



FundAction is looking for an external evaluator

FundAction is seeking to commission an external consultant to conduct a thorough evaluation of the functioning and impact of FundAction as a participatory grantmaking fund, as FundAction celebrates 5 years of existence at the end of 2021.

About Fundaction

FundAction is a participatory grantmaking fund supporting systemic change across Europe. We are a community of activists involved in social movements working for a transition to a just and equitable world.

FundAction has 259 members across 29 countries, coming from grassroots initiatives working on diverse intersecting themes, who decide democratically what should be funded. Founded in 2016, **FundAction was created as a result of longer term engagement of movements, activists and funders who wished to learn about and support participatory grant-making**, such as EDGE Funders Alliance (our fiscal and administrative host), European Cultural Foundation, the Guerilla Foundation, Open Society Initiative for Europe (OSIFE), and Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation for the Progress of Humankind (FPH).

In just over 4 years we have created an organisational framework, developed and extended the FundAction community, and funded 77 projects with over €450,000. FundAction aims to function in a democratic and participatory way.

The FundAction Community is the main decision-making body of FundAction. The community makes decisions online (through the online assembly platform) or offline (Annual Assembly). The daily coordination of FundAction is in the hands of an 8-person Facilitation Group which includes 7 activists (appointed by the membership and rotating every two years) and one donor representative rotating annually. The Facilitation Group members coordinate all aspects of FundAction's work, including working groups with members on key topics (Communication, Community Building, Systemic Change, Fundraising). *See also www.fundaction.eu*

About the evaluation

At the end of 2021, we celebrate five years since the first meeting that started FundAction. We want to make the most out of this important milestone and use it as an anchor moment to both reflect on the past 5 years and look forward to the next 5 years to come.

The purpose of the evaluation is threefold:

- Looking back: To check in on the initial mission, vision and values of FundAction as a pioneer in the area of participatory grantmaking. Are they still valid after 5 years and are they being met? Have they changed over time? Do they need adjusting? What did FA's journey look like over the last 5 years? Did changes in the external context influence this journey, and if so how?
- Looking forward: What are the priorities of the FundAction community in terms of learning and developing FundAction over the next 5 years? (i.e. extending and engaging the FundAction membership, organizational development and culture, stepping up as an advocate for participatory grantmaking,...)
- Evaluation of the grants and of the participatory grant-making process: what did the grants do and what impact did they generate? How has FundAction been functioning as a participatory grantmaking platform?

We want this evaluation to be centred around learning, and to look both into the functioning of FundAction as a community and grantmaking platform, as well as shine a light on the impact of the grants towards social transformation and achieving systemic change in Europe.

The evaluation process should reflect FundAction's core values and identity. We aim for a holistic and participatory evaluation. The evaluation methodology should allow for active and meaningful participation of FundAction members, founders and external stakeholders.



About the evaluator

We expect the evaluator to propose an appropriate methodology and timeframe to achieve the purpose of the evaluation, in line with the values and identity of FundAction as a participatory grantmaking community made up of activists and donors across Europe.

The evaluator will work in close collaboration with the Facilitation Group and a number of FundAction members to:

- Refine and finalise the scope, process and methodology of the evaluation
- Capture all relevant information in the most adapted manner, on the basis of an agreed methodology
- Decide on and produce a set of outputs, both for internal and public use (i.e. report with a set of recommendations, podcast/website content,...)

Profile of the evaluator

The ideal candidate has:

- experience with participatory methodologies for evaluation (and ideally experience with evaluating participatory grantmaking processes)
- strong interpersonal and facilitating skills
- excellent writing skills in English; knowledge of multiple languages is a plus
- affinity with the overall mission, vision and core values of Fundaction

Budget

The budget available for the evaluator is 20.000 - 25.000 USD. This budget includes expenses incurred by the evaluator related to the consultancy.

Other costs related to the evaluation (such as potential compensation for interviewees) will be covered by FundAction.

How to apply

Please apply by submitting:

- a CV
- a general, high level work plan (including proposed methodologies) and an indicative timetable for the assignment
- an indicative budget
- a sample of previous work, if available

Please send the above, and any questions related to the evaluation assignment, to contact@fundaction.eu, as soon as possible and **no later than May 1st**. Applications will be assessed on a rolling basis. We are seeking to recruit and start the evaluation process as soon as possible.

We aim to finish the evaluation by October 2021 latest.