

PEFC Collaboration Fund 2015

Call for Proposals – 4 April deadline

Supporting stakeholders to “Think Global – Act Local” on forests

PEFC is the world’s largest forest certification system and its **Collaboration Fund** supports member and partner organizations’ efforts to advance sustainable forest management and forest certification around the world¹. This competitive small grants program extends PEFC’s support to encourage locally relevant, sustainability advancements in and around forests.

PEFC’s 2015 Call for Proposals is now open and submissions will be accepted until **4 April 2015**. Successful applicants will be announced by July.

Fund Objectives

- To stimulate new innovative approaches which contribute to PEFC International strategic priorities²;
- To act as a catalyst for locally relevant projects which embody PEFC International’s mission of ‘a world where people manage forests sustainably’;
- To encourage the establishment of new partnerships amongst organizations and/or the strengthening of existing partnerships;
- To provide co-funding that leverages funding from additional sources.

Eligible Activities

- New approaches or activities to raise awareness, communicate and promote certification or certified products;
- Capacity building that enables the expansion of forest certification;
- Research relevant to PEFC’s International Standards or the implementation of National Standards;
- Research and exploration to further integrate new products, services and/or approaches into PEFC certification systems.

Grant amounts

Proposals requesting a PEFC Collaboration Fund contribution of up to CHF 40,000 and have a project timeframe of up to 2 years will be considered. Grantees must provide evidence of at least 35% additional co-funding from other sources towards the overall project budget. In-kind contributions may exceptionally be accepted as co-funding. The fund supports relevant new and additional activities rather than existing, ongoing work and running costs.

¹ From 2011 to 2015 PEFC awarded over CHF 450,000 to 21 collaborative projects

² See [PEFC Strategic Plan 2013-2016](http://www.pefc.org/resources/organizational-documents/statutes-strategy/1244-pefc-strategy-2013-2016-summary) at <http://www.pefc.org/resources/organizational-documents/statutes-strategy/1244-pefc-strategy-2013-2016-summary>

Eligible Grantees

[PEFC Members](#) and other Non-Profit Organizations are eligible to apply. Project partners may also include private and public sector organizations. If the lead grantee is not a PEFC member, it is desirable that a PEFC member is a project partner. For more information on current PEFC members and how to become a PEFC member visit our website: treee.es/PEFCmembership

Proposal Assessment

All proposals received will be thoroughly reviewed and assessed against a comprehensive set of criteria. To best fulfill these criteria, ask yourself the following questions before submitting your proposal:

Regarding your project:

- Does the project foster collaboration and bring together new partners?
- Is the project interesting from both local and international perspectives?
- Does the project put forward a plan to leverage funding from other sources and undertake new, additional activities?

Regarding Sustainable Forest Management and Forest Certification:

- Does the project idea embody innovation while at the same time prove its relevancy and efficiency?
- Will the project deliver results locally, and potentially internationally?
- Are there strong links between the project and PEFC's scope, strategic priorities and ongoing projects?

Regarding PEFC International, PEFC members and PEFC certificate holders:

- Does the project stand to deliver benefit and value for PEFC stakeholders and our system?

Proposal documentation

All [documentation](#) can be downloaded from the PEFC website, including the application form, available at: treee.es/collab2015

Proposals must be submitted before **17:00 CET on 4 April 2015** by e-mail to development@pefc.org or by fax at +41 22 799 4550.

Next Steps:

PEFC suggests interested applicants:

1. Review the projects of previously successful grantees from 2011 to 2014 on the PEFC website: treee.es/collab-fund
2. Participate in a Collaboration Fund information call on **17 February at 09:00 or 16:00 CET**
To register, please email development@pefc.org by Friday 13 February so we can provide you with the call in details.
3. At any time feel free to discuss potential eligibility and projects ideas with PEFC – we are happy to assist with advice. Contact: development@pefc.org or by fax +41 22 799 4550 or by tel. +41 22 799 4540.