

Stichting Climate-KIC  
International Foundation  
Policy Plan 2024-2025

14. March 2024

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

Initially supported by:



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# 1. 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  
Plantage Middenlaan 45  
1018 DC 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 activities that are currently being undertaken, as well as 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 have and will continue to 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.

*Main portfolio of activities for the period 2024-2025*

- Delivering local projects and initiatives for the protection of nature and the environment, specifically supporting climate change mitigation and adaptation of human habitats (e.g. urban, rural), e.g.:
  - Deployment of clean urban mobility measures;
  - Regenerative agriculture practices and climate resilient agriculture;
  - Responsible commons management (i.e. land or resources belonging to or affecting the whole of a community) – water, soil, forests, etc.;
  - Responsible consumption campaigns & initiatives.
- Stimulating industry decarbonisation and climate entrepreneurship through capacity building, mentoring, and general technical (non-financial) assistance (e.g. networking assistance, advisory support, good practice sharing) across industrial sectors.
- Supporting education and research in the field of climate change mitigation and adaptation. More broadly this also includes building the capacity of key stakeholders, e.g. decision-makers, policy developers and implementers, knowledge and education providers, to deliver the transition to carbon neutrality.
- Delivering projects with international development focus to address climate justice and inequity of communities most exposed and least equipped to face the climate change challenge, e.g. fossil fuel dependent regions in Europe, and Latin America, Africa, Southeast Asia.
- Utilising raised funding and reserves to allocate grants to key actors in said communities promoting the Foundation’s public benefit initiatives.
- Collaborating and partnering with diverse stakeholders to deliver the above projects, e.g. education and research institutions, local, regional and national governments, other not-for-profit organisations, industry actors, communities directly affected by the effects of climate change.
- Fundraising activities to secure resources for the Foundation’s portfolio of activities.

## 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 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 the 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 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:**

- Hans Joachim Schellnhuber (chair)
- Anaar Kara
- Marc Oppenheim
- Rutger de Witt Wijnen
- Wiebke Schloemer

#### Executive Board of Foundation:

- Anders Wijkman

### 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 Foundation and Climate-KIC Holding B.V. concluded a Cost-sharing agreement that enables the cooperation before the Foundation is fully staffed.

Over time, as the Foundation and its activities grow, 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, the 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 gain. Its activities are non-profit and for-value 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 are able to have reasonable costs associated with the logistics of attending meetings reimbursed by the Foundation (e.g. travel costs etc.). At this stage, the Foundation has no direct employees, however, this is currently being addressed by way of initial transfer of certain employees in the Foundation and its existing branches. It is also planned to open more Foundation branches and progressively transfer more employees to the Foundation.

## Management of Assets

Until sufficient funds have been raised, 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 engages in fundraising activities with third parties to resource the implementation of projects and initiatives directly fulfilling organisational objectives and intended for the public benefit.

### *Main methods of acquiring income for the period 2024-2025*

- **Donations:** attracting unrestricted funding to be utilised at the Foundation's discretion.

- The focus is on philanthropy and corporate giving initiatives as they enable a certain scale while keeping associated costs reasonable.
- Private donations are also accepted.
- **Grants:** applying for grant funding for specific projects and activities that align with the Foundation's portfolio.
  - The Foundation will continue to mobilise public funding from the European Union and its programmes, especially for its work with cities as well as responsible natural resources management.
  - The Foundation will leverage relationships in EU countries where national, regional and local public funding is available for the accomplishment of just transition programmes and climate adaptation and mitigation plans.
  - The Foundation will explore grant funding managed by intragovernmental organisations (e.g. UN agencies) and governmental development agencies where there is a match with Foundation activities outside of Europe.
  - The Foundation will actively pursue European and US-based philanthropy and corporate grant making opportunities that align with the Foundation portfolio of activities.

*Ancillary methods of acquiring income for the period 2024-2025*

- **Economic activities:** the Foundation provides services against payment as a subordinate income generating activity and in strict compliance with applicable ANBI law and regulations.
  - An example of such activity is providing advisory services to EU bodies and national government agencies in matters related to the Foundation's mission and objectives. As such these services facilitate indirectly the public benefit purpose of the Foundation. Such services are also subject to public procurement rules.

## Contact us

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