

FAQ: GCLS 9th Grant Round – SDG Video Campaigns

1. Who is eligible to apply for the 9th Grant Round?

Applications are restricted exclusively to community foundations that have participated in any of the previous GCLS rounds (Rounds 1 through 8). If your organization has never received a GCLS grant before, you are not eligible for this specific edition.

2. What is the primary focus of this round?

The 9th round shifts toward communication, education, and promotion of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The goal is to raise awareness within your community and among local stakeholders through the joint creation of video materials.

3. What are the technical requirements for the mandatory video deliverables?

Every project must produce video materials (mini-documentaries, reports, or interviews) that meet these standards :

- **Length:** Approximately 2–5 minutes.
- **Resolution:** Minimum Full HD (1080p).
- **Content:** The videos must showcase your project activities or other local initiatives that put the SDG concept into practice.
- **Subtitles:** All video materials must contain English subtitles.

4. How should we select the SDGs for our project?

Focus on **1 to 3 specific SDGs** that are most relevant to your community's needs.

5. What counts as the required "Financial Input"?

Applicants are required to provide an additional financial contribution equal to 50% of the awarded grant.

- **Example:** If you apply for a \$15,000 grant, you must secure an additional \$7,500 in matching funds.

6. What can be included as our "own contribution" (matching funds) in the project budget?

Financial input in the GCLS program consists of all costs incurred by your Community Foundation (CF) during the implementation of the project that are funded from sources other than the Academy's grant. These costs must be directly related to your planned project activities or the general operation of your organization.

Specifically, your own contribution can include:

- **Personnel Costs:** Salaries for project coordination, experts, consultants, and administrative or financial staff.
- **Meeting and Travel Expenses:** Costs for renting rooms, equipment, catering for participants, and travel-related expenses.
- **Equipment and Technology:** Purchases of audio-video hardware, software, and necessary licenses.
- **Office and Operating Costs:** General office supplies, communication expenses (telephones, internet), office utilities, insurance, and accounting services.
- **Statutory Activities:** Any other costs related to the non-profit (statutory) activity of your organization.

Please note that equipment costs cannot exceed 20% of the project's total budget.

The budget must be submitted in an editable Excel format to allow for formula verification.

7. What are the key deadlines for this round?

- **Application Deadline:** April 30, 2026 (No extensions possible).
- **Implementation Period:** Projects must be carried out between June 1, 2026, and November 30, 2026 (maximum 6 months).
- **Final Reporting:** Due by December 31, 2026.

8. Are there any restricted costs we should remember? Yes, the standard GCLS prohibitions apply. Grant funds **cannot** be used for:

- **Regranting:** You cannot give this money away as sub-grants to other groups.
- **Endowments:** Funds cannot be added to your capital endowment.
- **Political/Religious Activities:** Direct support for lobbying or religious worship is strictly forbidden.

9. How much funding can we request? You can apply for a grant of up to **\$15,000 USD**. Please note that the grant is paid in a single installment.

For any further technical questions, you may contact the Program Coordinator, Ewa Maciejewska, at e.maciejewska@filantropia.org.pl.