



# GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF GRANT APPLICATIONS

**Fondazione Marcegaglia**



# MISSION AND AREAS OF INTERVENTION OF FONDAZIONE MARCEGAGLIA

The mission of Fondazione Marcegaglia is to promote the **empowerment, independence, and socio-economic advancement of women**, both in Italy and internationally. This commitment is rooted in the belief that meaningful, lasting, and systemic change in society can only be achieved by strengthening the role of women, especially those facing the greatest vulnerability and disadvantage.

The Foundation also places strong emphasis on **social inclusion and on supporting the educational and personal development of younger generations**, seen as key to tackling inequality and preventing exclusion, marginalisation, and intergenerational poverty. This work is guided by a **consistent gender perspective**, aimed at breaking down stereotypes, expanding opportunities, and ensuring that girls and boys have equal access to pathways for personal, educational, and professional growth.

From this perspective, the Foundation aims to support initiatives aligned with the following **thematic areas**:

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## PREVENTING AND COMBATTING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

The Foundation supports integrated programmes that help **women survivors of violence** achieve **full personal, housing, and financial independence**. At the same time, it promotes **prevention** initiatives aimed at **tackling the cultural and structural roots of gender-based violence**, while also investing in strengthening anti-violence support networks at local, regional, and national levels to address the issue in all its complexity.

Examples of eligible initiatives include (but are not limited to):

### **Strengthening shelter services and housing support pathways for survivors of violence:**

Enhancing emergency and second-stage shelter services provided by organisations running anti-violence centres and/or safe houses.

Launching initiatives to support medium-term independent living through social housing, protected co-housing, and other supported living solutions aimed at strengthening women's ability to live independently and make their own choices.

**Vocational training and job placement for women survivors of violence:**

Developing or expanding structured professional training programmes designed to equip women with practical, marketable skills.

Providing tailored support for job search, financial literacy programmes, and other measures to foster economic independence and enable women to integrate sustainably into the workforce.

**Strengthening local anti-violence networks:**

Opening new anti-violence centres in remote areas or in locations with limited services, to expand access to protection and support for survivors.

Promoting specialised training for staff at anti-violence centres, safe houses, and centres running Perpetrator Intervention Programmes, to enhance their capacity to intervene effectively.

Supporting the structural and organisational strengthening of national networks that bring together organisations working to prevent and combat gender-based violence, through initiatives addressing both survivors and perpetrators of violence.

**Cultural change:**

Implementing educational programmes in schools at all levels on gender equality, consent, mutual respect, and healthy relationships, engaging not only students but also parents, teachers, and the wider school community.

Developing initiatives that actively involve boys and men in preventing gender-based violence, for example through workshops and discussions on masculinity, responsibility, and positive relationship models.

**Programmes for perpetrators of violence:**

Developing and expanding structured programmes for perpetrators of gender-based violence, aimed at fostering awareness of their responsibilities and the consequences of their actions, with the goal of preventing recidivism and contributing to the protection of survivors.

**Research activities:**

Promoting and supporting studies and research on gender-based violence to gain a deeper understanding of its causes, dynamics, and long-term impacts.

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## SOCIO-ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN VULNERABLE SITUATIONS

The Foundation supports structured programmes designed to help **disadvantaged women** acquire **professional skills** and achieve **economic independence**. Beneficiaries of these programmes may include, among others, migrant women, survivors of domestic violence or trafficking, incarcerated or formerly incarcerated women, as well as women experiencing psychosocial vulnerability or living with disabilities.

Examples of eligible initiatives include (but are not limited to):

### Vocational training and work reintegration:

Launching professional development programmes that combine practical training with social and educational support to help women enter the workforce on a stable footing.

Supporting the start-up of entrepreneurial activities as a means of structured and inclusive employment for women facing vulnerabilities.

Promoting economic self-determination through programmes offering job search guidance and training in areas such as finance, language skills, digital literacy, and more.

### Housing independence and social inclusion:

Implementing social housing programmes with integrated social and educational support, aimed at vulnerable women and/or single-parent families (mother and child) transitioning toward independent living.

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## PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF WOMEN'S HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

The Foundation supports **social and healthcare** initiatives that, guided by a **clear gender perspective**, aim to improve women's access to **prevention, care, and psychosocial support** services, while also strengthening their autonomy and awareness of their rights and well-being. Particular attention is given to promoting **women's health** across the lifespan, **preventing and treating conditions that primarily affect women**, and safeguarding **maternal and child health**.

Examples of eligible initiatives include (but are not limited to):

### Prevention and access to health services:

Supporting information and prevention programmes focused on conditions that specifically affect women's health, such as gynecological and breast cancers, endometriosis, or reproductive health disorders.

**Prevention and access to health services:**

Developing support initiatives for maternity and parenting, with particular attention to women facing social or economic vulnerability.

Establishing or expanding programmes aimed at improving access to care for women in vulnerable situations, including migrant women, survivors of violence, and women experiencing psychosocial fragility.

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## **EDUCATIONAL AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG GENERATIONS**

The Foundation supports initiatives aimed at promoting the **educational and personal development of young generations**, with a particular focus on expanding **opportunities for girls**. The goal is to facilitate access to academic and scientific pathways, **reduce the gender gap in STEM fields**, and encourage active participation of female students in high-quality learning experiences.

Examples of eligible initiatives include (but are not limited to):

**Scholarships:**

Provision of scholarships for the children of Marcegaglia Group employees, with specific categories for female students to promote and support their participation in academic and scientific programmes, particularly in STEM fields.

**Reducing the gender gap in STEM:**

Implementing targeted initiatives to support girls' access to and participation in academic and professional pathways in science and technology, through guidance programmes, hands-on workshops, mentorship, and extracurricular activities.

## **GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE**

The philanthropic activities of Fondazione Marcegaglia extend **from Italy to the world's most vulnerable countries**. While maintaining a priority focus on **areas where the Marcegaglia Group operates**, the Foundation also considers and supports initiatives in other contexts, provided they align with its areas of intervention and intended impact objectives.

A map showing the Marcegaglia Group's presence in Italy and internationally is available at the following link: [LINK](#)

## REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION TO SUBMIT A FUNDING REQUEST

Each year, Fondazione Marcegaglia welcomes funding requests from organisations working within the aforementioned areas of intervention. Requests received throughout the year are evaluated based on the following main criteria:

- ✓ alignment with the mission of Fondazione Marcegaglia;
- ✓ reliability and prior experience of the applicant organisation in designing and managing initiatives similar to the one proposed;
- ✓ clear and accurate description/analysis of the need or problem the initiative aims to address, supported by reliable data;
- ✓ clarity on the expected outcomes, with concrete and measurable indicators to monitor progress;
- ✓ economic and organisational sustainability of the initiative;
- ✓ scalability and replicability of the initiative in other contexts or regions;
- ✓ potential for collaboration and sharing of best practices with other projects or partners supported by the Foundation;
- ✓ presence of co-funding or partnerships that strengthen the initiative's robustness and credibility.

To submit a funding request to Fondazione Marcegaglia, the following documentation must be sent by email to [info@fondazionemarcegaglia.org](mailto:info@fondazionemarcegaglia.org) no later than **September 30 (5:00 PM CET)**.

The Foundation reserves the right to request any additional documentation from the applicant organisation that it deems necessary to complete the evaluation of the funding request.

### Cover Letter (PDF format, minimum one A4 page), including:

a brief introduction of the applicant organisation (or organisations, if more than the lead applicant are involved), indicating legal status, year of establishment, mission, thematic and geographic areas of activity;

a summary of the project or initiative for which funding is requested from the Foundation, highlighting: specific area of intervention, target beneficiaries, alignment with the mission of Fondazione Marcegaglia, realistic implementation timeline, and elements of innovation and sustainability;

details on the total funding required to implement the project/initiative and the portion of funding requested from Fondazione Marcegaglia.

### Documentation of the applicant organisation:

articles of incorporation;

bylaws;

financial statements for at least the last two fiscal years;

social report or annual activity report for at least the last two years (if available).

### Project / Initiative Form (PDF format), including:

project/initiative title and subtitle;

presentation of general and specific objectives;

**detailed** description of the project or initiative, including concrete information and realistic data to support the information provided:

- intervention context and identified needs: description of the geographic and thematic context in which the project will be implemented, highlighting the main needs identified;
- direct and indirect beneficiaries: profile of the beneficiaries, expected number of participants, and other relevant information to understand the target group of the initiative;
- description of the activities to be carried out and implementation methods;
- clear indication of the project timeline, including the project or initiative start month;

- expected results and impact indicators: definition of the expected qualitative and quantitative results, along with the main indicators to measure the project's effectiveness;
- evaluation methodology: description of the tools and methods that will be used to assess the initiative's impact;
- project team: composition of the team responsible for implementing the planned actions;
- roles and responsibilities of other stakeholders: description of the contribution (including financial) of any partner organisations, public or private funders, and other involved parties;
- involvement of Fondazione Marcegaglia: indication of the actions and results that will be made possible through the Foundation's contribution;
- sustainability strategy: plan to ensure the continuity and lasting impact of the project even after the collaboration with Fondazione Marcegaglia concludes.

project communication strategy: description of the channels used to share the project's activities and results, including how Fondazione Marcegaglia may be directly involved.

### **Financial Plan / Budget (Excel format):**

a detailed budget for the project or initiative, specifying all costs and resources required for the entire duration of the project, broken down as follows:

- planned expenditures: personnel, materials, logistics, communications, and other relevant cost items;
- planned revenues: including any co-funding, donations, and contributions already secured from other organisations;
- funding requested from Fondazione Marcegaglia: clearly indicate which expenses would be covered by the Foundation's contribution.

**Note: Costs, expenses, or investments that are not directly related to or necessary for the project or initiative for which funding is requested are not eligible for support.**