

2023 Call for Promotion and Dissemination Projects

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1. Introduction

The International Nut and Dried Fruit Council Foundation (INC) calls for promotion and dissemination projects aimed at building consumer demand for nuts and dried fruits worldwide. The goal of this grant is to fund promotion and dissemination projects that raise awareness of the importance of daily nut and dried fruit consumption to help ensure a healthy balance between supply and demand.

The Call is open for projects from public and private institutions, as well as not-for-profit organizations, and encourages cooperative projects implying INC members. Special emphasis will be placed upon multi-collaborative projects and cooperation with industry-related partners.

Up to €100,000 is available for the 2023 Call. The INC will only accept one project per institution, and will fund a maximum of €50,000 per project/institution.

2. Objectives

The goal of this grant is to fund promotion and dissemination projects that raise awareness of the importance of daily nut and dried fruit consumption to help ensure a healthy balance between supply and demand.

2.1. Targeted projects

- Activities that provide markets and consumers with information on the properties and qualities of nuts and dried fruits (e.g., marketing campaigns at points-of-sale, education campaigns at schools...).
- Market research and activities aimed at ensuring that buyers, consumers and health professionals know about nuts and dried fruits and their many positive features (e.g., participation in specialized events...).

In the case of events, such as conferences, the applicant is expected to carry out the tasks of the project.

3. Budget available

Up to €100,000 is available for the 2023 Call. The INC will only accept one project per institution, and will fund a maximum of €50,000 per project/institution.

Exceptionally, the INC will finance all the expenses for a non-co-funded project whenever the total expenditure does not exceed €5,000.

4. Timetable

	<i>Stages</i>	<i>Date or indicative period</i>
a)	Publication of the call	March 9, 2023
b)	Deadline for submitting applications	April 15, 2023, at 12:00 (noon) CET
c)	Evaluation period	April-May 2023
d)	Information to applicants	May 2023
e)	Signature of grant agreement	June 2023

f)	Starting date of the project	July 2023
g)	Maximum duration of the project	12 months

5. Admissibility requirements

The INC welcomes applications from public and private institutions.

Applications shall comply with the following requirements:

- For any current project supported by the INC, applicants may apply for new funding if the project currently funded by the INC ends in six months or less.
- Since the INC represents 16 nuts and dried fruits, namely almonds, Amazonia (Brazil) nuts, cashews, hazelnuts, macadamias, pecans, pine nuts, pistachios, walnuts, peanuts, dates, dried apricots, dried cranberries, dried figs, dried grapes and prunes, the INC will only accept projects that involve at least three nuts and/or dried fruits.
- The INC will only accept one project per institution and year, and will fund a maximum of €50,000 per project/institution.
- The INC calls for projects that have matching funds. It will be standard practice to grant up to 50% of the total cost of the project. The applicant must have secured the co-funding at the moment of submitting the project. Exceptionally, INC will finance all the expenses for a non-co-funded project whenever the total expenditure does not exceed €5,000.
- The project must be submitted, in English, using the **Application Form** that is available on the INC website: <https://inc.nutfruit.org/funding-opportunities>. Applications with missing information or lack of detail will not be considered.
- The application must be sent as one complete PDF e-mail attachment by **April 15, 2023, 12:00 (noon) CET**, to chloe.longfield@nutfruit.org.
- If the project is co-funded, the application must attach a subsidiary statement from each co-funder (see Annex 1 in the Application Form).
- When applying, please make sure that all participating institutions and industry partners have approved the submission of the application. The application should attach a statement from each participating institution and/or industry partner (see Annex 2 in the Application Form).

6. Prioritization criteria

The INC World Forum for Nutrition Research and Dissemination (the Forum) will develop an academic prioritization of the project proposals. However, the final funding decision will be made by the INC Executive Committee.

Priorities:

- Promoting nut and/or dried fruit use and consumption to help ensure a healthy balance between supply and demand globally.
- Projects to be undertaken in developing countries.
- Multi-collaborative projects and cooperation with INC members and industry-related partners.
- Project proposals aimed at disseminating the outcomes of the scientific findings that come from INC-funded research or new scientific findings that have been published in high-impact scientific journals.

- Supporting the development of innovative new products and marketing initiatives.
- The Forum will judge favorably innovative proposals.

The projects will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

- Feasibility
- Interest, relevance of the project
- Dissemination, impact and sustainability
- Innovative approach of the project
- Expertise of the project team

The **INC World Forum for Nutrition Research and Dissemination** is the international umbrella for scientific research related to health and nutrition for nuts and dried fruits. The Forum promotes scientific research, defines research priorities, and promotes calls for research and dissemination projects. The Forum evaluates project proposals according to the objectives of the Forum, and promotes the production and dissemination of knowledge in accordance with its mission.

7. Exclusion criteria

Non-eligible projects:

- Scientific studies on health or nutrition.
- Research on the nutritional composition of nuts or dried fruits.
- Projects that compare nuts or dried fruits among themselves will not be accepted.

8. Evaluation procedure

Eligible applications/projects will be peer-reviewed by the INC World Forum for Nutrition Research and Dissemination. The Forum will develop an academic prioritization of the applications/projects, nevertheless the final funding decision will be made by the INC Executive Committee.

The Forum operates with the following evaluation procedure:

1. The applicant submits the project proposal.
2. The Forum evaluates and prioritizes the project. However, the INC Executive Committee will make the final funding decision.
3. The INC notifies the applicant the final decision.

9. Grant conditions and financing

9.1. Legal commitment

If the application is successful, an agreement will be drawn up between the INC and the applicant. The information provided in the application form will provide the basis for the agreement. If the information is incorrect or significant elements are no longer applicable when the agreement is due for signature, INC reserves the right to revise its decisions about amounts and/or recipients.

9.2. Non-eligible costs

Applications will not be accepted for items already purchased. INC will not support retrospective funding and purchase of the item must not be undertaken prior to notification of approval.

Other non-eligible costs:

- Running costs, branding or corporate materials
- Salaries paid by the applicant to current employees
- Debts and debt service charges
- Provisions for losses or potential future liabilities
- Interest owed
- Costs declared by the beneficiary and covered by another program
- Purchases of land or buildings
- Currency exchange losses
- Credit to third parties
- Purchase of equipment
- Fines, financial penalties and expenses and similar charges
- Contributions in kind
- Depreciation costs
- Operating costs
- Bank charges, costs of guarantees and similar charges
- Customs or import duties or any other charges
- Any cost/charge incurred as a result of making this application shall be for the applicant's account and cannot be claimed as part of the project.

9.3. Co-financing

If the project is co-funded, the application must attach a subsidiary statement from each co-funder (see Annex 1 in the Application Form). Subsidizers may include public or private organizations, as well as business and other partner organizations whenever these bring distinctive contributions to the project.

The applicant must have secured the co-funding at the moment of submitting the project.

Salaries paid by the applicant to current employees are not considered co-funding.

In no case the INC will pay more than the amount resulting of applying the percentage of the INC funding (INC Grant/Total Project Budget) over the definitive total expenses of the project.

9.4. Funding form

Payments will be made according to the following plan:

- 1st payment: 50% is to be paid by the INC when the grant agreement is signed.

- 2nd payment: 50% is to be paid by the INC when the Final Report is received and all expenses have been duly justified. Grant holders will only receive the amount of grant funding supported by adequate evidence (e.g. receipts, invoices or bills).

The award is in Euros, and all documents and payments will be in Euros. INC will not pay in any other currency under any circumstances and regardless of the exchange rate.

9.5. Reservations

The INC intends to grant up to €100,000 under this call, but reserves the right not to distribute all the funds available.

A positive evaluation by the Forum of a project does not automatically imply funding. The final funding decision will be made by the INC Executive Committee.

There shall be no expectation of grant unless and until a grant agreement is signed by both parties. If the information provided in the application form is incorrect or significant elements are no longer applicable when the agreement is due for signature, INC reserves the right to revise its decisions about amounts and/or recipients.

10. Duties and responsibilities

10.1. Reporting

Grant holders are required to provide progress reports every 6 months and a final report to the INC. Both progress and final reports consist of two parts: activity report and justification of expenses.

Progress reports require the Project Manager to report on measurable outcomes. Reports must provide information on relevance, productivity and quality of the project, as well as justification of all expenses with invoices/receipts. The Project Manager will be required to use the INC Report Template and the Expense Justification Form Template.

A final report of outcomes achieved by the project will be required within 1 month of the conclusion of the project. The Project Manager will be required to use the INC Report Template and the Expense Justification Form Template. The report should address the results obtained in seeking the project objectives, potential impact of the project, and how the funds were spent. Grant holders are also obliged to provide the INC with any sort of document, invoices/receipts that substantiate the costs incurred under the framework of the project. Grant recipients must provide detailed proof of expenses (invoices, receipts, bills) for the whole project, even if it is beyond the INC funding, and the allocation of all matching funds.

The INC will not reimburse expenses that are not supported by a receipt/invoice. Grant holders shall return all unspent funds paid by the INC, including monies not supported by invoices/receipts.



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10.2. Responsibility of the grantee

Neither the INC nor the Forum assume responsibility for the project management or the conduct of the activities of the grant recipients, applicants and co-applicants, as they are under the direction and control of the grantee institution and subject to the institution's policies and all applicable laws and regulations.

In no event will the INC be liable for any damages whatsoever, including but not limited to direct, indirect, incidental, punitive, and consequential damages (including without limitation those resulting from lost profits, lost reputation, lost data or business interruption) arising from the project.

10.3. Mandatory reference

It is mandatory to mention INC support in all publications, as well as in presentations, posters, brochures, books, printed materials, and online communications regarding the project. The approval from both parties is required before printing. Grantees must use the phrase "supported by the INC International Nut and Dried Fruit Council" if the project is receiving or has received INC funding.

The INC logo should appear in all forms of publication such as web sites, social media, presentations, posters, conferences, brochures, papers and books.

10.4. Communication and dissemination

Applicants are required to include a communication plan, which must be described in the Application Form.

Moreover, grant holders should be willing to participate in public relations programs aimed at disseminating the project to the general public through traditional and social media.

11. Contact

For any further information please contact Ms. Chloe Longfield, Marketing Specialist, chloe.longfield@nutfruit.org.