

Request for Proposals (RFP)

Evaluation | Climate and Health Diplomacy and Advocacy



Purpose and Objective

The Rockefeller Foundation (the Foundation/RF/we/our/us) seeks to commission an internal evaluation to inform our future strategy at the intersection of climate and health. The evaluation will answer questions about the Health team's recent work at the intersection of climate and health, focusing on a few key engagements. The evaluation will help us understand how the global health and climate policy environment shifted over the last two years and our additive value in spurring these shifts as perceived by actors across multi-national and national-level organizations. By answering these questions, we will build a more focused future-facing strategy that optimizes for what we do well and what our partners and other key actors most value.

Overview

RFP Manager:	Saroj Sedalia
RFP Email:	RFEvaluation@rockfound.org
Submission Deadline:	October 3, 2025
Location of Work:	Global – with ability to work during EST business hours
Project Start/End Dates:	November 17, 2025 – February 2, 2026 (11 weeks)

Background

Over the last two years, the Rockefeller Foundation's Health team put a greater portion of its resources into understanding the implications of climate change on human health and potential responses. Over this same time, the broader global health landscape changed substantially, with declining funding for global health and multi-lateral institutions.

In this context, the Rockefeller Foundation holds fast to the belief that engaging multi-lateral institutions is an effective and compelling way to change systems for good. We believe that these institutions can both support and influence national governments to prepare for, finance and address climate-aggravated health risks.

We set forth to strategically engage with priority multilateral institutions with the goal of strengthening momentum for country-led efforts that place climate and health at the center of the global discourse. Our hope is that our engagement helped bring the latest evidence and best practice to high-level discussions, informed stronger country commitments and advanced global cooperation to protect the health of climate-impacted communities.

While still early in our strategy, we seek a third-party evaluator (organization or individual) to provide an objective perspective on our role in advancing this goal within the evolving climate-health global policy environment. The output of this review will be used for internal purposes by the Health team and its leadership, to inform future strategy.



Our Mission

Our mission, promoting the well-being of humanity throughout the world, remains unchanged since 1913. Today, that mission requires us to work with partners across sectors and political lines to deliver results for Americans and people across the world.

Our Vision

In 1913, John D. Rockefeller established a foundation to use science and technology to solve humanity's toughest problems at their roots, rather than alleviate their symptoms with charity. More than a century later, we come to work each day with the same ambitious mindset: we can solve today's big problems like climate change, not just settle for small improvements.

Today, we are data-driven experts willing to take risks and the long view on the big bets and partnerships needed to scale revolutionary solutions. We remain optimistic about the future — even at a pessimistic, divisive time — because we have seen it's possible for individuals, parties, and institutions to work, learn, and transform the world together.

What We Believe

1. We believe that many of the greatest challenges of our time are solvable.
2. We believe that connectivity powers change.
3. We believe our history is our greatest resource.
4. We believe that impact is more achievable when our team engages actively alongside grantees and partners.
5. We believe we should leverage all of our assets for good.
6. We believe in the power of data and evidence to inform what we do, and how we do it.
7. We believe that timing is everything.
8. We believe that our work should reduce disparities.

Our Work

The Rockefeller Foundation uses grantmaking and other tools to deliver results for people, especially those often left behind, in the United States and around the world. Our current work aims to take new technology or ideas — or novel ways to apply existing ones — to help improve public health, create nutritious and sustainable food systems, connect people to electricity, and enable meaningful economic opportunity.

Scope of Work

We seek to commission an evaluative review that will inform strategic decision-making for the Rockefeller Foundation Health team. It will assess RF's contributions to the evolving climate-health multilateral landscape since 2023 by answering the following questions:

1. **Context:** How has the climate and health global policy landscape shifted over the last two years?
2. **Progress towards goal:** To what extent have goals for multi-lateral engagement been met? How has our involvement strengthened network connectivity, introduced or supported the use of evidence-based narratives, and/or sparked new relationships and connections?
3. **Additionality:** To what extent has the Rockefeller Foundation's engagement contributed additional value towards achieving goals outlined by country leadership? More specifically, how do our inputs beyond funding (connections, networks, participation in dialogue) bring value – or not? To what extent did the Rockefeller Foundation help strengthen country leadership in setting and advancing country-determined climate and health priorities during their presidency?
4. **Uptake:** Many of our engagements result in an output. How are these outputs received? What evidence do we have of their adoption, uptake, or influence on regional and/or national policy in the climate/health space?

To answer these questions, the selected candidate will consider a sub-set of the Health team's work at six key global policy events (G20 Brazil, G20 South Africa, COP28, COP30 and WHA 77/78). The list of events was prioritized based on the following criteria: 1) multi-year engagement; 2) partnership with multi-national institution; and 3) produced an output, such as technical papers, policy position statements, working groups, endorsements, and/or adopted evidence-based narratives. The Foundation's engagement in these events varies – from grants and contracts to facilitating convening to staff time and counsel.

Suggested methodology

The evidence for answering these questions is largely expected to be qualitative. The selected organization or candidate will conduct internal and external stakeholder interviews alongside internal and external document review. The Rockefeller Foundation will provide introductions to key informants, as needed and provide relevant internal documents for consideration.

We also invite ideas about how to quantify answers to our questions, particularly things like reach/uptake of key messages and outputs. The pros/cons of quantification will be discussed as part of finalizing methodology.

Expected workplan and deliverables

Phase 1: Alignment | Work closely with the Health and Strategic Learning & Impact teams to align on and ensure full understanding of scope and methodology (3 weeks)

Deliverables: Methodology and workplan

Phase 2: Data collection and final deliverable development (4 weeks)

Deliverables: Framework for qualitative data analysis, 1-3 mock-ups of potential final deliverables – to align on level of detail required, tone, etc., completed interviews (up to 20)

Phase 3: Analysis and presentation (4 weeks)

Deliverables: First draft of findings, presentation to Health and SL&I teams, final designed report and executive summary (ppt)

Budget range

The allocated budget for this work is \$35-50K.

Desired qualifications

To ensure a rigorous and insightful review, we seek proposals from firms or individuals with the following qualifications:

- Proven experience in advocacy evaluation: Demonstrated track record of conducting complex organizational or advocacy evaluations — preferably within philanthropic, climate, or global health contexts
- Expertise in climate and health policy & diplomacy: In-depth knowledge of the global climate-health policy landscape, including multilateral and cross-sectoral engagement
- Experience with mixed-methods: Proficiency in both qualitative and quantitative evaluation methods, including document analysis, stakeholder interviews, and influence measurement
- Ability to produce executive-level outputs: Ability to synthesize findings and translate them into actionable, strategic recommendations for senior leadership
- Experience working with diverse actors: Proven track record engaging diverse actors including Foundation staff, grantees, multilateral organizations, and policy influencers - across organizations, contexts, and geographies
- Understanding of impact storytelling: Strong written and verbal communication skills, with the capacity to prepare clear, concise outputs that present an evidence-backed and emotionally compelling story
- Language: Ability to speak and write in English, spoken and written Portuguese a plus



- Commitment to Community Values: Demonstrated ability to bring an equity lens to evaluation, with sensitivity to a global context and the climate and health impacts on underserved populations

The RFP Process

Supplier Partnerships

In support of its core commitment to expanding opportunity and access, the Foundation actively seeks partnerships with a wide range of suppliers of goods and services. This includes, but is not limited to, businesses of various sizes, ownership structures, and backgrounds.

As part of its procurement process, the Foundation may request information from potential suppliers regarding their ownership and organizational values. This helps the Foundation identify partners whose practices align with its commitment to responsible business operations and who are best equipped to deliver high-quality, competitively priced goods and services.

Communities, Partners, and Impact Approach

The Rockefeller Foundation believes that when trying to promote the well-being of everyone we must be able to work with anyone. We are at our best when the talented people within our Foundation work and thrive in a dynamic and welcoming environment that brings out the best in our team members, grantees and partners.

To that end, our Communities, Partners, and Impact team is working to help:

1. Build a Rockefeller Foundation community that welcomes, celebrates, and engages staff across all regions.
2. Ask “who is at the table” for our convenings, programs, initiatives — and engage with a broad set of partners to support our efforts.
3. Advance impact and opportunity, especially for vulnerable communities.

Sustainability

The Foundation is committed to procuring sustainable, ethical and responsibly sourced materials, goods and services. We seek to partner with suppliers who maintain practices that align with these values and practices. We are also dedicated to decreasing our emissions across our operations, targeting Net Zero operations by 2040. This vision for a sustainable future extends to every link in our value chain, including our suppliers. We aim to collaborate with suppliers who share this commitment and uphold practices in line with these values and, at the same time, are best positioned to provide high quality, competitively priced goods and services.

Accessibility

The Foundation is committed to ensuring that our RFP process is accessible, and we may be able to offer some adjustments to enable interested vendors to better participate in the process. For support during the RFP process, contact the listed RFP Manager.

Key RFP Activity Dates

Key Activity	Target Date*
Issue RFP	September 10, 2025
Vendor Questions due to RFP Manager via email at RFEvaluation@rockfound.org	September 17, 2025, 5pm EST
Response to Vendor Questions	September 22, 2025
Proposals due to RFP Manager via email at RFEvaluation@rockfound.org	October 3, 2025, 5pm EST
Selection of finalists and proposal presentations, if needed	October 20, 2025
Selection Announcement	October 27, 2025

*dates are subject to change, vendors will be notified of any changes

Vendor Presentation

The vendor may be invited to present and explain their responses to the Foundation. The Foundation will inform the vendors of the arrangements for any such presentation.

The Proposal

The following must be included in your proposal.

- 1. Company Background** Please provide a brief description of your company including its office size, history, resources, types of services customarily provided, location(s) and portfolio size.
- 2. Organization and Staffing** Please provide an organizational chart of your company, the names of the proposed team members who would work with us and the principal representative.
- 3. Attributes and Approach** State the qualities and attributes your firm brings to the project that may distinguish it from others. State how you would approach this evaluative exercise.
- 4. Experience** Please provide specific examples of similar services that you have completed or are currently providing. If possible, please provide specific examples for any not-for-profit.
- 5. Pricing Overview** Based on the requirements listed in the RFP, please provide a breakdown of the pricing model and all costs which could be

incurred by the Foundation over the time of the Contract. Please provide a description of how your organization proposes to be compensated for these services.

6. Additional Costs

Please also provide an estimate of any additional costs the Foundation might be responsible to pay.

7. Vendor References

Please provide a minimum of three references from projects with similar scopes and budgets.

8. Other Information

Please provide any additional information that you think supports your firm's credentials and qualifications.

Please limit your proposal to no more than 10 pages, 11-point font in Microsoft Word. Submissions longer than 10 pages may not be reviewed.

Terms and Conditions

Reservation of Rights

The Foundation reserves the right to negotiate any proposals and to reject any or all proposals submitted if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the Foundation.

The Foundation reserves the right to check the accuracy of all information and to request official supporting documents. Applicants who provide inaccurate information can always be excluded from the RFP process.

The Foundation reserves the right to modify or cancel the RFP after issuance. Such modification shall be considered an amendment hereto and will be provided to all prospective applicants via email. The Foundation will contact each respondent with any such modifications of the RFP prior to the award of the RFP.

Confidentiality

The Foundation reserves the right to require any respondent to enter into a non-disclosure agreement.

Costs and Ownership

The RFP does not obligate the Foundation to pay for any costs of any kind that may be incurred by the applicant or any third parties, in connection with your response. The Foundation will not reimburse for any such costs. All responses and supporting documentation shall become the property of the Foundation, subject to claims of confidentiality, non-disclosure, and copyright, in respect of the response and supporting documentation. The Foundation reserves the right to discuss your response to the RFP with its affiliates, consultants, or agents (including its attorneys and/or financial advisors) to assist in analyzing the responses.



Intellectual Property

Applicants should not use any intellectual property of the Foundation including, but not limited to, all logos, registered trademarks, or trade names of the Foundation, at any time without the prior written approval of the Foundation, as appropriate.

Responses

All accepted responses shall become the property of the Foundation and will not be returned.

Binding Offer

Responses constitute a complete and binding offer for a period of 180 days from submission. By submitting a response to the RFP, you agree that as a potential vendor you are fully capable and willing to provide the services in your response and that you will comply with all applicable Federal, state, and local laws, regulations, rules, and/or ordinances.

Governing Law

This RFP and your response to it shall be governed by the laws of the State of New York.

No Liability

The Foundation shall not be liable to any respondent, person, or entity for any losses, expenses, costs, claims, or damages of any kind:

- Arising out of, by reason of, or attributable to, prospective vendors responding to this RFP; or
- As a result of the use of any information, error, or omission contained in this RFP document or any information provided during the RFP process.

The Foundation assumes no obligation, no responsibility and no liability for costs incurred by vendors responding to this RFP prior to the issuance of a contract.

Privacy

Personal information collected from any respondent is subject to the Foundation's privacy policy, available at <https://www.rockefellerfoundation.org/privacy-policy/> and will be used by the Foundation in accordance with its privacy policy. For international respondents, please be aware that the information submitted is collected in the United States of America. In addition to being subject to the Foundation's privacy policy, the collection, storage, and use of a respondent's personal data will be subject to U.S. laws and regulations, which may be different from the laws and regulations of other countries. By participating in this RFP, the respondent consents to this collection, storage, and use.



Conflicts of Interest

A vendor shall be required to disclose any conflicts of interest with The Rockefeller Foundation, including its affiliates, staff and trustees, in its proposal and will continue to monitor and disclose any conflicts of interest if awarded the proposal during the term of the rewarded contract. Vendor will ensure there is no conflict of interest before providing any services if awarded.

Entire RFP

This RFP, any addenda to it, amendments hereto, and any attached schedules, constitute the entire RFP. This RFP supersedes all prior oral or written agreements. This RFP does not constitute a binding contract and only the contract issued in award of the RFP between the parties are considered legally binding.