Occident Fundación

Press Release

Sant Cugat del Vallès, 06/10/2026

Fundación Occident launches the 2nd EcoSocial Jesús Serra Call for Applications, offering up to €150,000 to support one social project and one Blue Economy project

Organisations can submit their applications from 8 October to 10 November for projects aimed at children and young people or focused on sustainability and innovation in the Blue Economy.

Selected initiatives will receive funding for up to three years, together with personalised technical support, including assessment, mentoring and follow-up tailored to the needs of each project.

The second edition follows the high level of participation in the first call, which received 320 applications and 222 formal proposals, nearly tripling the call's initial target.

Sant Cugat del Vallès, 6 October 2026. **Fundación Occident launches the 2nd EcoSocial Jesús Serra Call for Applications,** an initiative aimed **at supporting projects with the potential to generate** positive and lasting **social or environmental change.**Interested organisations can submit their applications from 8 October to **10 November at 12:00 noon.**

The second edition follows the high level of participation in the first call, which received **320 applications, 222 of which were formalised as proposals.**

The call will once again select **two projects**, one in each of its areas of focus. In the **Social Action** category, the foundation is seeking initiatives aimed at children and young people aged 0 to 24 in areas such as education, mental health and emotional well-being, protection in digital environments, prevention of violence and addictions, and employment integration. In the **Environmental** category, the focus will be on the **Blue Economy**, with projects related to marine conservation, sustainable fishing and aquaculture, waste management, environmental education and social innovation linked to the sea.

Non-profit organisations, social economy organisations, social enterprises, impact startups and other forms of purpose-driven entrepreneurship operating in Spain and meeting the requirements set out in the terms and conditions may apply.

Up to €150,000 and long-term support

Each selected project may receive **up to €50,000 per year for a maximum of three years, up to a total of €150,000**, in addition to a personalised technical support programme. This may include diagnostic sessions, one-to-one mentoring, shared learning opportunities and ongoing follow-up tailored to each stage of the project.

About Fundación Occident

Fundación Occident promotes social action initiatives with the aim of contributing to a fairer, more inclusive and sustainable society. Through its own programmes and strategic calls for applications, the foundation promotes projects with real impact and a commitment to driving change. Trust, support and collaboration are the cornerstones of its work.

If you need additional information please do not hesitate to contact us

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Laura Halpern, president of Fundación Occident, said: “We want to support projects with genuine potential for transformation and accompany them beyond funding. “The first edition confirmed the enormous talent and commitment among social and environmental organisations and, with this second call, we want to continue building long-term relationships based on trust, learning and impact”.

The experience of the first winning projects

The first edition selected **Fundación Raíces** for its “**Empleo Conciencia**” project, focused on supporting the social and employment integration of young people without family support, and **Alnitak** for “**Oasis Azul**”, an initiative aimed at modernising Mediterranean artisanal fishing through sustainable solutions and precision technology.

María Areces, coordinator of “Empleo Conciencia”, highlighted that “the support from Fundación Occident is enabling us, over these three years, to consolidate an intervention model that not only responds to situations of exclusion, but also addresses their structural causes and creates genuine opportunities for greater independence and a long-term future in an increasing number of professional sectors and locations across Spain”.

Lourdes Reyzábal, president of Fundación Raíces, said that “these awards and the technical support provide a valuable opportunity to raise the profile and strengthen the work of social organisations, gain a deeper understanding of the needs they address and make progress towards their goals. This type of support, particularly when maintained over three years, is essential for driving initiatives capable of generating sustainable change”.

Projects with potential for impact and learning

The call is open to projects in different stages of development, from initiatives in the exploration or design phase to proposals undergoing piloting, consolidation or scaling. Fundación Occident will pay particular attention to the **clarity of the problem being addressed, the project's potential impact, its viability and its ability to generate useful learning beyond the intervention itself.**

Applications must be submitted through Fundación Occident's online platform. Following an initial assessment, 20 organisations will be shortlisted to develop a more detailed proposal, including the work plan, budget, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, and a video presenting the project.

The final selection will take place in March 2027, and the presentation event for the selected projects will be held on 31 March 2027.

You can find the **rules** for the 2nd EcoSocial JS Call for Applications here.

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