

# SUEZ FOUNDATION : PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

*In the face of growing environmental challenges and in line with the SUEZ Group's purpose, the SUEZ Foundation wishes to contribute to a significant improvement in the living conditions of vulnerable and weakened communities in the territories where SUEZ is present, through access to essential services and a fair ecological transition and social inclusion.*

*In order to implement this mission, the SUEZ Foundation has defined precise rules described in the following chapters, which all project sponsors are invited to consult and read carefully before applying for a support from the Foundation on a project.*

*As the Foundation has reviewed its project support strategy for 2024, it reserves the right to modify the conditions and stages of the call for projects, which will be tested in a new format.*

## **1. AREAS OF INTERVENTION / FIELDS OF ACTION**

The SUEZ Foundation supports concrete actions in developing countries to provide sustainable access to essential services (water, sanitation, and hygiene) for vulnerable and underprivileged groups. In France, its priorities are a fair ecological transition integrating social inclusion.

### **1.1. ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL SERVICES**

#### **1.1.1. DEVELOPMENT AID PROJECTS**

As part of the "Access to Essential Services" intervention area, the SUEZ Foundation supports development aid projects (exclusively on access to water, sanitation, hygiene) in emerging or developing countries, where the SUEZ Group is present.

To be eligible for support from the Foundation, projects must:

- ✓ take place in urban, peri-urban or rural areas, with project support from local authorities.
- ✓ include a capacity-building/skills enhancement component, focusing on improving services and their management and/or raising residents' awareness of hygiene and health issues.
- ✓ Involve the beneficiaries in defining the project and/or monitoring it.
- ✓ Include, if possible, volunteer work and skills sponsorship by SUEZ employees.
- ✓ Present concrete objectives whose results will be evaluated and monitored. These objectives must be accompanied by indicators for monitoring the impact of the project at different stages (2 years and 5 years), particularly in terms of improving the quality of life of the beneficiaries.

Particular attention will be paid to the innovative nature of the approach and the project, as well as its integration into local policies.

#### **1.1.2. EMERGENCY PROJECTS**

The Foundation also supports emergency and post-emergency humanitarian operations, particularly in access to essential services (water, sanitation, hygiene).

The country criterion is extended to countries other than those where SUEZ is present, depending on the crises and the needs of the affected populations.

### **1.2. FAIR ECOLOGICAL TRANSITION AND SOCIAL INCLUSION**

As part of the "Fair Ecological Transition and Social Inclusion" intervention area, the SUEZ Foundation

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supports projects with a dual environmental and social impact in France, benefiting vulnerable and underprivileged communities.

To be eligible for support from the Foundation, projects must:

- ✓ Provide support for people in changing their behavior regarding:
  - Sober use of resources.
  - Environmental protection (circular economy, respect for biodiversity, preservation of natural environments, etc.)
  - combating climate change.

This framework includes awareness-raising/education initiatives as well as operational projects.

- ✓ Work towards inclusion and social cohesion in the regions:
  - for people who are far from employment, economically and socially vulnerable, insecure or isolated.
  - or for minors and young adults (up to the age of 30), and their families in the QPV neighbourhoods (priority neighbourhoods of urban policy) and the “Réseaux d’Education Prioritaire” (priority education networks), as well as in rural areas.
- ✓ Involve the beneficiaries in defining the project and/or follow-up.
- ✓ Include, if possible, volunteer work and skills sponsorship by SUEZ employees.

Particular attention will be paid to the innovative nature of the approach and the project, as well as to the fact that it is rooted in environmental and social policies.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

### 2.1. ELIGIBILITY OF THE PROJECT LEADER

The entity or structure applying for support from the SUEZ Foundation must meet the following criteria:

- ✓ Have a legal status of an association or foundation or endowment fund recognized as being in the public interest.
- ✓ Have been legally established for at least 5 years on the date the application is submitted and provide proof of at least 5 years' operational activity (to measure the impact of previous projects).
- ✓ Have associative or NGO governance.
- ✓ Include in project monitoring a steering committee mechanism with the various project partners and in particular a representative of the SUEZ Foundation.
- ✓ Comply with the SUEZ Foundation's Code of Ethics.
- ✓ Demonstrate its ability to be part of local partnership dynamics: in conjunction with one or more of the following local stakeholders (associations, institutions, companies, research and innovation players).
- ✓ Have demonstrated the relevance and impact of their action and the sustainability of their results in previous projects.

Priority will be given to projects run by non-profit organizations that meet the conditions set out in article

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238 bis of the French General Tax Code.

For projects in France, the entity or structure seeking support from the SUEZ Foundation must operate at least on the scale of 2 administrative regions, including the French Overseas Territories.

## 2.2. PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for support from the SUEZ Foundation, the project must meet the following criteria:

- ✓ Correspond to the areas of intervention / fields of action of the SUEZ Foundation, in terms of themes, scope of intervention and target beneficiaries where applicable.
- ✓ Have a clearly defined impact. The objectives set must be concrete and the results measurable. In addition, the sustainability of the project and the actions guaranteeing it must be defined and monitored.
- ✓ Have a minimum duration of 2 years (two years). The duration of the submitted project must cover a minimum period of 2 years from the date of support by the SUEZ Foundation.
- ✓ Be co-financed by public and/or private partners and the amount requested from the SUEZ Foundation must meet the following cumulative conditions:
  - The amount requested for the support of the SUEZ Foundation must represent at least 15% of the budget of the submitted project and must not exceed 50% of the budget for the submitted project.
  - The amount of support requested must correspond to the following minimum and maximum depending on the field of action:
    - For the "Access to Essential Services" intervention area, a minimum amount of €50k (fifty thousand euros) and a maximum of €100k (one hundred thousand euros).
    - For the "Fair Ecological Transition and Social Inclusion" intervention area, a minimum amount of €30k (thirty thousand euros) and a maximum of €70k (seventy thousand euros).

## 3. PROCEDURES FOR COLLECTING, SELECTING AND SUPPORTING PROJECTS

### 3.1. COLLECTION OF PROJECTS

The SUEZ Foundation organizes two calls for projects per year to identify projects that meet its criteria and priorities in the two areas of intervention/fields of action.

A call for projects guide will be available on the SUEZ Foundation's website as well as on the dedicated application site, prior to each call for projects.

Other methods of collecting projects will be tried out from 2024.

For emergency projects, in the cases eligible for support from the Foundation below, the project leader is invited to contact the Foundation team to find out how to apply:

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- ✓ Health emergencies
- ✓ Humanitarian crises
- ✓ Natural or climatic disasters
- ✓ for disaster-stricken, vulnerable, or serious weakened groups.

## 3.2. SELECTION OF PROJECTS

The various projects will be assessed according to their ability to:

- ✓ Provide long-term support and follow-up for beneficiaries over the medium to long term;
- ✓ Contribute to lasting change for the beneficiaries, with monitoring indicators designed with this in mind. In this respect, particular attention will be paid to the project's monitoring and impact indicators at various stages (2 years and 5 years), particularly in terms of improving the quality of life of beneficiaries;
- ✓ Propose an innovative approach in the ecosystem (social, technical, digital innovation, etc.);
- ✓ To be replicated and/or scaled up.

The projects will follow a 5-stage process from the submission of the first part of the application to the approval of support by the Board of Directors of the SUEZ Foundation if the project is selected.

The stages in the process are as follows:



## 3.3. PROJECT SUPPORT

### 3.3.1. PRACTICAL PROCEDURES

When a project is approved for support by the SUEZ Foundation, the project leader is notified of the decision and must, within 6 months of the decision, provide a project financing plan demonstrating that 80% of the financing has been acquired (including that of the SUEZ Foundation). Once this condition has been met, the sponsorship agreement between the SUEZ Foundation and the project sponsor can be signed. A project coordinator is appointed on a voluntary basis within the SUEZ teams. This referent monitors the proper implementation of the project in conjunction with the person in charge of monitoring within the SUEZ Foundation team. This referent and the person in charge of monitoring within the SUEZ Foundation team will be involved in the key stages of steering the project (Steering Committee).

### 3.3.2. RENEWAL OF SUPPORT

- First Support

Support by the SUEZ Foundation for a project leader's first project is for the duration of the project submitted (a minimum of 2 years from the support decision).

- Renewal of support

The SUEZ Foundation may renew its support for the project (the SUEZ Foundation may support several projects from the same structure) 1 to 2 times, the renewal of the project being conditional on the receipt of the final report of the 1st support.

## 4. USEFUL LINKS

For more information on the SUEZ Foundation, there is only one address:

<https://www.suez.com/fr/nous-connaitre/un-groupe-engage/la-fondation-suez>