

The Learning Fund for C&A Foundation partners

Our partners possess the expertise, commitment and wisdom that is required to transform the global apparel industry. We believe that their impact can be multiplied as partners learn from and collaborate with one another.

The objective of the Learning Fund is to promote partner-to-partner connections to enable learning, collaboration, and, ultimately, more impactful partner-led initiatives. The exchange should be beneficial to both applicant and host organisations.

Proposed model

The Fund will be managed directly by C&A Foundation. We will provide funds to one or more staff members of a partner organisation to travel to visit other foundation partners (inside their country or in another country) that work in the same programme area or in a different programme area that has relevance to the requesting organisation's work. The Fund is available to partners from all our strategic programmes, including Sustainable Cotton, Forced & Child Labour, Working Conditions, Circular Fashion and Strengthening Communities.

Sample purposes of partner learning exchanges

- C&A Foundation partners working on a similar programme, but in a different country or context;
- C&A Foundation partners working on a different aspect of the same problem;
- C&A Foundation partners that wish to explore collaboration;
- Partners that have been invited to speak at another partner's event.

Type of support offered

- Return economy class airfare ticket(s) and carbon offsetting;
- Accommodation;
- Meals and incidentals;
- Ground transport, with preference for public transport where practical;
- Payment for staff time if staff salaries are not already funded through the C&A Foundation grant.

What we do not fund

- Trips that are part of an existing initiative;
- Trips solely intended to attend events, conferences and similar activities;

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- Trips that do not include current C&A Foundation partner organisations;
- Trips solely to take courses or attend training;
- Requests with budgets greater than EUR 5,000.

Visits should last a maximum one work week, excluding travel days. Partner organisations will be reimbursed for costs after the completion of the visit.¹

Application process

The interested partner organisations shall submit an application form explaining the objectives of the visit and the planned activities. Both partner organisations must sign the application. The application should be submitted to the relevant C&A Foundation Programme Manager.

Budgets in support of learning trips should not exceed EUR 5,000 or the equivalent amount in local currency. Partner organisations are eligible to receive funds for this purpose every other year.

Approval process

The relevant Programme Manager(s) responsible for the funded initiative(s) will review the application form and send to the Programme Head for approval.

¹ If the partner organisation does not have sufficient funds, the foundation will directly pay for air tickets and accommodation and will consider providing an advance to cover meals and transportation.

Reporting Requirement

One-page report: Within 30 days of returning to their home country, the applying partner shall submit a one-page report that describes what was learned on the visit and how the learning will be applied and used in their organisation's work. Photos of the visit should also be included.

Optional video: The foundation asks that the two partner organisations capture insights from the trip in a short video (no more than 2 minutes), which can be filmed during and/or at the end of the visit.

We ask that all participating partners be available to be interviewed by C&A Foundation to help us facilitate more learning within and across our programmes.