,000 to €15,000

**For:** Actions carried out during the period going from 1 June 2022 to 30 July 2023

**Project maximum duration:** 1 year

**On the following topics:** sustainable energy solutions, sustainable fishery, marine ecosystems protection, in particular in view of favouring blue carbon storage

#### CONTEXT

Small islands are both fragile and unique. As they are at the forefront of global climate changes, they face many issues: sea level raise, limited resources, biological diversity loss, pressures associated to human activities... However, islands can contribute to finding pragmatic and effective solutions to these issues, making small islands pioneers of more sustainable development.

[SMILO \(Small Islands Organisation\)](#) supports small islands of less than 150km<sup>2</sup> towards the sustainable management of their territory and resources. It bolsters integrated operations for the preservation of islands' natural resources, in relation to water and sanitation, waste, energy, biodiversity, landscapes and heritage issues. The Sustainable Island label rewards the positive local dynamics and sustainable practices. Currently, 20 islands are involved in the certification process. SMILO provides further support with the Islands Fund, which finances concrete and sustainable operations on the ground. To strengthen cooperation and solidarity between islands, the NGO coordinates an international network, with members from West Africa, the Indian Ocean, Southeast Asia, Europe and the Mediterranean.

[Zenon](#) is a non-profit organisation aiming at building a better future through a think tank, and a fund for financial grants & investments. Zenon research is a think tank exploring a realistic path for sustainable growth within the planetary boundaries imposed by energy and resources, and studying how to ensure that growth is compatible with these boundaries. Zenon impact is a non-profit fund which provides grants and investments to Effective, Efficient and Sustainable projects in strengthen resilient marine ecosystems.

SMILO teams up with Zenon to launch a new *Call for proposals of **SMILO Islands Fund*** with the cooperation of [Conservatoire du littoral](#). This call aims to support the small islands that are actively engaged in the Sustainable Island certification process or in SMILO network to implement concrete solutions identified by islands stakeholders in a holistic territorial approach. This partnership between SMILO and Zenon aims to support grassroot organisations contributing to the local governance and carrying concrete actions that can make a difference for islands sustainable development.

## **WHO CAN APPLY? WHICH OPERATIONS ARE ELIGIBLE?**

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**Who?** Local organisation, in particular locally-based/grassroot civil society organisation

### **Where?**

1) Your activities take place on a candidate island of the *Sustainable Island* certification process:

BRAVA (Cape Verde)  
BROWNSEA (UK)  
BOLAMA (Guinea-Bissau)  
CULATRA (Portugal)  
CHOLE (Tanzania)  
FRIOUL (France)  
GORÉE (Senegal)  
IBO (Mozambique)  
ILUR (France)  
KERKENNAH (Tunisia)  
LAVEZZI (France)  
EMERALD SEA (Madagascar)  
NOSY HARA (Madagascar)  
PANGATALAN (Philippines)  
PORQUEROLLES (France)  
PRINCIPE (Sao tomé and Principe)  
SANTA LUZIA (Cape Verde)  
SAINTE-MARGUERITE (France)  
SAINT-HONORAT (France)  
TAVOLARA (Italy)  
ZLARIN (Croatia)

2) Or you are a member of SMILO network and your activities take place on an small island, according to SMILO definition:

- island smaller than 150 km<sup>2</sup>
- in any sea
- no bridges
- detached from the mainland at low tide
- inhabited or not
- protected or not

### Eligible activities?

Projects proposals must include the following four dimensions:

- i) Implementation of concrete field operations with proven, measurable and sustainable impacts that crosscheck SMILO strategic principles (available [here](#)), and for the islands in the label that contribute to the achievement of the strategic plan's objectives;
- ii) Support to improve the local governance of natural resources and of the island's sustainable development and land-use planning;
- iii) The main **objective is strengthening resilient marine ecosystems**. In a complementary way, it could fall under one of the following sustainable development areas:
  - ❖ Sustainable energy solutions: including increasing energy efficiency, energy consumption reduction and transition to renewable energy sources
  - ❖ Sustainable fishery: establish and follow sustainable fishing practices, reducing by-catch and habitat restoration
  - ❖ Marine ecosystems conservation and restoration, in particular in view of favouring blue carbon storage
- iv) Innovative operations, which have a significant social and environmental impact, and could inspire other island territories (reproducibility of the operation).

**Non-eligible activities?** Under no circumstance is the Islands Fund intended to provide working capital or operating costs for an institution. It shall finance operational actions on the islands, equipment acquisition, or provide the necessary facilities to meet the priority objectives of the island, as set out in the strategic plan for the islands in the certification process, or shared local plan. The Islands Fund shall not fund activities that do not – directly or indirectly – relate to the sustainable development goals defined of the island (set in the strategic plan for the islands in the label). These include capacity-building projects or research projects that are not related with territorial development; repetitive activities and recurrent functioning costs; national campaigns or local lobbying and/or awareness-raising campaigns unrelated to concrete environmental protection actions; touristic projects; agricultural or fish farms development that do not have a positive impact on the island's local biodiversity.

The following non-exhaustive list of ineligible activities includes:

- Constructions unrelated to the preservation and management of natural areas or that aren't exemplary sustainable practices;
- Communication tools and events that fall outside SMILO's scope of action;
- Traditional craft or agricultural production chains unrelated to conservation challenges;
- Any activity that only serves private interests;
- **General functioning costs**, except if these contribute to the project's successful implementation. SMILO may finance these expenses **up to 10%** of the total requested budget.
- In addition, **are eligible** costs related to communication, transport/travel, purchase or renewal of equipment if they do not exceed a reasonable amount of the total project budget.

**There is no obligation to have co-funding, although it is highly encouraged**, and valued in the project's selection.

**Project duration?** The maximum project duration is **1 year**. The project implementation phase starts on **1 June 2022, and ends on 30 July 2023 at the latest**.

## GRANT AMOUNT

The amount of this grant goes **from €1,000 to €15,000**. The grant will be paid at 1 or 2 separate payments (one in the beginning and one when submitting the final report) on due dates. The decision is subject to the appreciation of SMILO Secretariat, depending on the estimated budget submitted by the organisation (attached in the application form) and on the duration of the funded activity.

## PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

The application deadline is **April 1 2022, 5 pm (CET)**. SMILO and Zenon will analyse the applications and announce which ones are selected by the end of May 2022. SMILO will contact the selected organisations to proceed with the signature of the grant agreement, which will set out the arrangements.

The key selection prerequisites are the following:

### Effective

- Implementation of concrete field operations with sustainable impacts that crosscheck SMILO strategic principles, the project is integrated in a global approach of the island
- Considering all the themes of SMILO and their links (water, waste, energy, biodiversity and ecosystems, landscapes and cultural heritage)
- Focus on the most important and significant causes
- Supported by the research, facts, evidence and framework
- Fully assessed the risks and mitigate them

### Efficient

- Clear detailed estimated project outcome
- Thoroughly plan and allocate resources: time, efforts, budget, etc.
- Monitoring project progress, constant improvement, avoid waste

### Sustainable

- Expected results of the project will sustain
- Prospect of rollout, amplifying and enduring impact
- An eventual exit that the project is sustainable financially, institutionally and politically
- Gender diversity promoted (project management team, positive impact of the project, etc), as well as indigenous communities' participation, if applicable.
- The project is in line with the SDGs

## PROJECTS ASSESSMENT

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The project assessment will depend on the duration of the operations. Therefore:

- If the grant is required for activities that will be conducted over less than 3 months, the beneficiaries will have to submit a final report to SMILO.
- If the grant is required for activities that will be conducted over more than 3 months, a mid-term interview will take place. The beneficiaries will also have to submit a final report to SMILO.

In both cases, the report should not only be a simple description of the activities. It must include all the elements that could be used to illustrate what has been conducted, including:

- Pictures, videos, feedbacks, etc.
- Justifications and proofs of the grant use

so that SMILO and Zenon can easily and precisely communicate on the project.

## COMMUNICATION

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SMILO and Zenon are active on numerous social media. We intend to create posts and a web page on our websites to promote the selected projects. Applying organisations are therefore invited to present in a few words on how they consider communicating about the project, and/or how they already communicate about their current projects.

## HOW TO APPLY?

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Download and fill in the application form available [here](#), and send it with the mandatory documents to [secretariat@smilo-program.org](mailto:secretariat@smilo-program.org) and [m.ferretti@smilo-program.org](mailto:m.ferretti@smilo-program.org) before **April 1 2022, 5 pm (CET)**.