

+PLUS FUND RULES

Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Lisboa (SCML), specifically through Casa do Impacto, has contributed to the enhancement and strengthening of the national ecosystem of entrepreneurship and impact innovation, through different initiatives and programmes that support the creation and implementation of innovative solutions with social and/or environmental impact.

Since its inception in late 2018, Casa do Impacto has opened its doors to new approaches, processes and players, becoming a centre for aggregating resources and partners, promoting and supporting entities from various sectors, ideas and projects from entrepreneurs and social economy organisations that add more value to the economy and environment as well as culture, knowledge and society as a whole.

In this context, SCML took the initiative to fill some funding gaps in this ecosystem, namely to support the implementation of innovative solutions with differentiated impact according to their degree of maturity. Hence, through Deliberation no. 229/2020 of 2 February, it created the +PLUS Fund, a funding mechanism with an annual allocation of EUR 500,000, which aims to contribute to the resolution of the most pressing social and/or environmental issues and challenges.

Given the dynamics of the innovation process, it was deemed relevant to adjust the axes of action regarding the characteristics and financing needs of the different innovative solutions. In addition, based on the experience obtained, the +PLUS Fund Regulation was updated.

Reinforcing SCML's strategy of investing for impact, this adjustment will allow entrepreneurs and organisations to test the impact of innovative solutions already validated as to their effectiveness and feasibility, but still at an early stage of implementation, or to increase the impact of successfully implemented solutions with proven results.

CHAPTER I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Object and purpose

1. This Regulation establishes the operating rules for the SCML initiative called the +PLUS Fund (henceforth "+PLUS Fund"), as well as the conditions and procedures for the presentation, assessment and selection of applications for the fund.
2. The +PLUS Fund aims to provide a non-repayable funding source for the implementation of innovative solutions with social and/or environmental impact, through a payment by results (PbR) mechanism.

Article 2

Axes of action

The +PLUS Fund operates along two axes, according to the degree of maturity of the innovative solutions:

- a) The *Testing* Axis: designed to support the consolidation of solutions that have not been implemented or are in the initial implementation phase, but which have already been validated as to their feasibility and with high potential for social and/or environmental impact;
- b) The *Scaling* Axis: designed to towards the expansion of solutions already implemented and with proven results in terms of their social and/or environmental impact.

Article 3

Funding levels

1. The +PLUS Fund grants non-repayable funding up to the following amounts:
 - a) In the *Testing* Axis: up to EUR 50,000.00 (fifty thousand euros);
 - b) In the *Scaling* Axis: up to EUR 100,000.00 (one hundred thousand euros).
2. For both axes, funding has a maximum duration of 2 years.
3. The funding source referred to in paragraph 1 shall be exclusively granted through a payment by results mechanism (payment in instalments based on pre-established results) and subject to terms and conditions established in contract.

4. Notwithstanding the above, applications that are granted the funding benefit mentioned in no. 1, can also be granted non-financial support, if applicable, made available within the activity developed by SCML, namely through Casa do Impacto.

Article 4

Principles

The +PLUS Fund activity and operation are governed by the principles of impartiality, transparency, equality and good faith.

CHAPTER II

APPLICATIONS

Article 5

Applicants

1. Social Economy entities , as defined in Article 4 of Law No. 30/2013, of 8 May (Basic Law of the Social Economy), and other private entities can apply to the +PLUS Fund, in both the *Testing* and *Scaling* axes, pursuant to Article 2 a) and b), respectively.
2. Individuals may also apply to the +PLUS Fund, under the *Testing* axis, through individual or team applications.

Article 6

Application requirements

1. Applications to the +PLUS Fund must:
 - a) Refer to innovative solutions that contribute to solving social and/or environmental issues and challenges, in the *Testing* or *Scaling* axes under Article 2(a) and (b) respectively.
 - b) Refer to innovative solutions that contribute to the attainment of one or several UN Sustainable Development Goals - 2030 Agenda (SDGs) (<https://unric.org/en/united-nations-sustainable-development-goals/>) ;
 - c) Refer to innovative solutions whose geographical scope of implementation is within national territory.

2. The amount and duration of the funding requested for each application shall be adjusted to the nature and real needs of its implementation. However, it shall not exceed the limits defined in Article 3 (1) and (2).
3. Applications to the +PLUS Fund should also favour project teams that reflect gender equality, intergenerational interactions, ethno-cultural diversity or inclusion of people with special needs, promoting equal opportunities and tackling discrimination.
4. Applications proposing the same solution for both the *Testing* and *Scaling* axes shall not be accepted by the +PLUS Fund.
5. Applications to the +PLUS Fund must not have requested any other types of funding that are granted by SCML, namely through Casa do Impacto.
6. Notwithstanding the above, applications co-funded by other national, EU or international funds or social investors can be accepted as long as the amount requested pursuant to the present Regulation is limited to one or more expenses not covered by other funds.

Article 7

Submission of applications

1. Applications for the +PLUS Fund are submitted by expressing interest and completing the *online* form, available on Casa do Impacto website (<https://mais.scml.pt/casadoimpacto/>) as well as submission of other documentation referred therein.
2. The submission of applications to the +PLUS Fund presupposes knowledge and acceptance of the conditions expressed in this Regulation.

Article 8

Deadlines for submission of applications

1. The deadlines for submission of applications will be advertised on Casa do Impacto website as well as other SCML means of communication or dissemination.
2. SCML reserves the right not to open an application process for a specific year or for any of the areas specified in article 2.

CHAPTER III

EVALUATION AND SELECTION OF APPLICATIONS

Article 9

Eligibility of applications

1. The fulfilment of the requirements set out in Articles 5 and 6 is an eligibility condition of the application for admission to the selection process set out in Article 10.
2. After the deadline for submission of applications, the list of applications accepted for the selection process established in Article 10 will be published on Casa do Impacto website (<https://casadoimpacto.scml.pt/>).
3. Applicants will also be notified by e-mail of their exclusion or admission to the selection process, as provided for in Article 10.
4. The following are grounds for excluding applications:
 - a) The solutions proposed or the amount and duration of the funding requested do not fit within the +PLUS Fund's axes of action and funding type, as defined in Articles 2 and 3, respectively;
 - b) Applications that include, regardless of their quality, members of the +PLUS Fund Management Team, SCML or members of the Jury as per Article 17;
 - c) The submission of applications by public entities or entities belonging to the public sector, according to Decree-Law no. 133/2013, of 3 October, in its current version;
 - d) Submission of an application after the deadline as stipulated in Article 8;
 - e) The inaccurate or incomplete filling in of the application form, as well as, notwithstanding the respective legal mechanisms, any misrepresentation and/or misstatement.
5. Applications related to projects included in the acceleration phase of the *RISE for Impact* Programme of Casa do Impacto are deemed eligible and automatically qualify for the selection process set out in Article 10.

Article 10

Selection process

1. The selection process consists of a pre-selection phase and a final selection phase.
2. Only applications deemed eligible under Article 9 may enter the pre-selection phase.
3. In the pre-selection stage, the +PLUS Fund Management Team shall assess the documentation submitted pursuant to Article 7 and determine which applications shall pass on to the final selection stage based on the criteria described in Article 11 (a). In addition, it may request

applicants to clarify any doubts and send additional information it considers relevant to assess each application.

4. Applicants will be notified by email whether or not they have passed from the pre-selection stage to the final selection stage.
5. In the final selection phase, the Jury, established in accordance with Article 17, will select the applications that will benefit from the funding granted by the +PLUS Fund, based on the criteria described in Article 11 (b).
6. During the final selection phase, events and activities may take place for the evaluation of the applications and their suitability for the payment by results mechanism, in which the participation of applicants is mandatory.
7. During the selection process, the +PLUS Fund Management Team can include specialists or independent consultants unrelated to SCML.

Article 11

Pre-selection and selection criteria

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

- a) At the pre-selection stage:
 - i. Level of qualifications and experience of the applicant/team;
 - ii. Degree of innovation of the solution presented compared to existing solutions;
 - iii. Potential sustainability of the solution within a market context;
 - iv. Evidence of feasibility (*Testing*) or effectiveness (*Scaling*) of the solution;
 - v. Potential for generation (*Testing*) or increase (*Scaling*) of social and/or environmental impact;
 - vi. Actual contribution, planned (*Testing*) or achieved (*Scaling*), to the achievement of SDG 2030.
- b) At the final selection stage:
 - I. Suitability of the profile of the applicant/team to carry out the proposed activities;
 - II. Relevance of the results expected to solve the issue;
 - III. Structuring of the proposed activities regarding expected results;
 - IV. Effectiveness of the instruments foreseen for the evaluation of results/impact;
 - V. Consistency of the business model to promote sustainability;
 - VI. Adequacy of the funding requested to the proposed activities and expected results.

Article 12

Deliberations

- 1.** No claim or appeal may be lodged against the deliberations of the +PLUS Fund Management Team at the pre-selection stage, as well as against the Jury's deliberation at the final selection stage.
- 2.** After deliberation of the Jury in the final selection phase, the +PLUS Fund Management Team prepares a final report with the appreciation and rationale of the selection of the applications of the +PLUS Fund by the Jury and which will be published on Casa do Impacto website.
- 3.** Notwithstanding the above, applicants shall also be notified by e-mail of the results of the Jury's deliberation at the final selection stage.

CHAPTER IV

FUNDING

Article 13

Value

- 1.** The +PLUS Fund has an annual allocation of EUR 500,000.00 (five hundred thousand euros) made available by SCML for the allocation of grants in accordance with the types and limits stated in no. 1 of article 3.
- 2.** The amount indicated in the previous number may be reinforced with donations from the public sector, as per Decree-Law no. 133/2013, of 3 October, in its current version, from the private sector or from other entities that wish to join the +PLUS Fund, under terms to be defined.
- 3.** Funding will be awarded upon submission of the corresponding receipt issued by the applicants who are granted funding by the +PLUS Fund.
- 4.** All expenses regarding the results foreseen in the Agreement referred to in the following article shall be deemed eligible, as long as they are incurred and paid within the timeframe approved for their implementation and when foreseen in the respective Action Plan.
- 5.** Sums contained in their budget plan, but not used, shall be returned within 30 days after the end of the Funding Agreement, unless expressly authorized by the +PLUS Fund Management

Team and subject to the submission of a duly reasoned proposal to allocate those amounts to other activities.

Article 14

Funding Agreement and Action Plan

1. The awarding of a grant is subject to a contract (Funding Agreement), signed by the applicants who are granted funding by the +PLUS Fund and by SCML's Head of the Department of Entrepreneurship and Social Economy.
2. The Funding Agreement shall identify the amount allocated and define the conditions, procedures, limits and deadlines necessary to implement the payment by results mechanism.
3. Signing of the Funding Agreement will be preceded by the verification of any legal conditions required to carry out the activity, legal status of the entities and/or respective applicants who are granted funding by the +PLUS Fund, as well as of their tax and social security situation.
4. The Funding Agreement should be accompanied by an Action Plan, which should be attached thereto and be an integral part thereof, containing the agreed results and associated indicators and evidence, based on which funding that is allocated by the +PLUS Fund will be defined.
5. The Action Plan attached to the Funding Agreement will also set forth, among others:
 - a) The commitments made by the applicants who are granted funding by the +PLUS Fund;
 - b) Access to materials and evidence of the material and financial execution of the applications who benefit from the grant provided by the +PLUS Fund;
 - c) The requirements as to the process and the documents to be submitted and stored and type of media;
 - d) The ownership of the intellectual and industrial property generated;
6. Verification of the material and financial implementation of the applications will be carried out by the +PLUS Fund Management Team, in accordance with the applicable Action Plan. This may be adjusted during the funding period, depending on the analysis to be jointly carried out by the applicants who are granted funding by the +PLUS Fund and the +PLUS Fund Management Team.
7. If the Action Plan requires any adjustment, this will be done on a one-off basis and may occur because of duly justified situations with the approval of SCML's Head of the Department of Entrepreneurship and Social Economy. This shall be based on a reasoned proposal from the applicants who are awarded grants by the +PLUS Fund, as long as it does not imply a substantial

modification to the content of the Funding Agreement or an increase in price of the grant previously approved.

Article 15

Communication rules

Recipients of a grant awarded by the +PLUS Fund are bound by the rules of communication and style defined by the Casa do Impacto brand, which must be adopted in all communication documentation and in the disclosure of their activities through any channel, namely:

- a) Graphic, audiovisual and digital communication materials;
- b) Radio and Podcasts;
- c) Press;
- d) Social Networks.

CHAPTER V

ORGANISATION

Article 16

+PLUS Fund Management Team

1. The +PLUS Fund Management Team consists of:
 - a) Head of the Department of Entrepreneurship and Social Economy (DEES) of SCML, which he/she coordinates;
 - b) Members of the DEES Social Investment Unit;
 - c) Members from other DEES and SCML units and services as well as external entities, to be proposed by the coordinator mentioned in a).
2. The +PLUS Fund Management Team shall
 - a) organise and ensure the application, evaluation and selection processes, as per this Regulation;
 - b) Identify the members of the Final Selection Jury and the Advisory and Strategic Board for the purposes of appointment by the SCML Board, in accordance with article 17 (2);
 - c) Have a systematic file on submitted and selected applications, which should include the respective documentation;

- d) Request from the applicants who are granted funding by the + PLUS Fund, within the agreed deadlines, the necessary elements for overseeing the material and financial implementation and for the assessment of their impact.
- e) Propose and execute the Funding Agreement and respective Action Plan, according to Article 14;
- f) Establish the monitoring plans for the material and financial execution of the applications who are granted funding by the +PLUS Fund, which will be associated to the contact with the respective responsible parties and the reporting tools to be used by them to report to the +PLUS Fund Management Team;
- g) Represent the +PLUS Fund, namely in relation with the entities that may support the implementation of the solutions during the funding period.

Article 17

Final Selection Jury

1. For each edition of the +PLUS Fund, a Jury will be appointed for the final selection of the applications.
2. The Jury is appointed by the SCML Board, based on a proposal from the Head of the Department of Entrepreneurship and Social Economy, and must be made up of renowned personalities in the areas of management, entrepreneurship, innovation and sustainability.
3. The President of the Jury will be co-opted by the members nominated by the SCML Board according to paragraphs 1 and 2.
4. Members of the Jury shall not be remunerated.

Article 18

Advisory and Strategic Board

1. The Advisory and Strategic Board is a consulting body, with the power to issue opinions and collaborate on the various aspects of the +PLUS Fund operation.
2. The Advisory and Strategic Board is composed of 3 to 7 members and includes representatives from public and private entities, social investors and renowned personalities in areas of intervention related to the Sustainable Development Goals.
3. Members of the Advisory and Strategic Board shall have a term of office of 2 years, which may be renewed for equal periods.

4. The activities of the members of the Advisory and Strategic Board shall not be remunerated.

CHAPTER VI

MISCELLANEOUS

Article 19

Personal data privacy and protection

1. Personal data collected in accordance with this Regulation will be used exclusively for the purpose of applications to the +PLUS Fund. In the case of applications receiving funding, also for the purpose of their implementation.
2. The entity responsible for processing personal data is Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Lisboa, abbreviated to SCML - a legal entity of public administrative interest with taxpayer number 500 745 471, and head office located at Largo Trindade Coelho, 1200-470 Lisbon.
3. Applicants to the +PLUS Fund must give their free, specific and informed consent to the processing of their personal data, without which it will not be possible to proceed with the application process.
4. Should the data owner withdraw their consent to the data processing, this will lead to the exclusion of the application.
5. Notwithstanding the preceding paragraphs, free, specific and informed consent may be requested for data processing regarding other purposes, such as the collection and assignment of image and sound rights, which shall be expressly identified on a specific form, at the time of the respective collection.
6. Data from applicants to the + PLUS Fund will be retained:
 - a) For a period of 7 (seven) years, in the case of applications who are granted funding by the +PLUS Fund;
 - b) For a period of 1 (one) year, in the case of remaining applications, as of the date of the final selection of the applications who are awarded funding from the +PLUS Fund
7. Pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council, as well as Law no. 58/2019 of 8 August, data owners are ensured the right to information, access, rectification, portability, limitation of processing, opposition or deletion of their personal data. In addition, they are entitled to withdraw their consent at any time, without compromising the lawfulness of the data processing and as long as legally prescribed conditions are verified.

8. The rights mentioned above can be enforced by sending an e-mail to casadoimpacto@scml.pt or to dadospessoais@scml.pt as well as by letter addressed to the Data Protection Officer, at Largo Trindade Coelho, 1200-470 Lisbon.
9. Notwithstanding any other administrative or judicial remedy, you have the right to lodge a complaint with the Portuguese Data Protection Authority (CNPD) or another competent supervisory authority, according to law, if you believe that the personal data processing by SCML does not comply with the applicable legislation, in accordance with this Regulation.
10. Further information on the terms, rules and conditions of personal data processing can be found in SCML's Privacy Policy, available at www.scml.pt

Article 20

Interpretation and integration of gaps

The SCML Board shall be responsible for the interpretation and integration of any gaps in this Regulation.

Article 21

Amendments

This Regulation may be amended at any time, taking effect as of the date of its publication.

Article 22

Effect

This Regulation comes into effect on the day following its approval by the SCML Board.