



## Coca-Cola Thank You Fund 2024

**The Coca-Cola Thank You Fund is back again this year!**

The fund opens for application on Monday 22nd April and closes on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 5pm

### **Fund Objective**

A fund of €200,000 / £171,000 (sterling figure based on conversion rates at the time) will be available to support community-based projects and programmes across Ireland and Northern Ireland that are focused on cultivating inclusive communities by empowering young people aged 16-25 to become skilled and engaged citizens under the pillars of learning and sustainable development.

The categories are explained in detail below:

#### **1. Empowering Learning**

Help us understand how your work is empowering young people who may otherwise be at risk of early school leaving or low education attainment, through inclusive practices. Show us how you are engaging these young people to access supportive interventions that will empower and equip them to become active members of their communities by successfully transitioning into skills based opportunities, engaging in mentorship opportunities or further learning and employment opportunities.

Specific emphasis will be placed on supporting one of the following three areas:

- **Education support** – e.g projects working with young people, from communities experiencing levels of disadvantage, to access additional education opportunities such as grinds, internships, mentoring and soft skills such as interview preparation, CV development and management of your online profile.\*
- **Upskilling opportunities** – e.g programmes offering targeted skills training for young people.\*
- **Personal development opportunities** – e.g programmes designed to build resilience and help participants develop positive coping strategies to overcome challenges in their lives.\*

#### **2. Empowering Sustainable Development**

Help us understand how your work is creating inclusive communities through projects designed to empower young people to address the theme of sustainability in their lives. We are looking to



support projects and programmes that are focused on education, action and / or awareness building, with specific emphasis on the following three areas:

**Climate Action** e.g Projects equipping individuals, SMEs or communities with knowledge and skills to develop solutions to the environmental and climate crises. This can encompass nature restoration and water stewardship.

**Supporting the journey towards a Circular Economy** e.g projects focused on designs or concepts that move away from take-make-waste models. These can be focused on eliminating pollution or waste, recycling or reuse of products or materials, or regenerating nature. This can include education and awareness initiatives around the new Deposit Return Scheme.

**Food insecurity** e.g projects in the community that are designed to support reduction of food waste, combating the issue of food insecurity and hunger and education around such initiatives.

*\*Applications are not limited to the examples listed above. These are included to offer an idea of the types of projects we aim to support through this year's Coca-Cola Thank You Fund.*

The fund will support not-for-profit or charitable organisations working with young people across the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland aged between 16-25 years.

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### **Who is eligible to apply for funding?**

#### **To be eligible the applying organisation must;**

1. Work with young people aged between 16-25 years old.
2. Be a registered not-for-profit or charitable organisation.
3. Have a bank account set up in the name of the organisation.
4. Be registered in the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland and active for the past 12 months.
5. Have a child protection / safeguarding policy in place.

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### **What funding opportunities are available?**

Awards of between €8,000 - €15,000 / £7,000 - £13,000 (sterling figure based on conversion rates at the time) will be available.

Organisations applying for funding will be asked to submit a **detailed budget breakdown** of expenditure for the total funds being requested. The final allocation of awards will be determined after all applications have been reviewed.

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## Evaluation

Organisations applying for funding will have to show how their proposed project will show and measure **impact** in one of the following two areas;

1. **Empowering Learning** – Projects designed to create more inclusive communities that empower young people at risk of low education attainment to access learning pathways to meaningful opportunities for the future, by either:
  - *Gaining a new technical skill*
  - *Increasing employment knowledge base and enhancing personal development*

## OR

2. **Empowering Sustainable Development** – Projects designed to create more inclusive communities that empower young people to challenge how they are currently engaging with the theme of sustainability in their lives through one of the following lenses;
  - Climate Action
  - Packaging & Circularity
  - Food insecurity

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## How can projects apply for the funding?

All applications will be made online via the Irish Youth Foundation grants platform [https://iyf.smartsimple.ie/s\\_Login.jsp](https://iyf.smartsimple.ie/s_Login.jsp), which will be linked from the Coca-Cola Ireland website [[www.coca-cola.ie/thankyou](http://www.coca-cola.ie/thankyou)].

The application forms will be live online from **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024 at 10am. Closing date is Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 5pm.**

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## How will applications be assessed?

- The IYF will assess all applications received using a scoring sheet to assess their suitability against the fund criteria.
- A longlist of applications that meet all the criteria will be prepared by IYF and Youth Action NI, and these will be presented to the Coca-Cola's social impact committee for evaluation.
- The committee will meet to review and will agree the shortlist.
- IYF will conduct due diligence on the shortlist.
- The final decision on awarding grants rests with Coca-Cola's social impact committee.
- Successful applicants will be notified by IYF and Youth Action NI and contracts issued by IYF.
- Once signed contracts are received, the funds will be transferred.



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**Criteria used to assess projects will include:**

1. An assessment of impact type and impact depth, both in terms of the measurable outcomes for young people in the areas highlighted above and the numbers of young people reached.
2. The capacity of the project to continue to generate benefits beyond the funded programme.
3. Any other opportunities the funding might unleash e.g. leverage other funding opportunities or pro bono support from other stakeholders.

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**Timeline for use of funding:**

If your project/programme is successful in securing funding, we would request that funding is spent **by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025.**

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**Reporting:**

Awardees will be asked to submit two progress reports as part of the contract - one at the halfway stage of the programme and one on completion of the programme. IYF will provide full progress reports for completion.

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**Term and conditions of funding**

Please see separate terms and conditions document for full list of T&C's associated with this funding opportunity.