

# Stichting Climate-KIC International Foundation Policy Plan 2020-2021

Prior version 2.0 (dated 25 June 2020) updated to reflect change to Executive Board and formatting

Version 2.1, 24 May 2021

[climate-kicfoundation.org](https://climate-kicfoundation.org)

# 1. Introduction to Stichting Climate-KIC International Foundation

## Business Data

Statutory Name:	Stichting Climate-KIC International Foundation
Chamber of Commerce registration Number:	77373154
RSIN Number:	860987541

## Office and Visiting Address

Stichting Climate-KIC International Foundation  
Kattenburgerstraat 7  
1018 JA Amsterdam  
Netherlands

## 1.1. Where we are going & why

### Background

Stichting Climate-KIC International Foundation (the “Foundation”) is a non-profit organisation that seeks to achieve its mission by supporting a diverse knowledge and innovation community, united by a commitment to direct the power of human creativity at the climate change challenge. We aim to bring together large and small companies, scientific institutions and universities, city authorities and other public bodies, and students as well as more unusual actors such as community groups, farmer associations, seafarer associations, cooperative-based organisations, sports communities, libraries, culinary associations, e-sports communities, faith-based organisations and arts and culture bodies in order to catalyse systemic change through innovation.

The envisaged activities of the Foundation will directly align to its object of contributing to the protection of nature and the environment, including the enhancement of sustainability in aid of the common good, both ecological and human, by way of innovation, education and research in the field of climate change mitigation and adaptation. Specifically, the lead projects will have a focus on transformation of economic and industrial systems, social and cultural systems, physical infrastructure and human habitats with the objective of dramatically reducing GHG emissions for long-term planetary stability and human survival, contributing to human and environmental resilience in the face of unavoidable climate change effects.

Projects will have a focus on radical transitions with respect to current economic and social paradigms in Europe, with a particular concern for social cohesion and wellbeing through transition, and support for the emergence of new forms of public value, treatment of the commons,

intergenerational responsibility and policies to achieve economic sufficiency and careful husbanding of resources. This will take the form of extended engagements in specific contexts, in partnership with public decision makers and policy makers and with local communities, developing and deploying innovation to learn how to change complex systems on a large scale for the common good and public benefit – called ‘deep demonstrations’.

The Foundation will also engage in projects with an international development focus, working in partnership with the development departments of major governments. With attention to questions of climate justice and inequity, the Foundation will deliver deep demonstrations related to the UN sustainable development goals as applied to cities in Africa, Asia and elsewhere, climate resilient agriculture, decarbonisation, responsible consumption and water stress management. This will help ensure that transformations in these locations are protective of nature and the environment and achieve societal good. Longer term, the Foundation will also use the UN sustainable developments goals to help organisations in actively taking decisions that consider and take account of the environment and climate risks. It is not anticipated the Foundation will undertake any activities of a commercial nature including any equity investment in start-ups.

## Mission

At the heart of the Foundation is our mission is to catalyse systemic change through innovation in the areas of human activity that have a critical impact on greenhouse gas emissions – cities, land use, materials and finance – and to create climate-resilient communities. This mission is urgent and increasingly recognised internationally.

As mentioned above, the object of the Foundation is to contribute in the broadest possible sense to the protection of nature and the environment, including the enhancement of sustainability, **in aid of the common good**, both ecological and human, by way of innovation of climate change mitigation and adaptation, and by stimulation of education and research in the field of climate change mitigation and adaptation, and to do anything which is, in the widest sense of the word, connected with or may be conducive to the attainment of this object,

The Foundation shall seek to attain these objects, among other things, through:

- raising of funds to support the object and any initiative, project or research in connection therewith; and
- entering into of any partnership or cooperation agreements with organizations with a similar object as the Foundation, provided that this is conducive to or connected with the realization or promotion of the object of the Foundation.

## 2. Organisation & Governance

### Governance

The Foundation has a two-tier board, consisting of a Supervisory Board ("**Supervisory Board**") and an Executive Board ("**Executive Board**").

The Supervisory Board of Foundation provides the necessary independent oversight that is required in connection with assuring alignment to mission and the necessary compliance steps around the non-profit status of Foundation. The Executive Board, as a whole, is tasked with - and is generally held to be responsible for - managing the Foundation's business and affairs. The management includes directing day-to-day affairs, determining the general strategy and policies, and representing the Foundation towards third parties.

Within the framework of this responsibility, the Executive Board for example has to (i) ensure that the Foundation complies with all relevant legislation and regulations; (ii) maintain a proper administration and timely draw up and file the financial information for the Foundation; (iii) manage risks connected to the activities of the Foundation, including holding up suitable internal risk management and control systems; and (iv) arrange for the financing of the Foundation including distributions and funds to be made available in view of the final realisation of the objectives of the Foundation. The Executive Board is entitled to accept (and refuse) donations on behalf of the Foundation and no donations are accepted that are made under known conditions contrary to the mission of the foundation.

As at initiation of the Foundation, the boards consist of:

#### **Supervisory Board of Foundation:**

- John SCHELLNHUBER (chair)
- Monika WEBER-FAHR (vice-chair)
- Anders WIJLMAN
- Barna BARATH

#### **Executive Board of Foundation:**

- Kirsten DUNLOP
- Thomas MITCHELL

## **Relationship with Climate-KIC Holding B.V.**

At present, the Foundation is primarily supported by Climate-KIC Holding B.V. in its mission. Climate-KIC Holding B.V. is the orchestrator of a knowledge and innovation community and, in turn, primarily supported by the European Institute of Innovation & Technology. The cooperation between Climate-KIC International Foundation and Climate-KIC Holding B.V. is set out in an overarching master agreement which details a number of collaboration points between Climate-KIC Holding B.V. and Climate-KIC International Foundation. Climate-KIC International Foundation receives such support on arms' length terms.

Over time, as the Foundation and its set of activities grows, it is expected that other funders will support the Foundation in its mission driven work.

## **Conflicts of Interest**

The Foundation is committed to ensuring all its activities only proceed under the highest ethical standards. In line with the principles of equal treatment, fair competition, transparency, non-discrimination and proportionality, Foundation decisions are fair and unbiased by the existence of conflicts of interest or gifts. A variety of protective and mitigation measures have been built into the structure to ensure adherence to these important qualities.

# **3. Financial Policy of the Foundation**

## **Financial Policy**

The Foundation does not strive for commercial interests. Its activities are non-profit in nature and substance. The Foundation aims to channel its income towards realising its objectives, whilst maintaining sufficient reserves to guarantee the continuity of the organisation. Please see the investment policy principles below for further information on how reserves are managed.

## **Remuneration and Reimbursement Policy**

Supervisory Board members of the Foundation do not receive remuneration. They will be able to have reasonable costs associated with the logistics of attending meetings they make reimbursed by the Foundation (e.g. travel costs etc.). At this stage, the Foundation has no direct employees, however, this will be revisited over time particularly as particular programs and activities demand.

## **Management of Assets**

Until sufficient funds have been raised, any cash assets will remain in a bank account set up with a trusted financial institution. The management of other assets will be investigated on a case by case basis as the Foundation moves forward in its development with the Foundation aiming to channel as much resource towards its mission as possible (subject to sufficient reserves to guarantee continuity).

## **Investment Policy Principles**

As mentioned above, to the extent the Foundation accrues reserves, these will be only as necessary to guarantee its ongoing existence. Any investment of these reserves will follow the following principles:

- Such investment is fully coherent and aligned to the mission of the Foundation;
- The safety of the assets is a high priority – generating interest income is not the focus of our deliberations, as asset security takes priority;
- The choice of investments should protect the reserves from dramatic losses; and
- Investment decisions are subject to an appropriate level of governance and must be free from conflicts of interest.

## **How Climate-KIC International Foundation Raises Funds**

The Foundation plans to raise funds primarily through donations, grants, philanthropy, and non-commercial activities. All as aligned to the mission of Foundation.

## **Contact us**

If you have any questions, please contact us at [climate-kicfoundation.org](https://climate-kicfoundation.org):