

SECOND

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

RAPID RESPONSE FUND

SUPPORT FOR MEDIA AND COMMUNICATORS
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



Internews, Chicas Poderosas, Consejo de Redacción and Fundamedios call media outlets; media-type organizations, associations, and groups; and journalists and communicators who deliver information on Covid-19 in Latin America and the Caribbean to apply for support under the Rapid Response Fund.

The Fund will provide financial and technical support to **promote information and fill information gaps on the pandemic in the region**. Only candidates who regularly inform on Covid-19, in particular towards indigenous communities, afro descendants, migrants, rural populations, women and LGBTQ+ groups will be considered.

DEADLINE	INFORMATION SESSIONS
<p>To apply, fill out our online application form before July 15, 2021 at 11:59 pm (Buenos Aires/Brasilia*).</p> <p>An additional funding round will take place in 2021.</p>	<p>If you have any questions on this call for participation, join one of our information sessions on (Buenos Aires/Brasilia*):</p> <p>Spanish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facebook Live July 6 at 12:00 pm• Instagram Live July 7 at 8:30 pm <p>French: Webinar July 7 at 10:00 am English: Webinar July 7 at 11:00 am</p>

*Convert to your timezone: <https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/converter.html>

OBJECTIVES OF THE FUND

The Rapid Response Fund seeks to:

- Meet the operational needs of applicants to maintain their work and to sustain access to information on the pandemic to their audiences.
- Promote the production and distribution of content to prevent and tackle Covid-19 aimed at priority audiences: indigenous communities, afro descendants, rural populations, migrants, women and/or LGBTQ+ groups.
- Promote the production and distribution of content on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on indigenous communities, afro descendants, rural populations, migrants, women and/or LGBTQ+ groups.

What can you do with the Fund?

All applications must contribute to one or more of the Rapid Response Fund’s objectives. Examples of what you can do with the Fund include:

- Sustaining existing operations of media and organizations to inform audiences on the pandemic.
- Produce and distribute print, broadcast, online and multimedia content on the pandemic, specifically tailored to priority audiences.
- Develop special investigations on the pandemic.
- Translate information related to Covid-19 to minority or indigenous languages.
- Implement mechanisms (voicemails, call-ins, chats, surveys) to understand the concerns of priority audiences relating to the pandemic and to amplify their voices.
- Develop information campaigns on social media and other platforms.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for funding, applicants must:

- Be a media outlet; civil society organization, association, or group; journalist or communicator, whose main activity and source of income is informative.
- Be based and work in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Regularly deliver information on the Covid-19 pandemic, in particular towards indigenous communities, afro descendants, migrants, rural populations, women and LGBTQ+ groups.
- Continue to operate and publish up to date content through established and adequate distribution channels to reach their audiences.
- Have seen their work affected or threatened by the pandemic.

AMOUNTS

Awarded amounts will follow the table below:

Individuals (independent journalists, grassroots communicators)	1,000 up to 3,000 EUR per grant
Media, civil society organizations, associations and groups that are	1,000 up to 5,000 EUR per grant

unregistered OR registered with up to 5 collaborators	
Registered media, civil society organizations, associations and groups with more than 5 collaborators	1,000 up to 10,000 EUR per grant
Joint solicitations between media, organisations and journalists to develop collaborative work	1,000 up to 15,000 EUR* per grant

** Only national, regional or international collaborations will be considered to receive over 10,000 EUR.*

ELIGIBLE COSTS

All requested funds must be justified through a work plan and budget. The funds awarded by the Rapid Response Fund may be used for:

- Salaries and fringe benefits, collaborator compensation
- Administrative costs (office rent, Internet subscription, phone line, etc.)
- Secure platforms and digital tools
- Tools for remote working
- Health insurance
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Staff training
- Reporting costs
- Content publication, distribution and promotion costs
- Mental health and self-care services
- Legal services

Funds **cannot** be used for:

- Costs unrelated to information work
- Debts
- Purchase of buildings and land

Applicants must develop a budget detailing the use of funds. Awarded funds must be implemented within 90 days after they are received. Rapid Response Fund grantees will be required to report the use of funds.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Selected applicants will be included in capacity-building and mentoring activities imparted by Internews and its partners in the areas of: **administration and finance, investigative journalism, fact-checking, indigenous communications, storytelling in**

digital formats, health journalism and monitoring attacks on the press, based on their preference.

We invite all applicants to register to Internews' Health Journalism Network, to gain access to resources on the current pandemic and to a community of health journalists around the world.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications will be evaluated by an internal panel, taking into account the **profile and capacity** of the applicant, the **relevance** of the application in relation to the objectives of the call, and the **relation between the proposed activities and/or products and the budget**.

Preference will be given to **local or grassroots media** who work towards priority audiences or to fill in information gaps on the pandemic.

APPLY

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. May I apply to the call several times?

You may only apply once under each round of the Rapid Response Fund. In the event that we receive several applications, we will only consider the first one. Applicants who present a joint solicitation to do collaborative work may also apply individually.

2. I applied to a previous funding round of the Rapid Response Fund but was not awarded a grant; may I apply again?

Yes, you may apply again.

3. I receive support from Internews for another initiative, am I eligible to apply to the Rapid Response Fund?

Yes, you are eligible.

4. My media or organization is not legally constituted or registered, is it eligible to apply?

Yes, you may apply to receive funding of up to 5,000 EUR. In case your application is selected, the person who presented the application will need to represent the media organization, association or group in all proceedings with the Rapid Response Fund.

5. I require funding to create an information initiative, may I apply?

No. We will only support existing information initiatives that demonstrate prior work on the pandemic and towards priority audiences.

6. I know a media, organization or individual who qualifies for support, but cannot apply directly to the Fund. May I apply on their behalf?

If you know a potential candidate for the Rapid Response Fund in this situation, please write to AMER-RRF@internews.org to explore the best way forward.

7. Does content produced under the Rapid Response Fund need to be related to Covid-19 or is other content involving priority audiences considered?

The Rapid Response Fund seeks to bridge the information gap on the pandemic towards priority audiences, which is why only content related to Covid-19 will be considered.

8. I applied but did not receive a reply; what should I do?

We are evaluating your application. Due to the high number of applications, we will only contact successful applicants.

9. The deadline to apply has passed; may I still submit my application?

We are unable to accept applications outside the dates established by the Rapid Response Fund. Follow us on social media to learn about the dates for the next round of applications.

10. How many applications will you fund? Is there a limit per country?

We will fund at least 50 applications over the three rounds of the Rapid Response Fund. There is no limit to the number of funded applications per country, although we will seek a geographic balance.

11. What is the timeframe to implement the funds? Will I be required to report the use of funds?

The time to implement the funds is 90 days. We will require grantees to submit narrative and financial reports, as well as evidence of content produced as evidence of the use of funds.