

Application Guidelines

What is the Impact Idaho Fund Pilot?

The **Sun Valley Institute for Resilience** (SVIR) envisions resilient communities with nourishing regional food systems, healthy environments and vibrant and equitable economies.

SVIR launched the **Impact Idaho Fund Pilot** to attract and mobilize mission-driven capital to finance innovative projects advancing community resilience in central and southern Idaho. The Pilot Fund is currently focused on food and regenerative agriculture as a keystone for achieving its vision of community resilience.

What are the Pilot Fund's areas of focus?

Pilot Fund objectives are primarily aligned to UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) #11 "Sustainable Communities" and #2 "Zero Hunger" - the former promotes community safety, inclusivity, sustainability and overall resilience while the latter focuses on food security, improved nutrition and sustainable agriculture.

Through the Pilot Fund, SVIR will invest in projects that fill gaps in the regional food system, expand the regional supply of nutrient-dense food, increase access to affordable agricultural goods, improve smallholder farmer or food producer profitability, demonstrate regenerative agriculture methods and/or uplift sustainable food and farming practices that integrate land, water and energy conservation, among others.

Am I eligible to apply for the Pilot Fund?

If you are a non-profit or for-profit business owner with a legally registered entity and you have a resilience-based project with a local or regional footprint in one or more of our focus areas (see above), then you are eligible to apply. All else equal, priority may be given to businesses that serve south-central Idaho and the surrounding areas, yet those with reach in the state of Idaho and in proximity to its southern borders are eligible to apply.

Sample projects include but are not limited to:

- Increasing on-farm cold storage to safely store produce, eggs, meat and/or dairy products
- Increasing season extension area to provide more production throughout the year
- Purchasing scale-appropriate tools to increase efficiency, food safety and affordability
- Building or improving produce or livestock processing infrastructure
- Building or improving infrastructure to increase amount of value-added products
- Installing renewable energy infrastructure to offset reliance on carbon-based fuel
- Purchasing delivery vehicle to expand market reach and food safety
- Diversifying enterprise opportunities for existing operator

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What amount and type of funds are available?

Funding for the Pilot phase of the program is limited. Eligible applicants that fulfill application requirements and meet selection criteria will receive funding as long as it remains available. Funding will be allocated to projects in the form of returnable grants (similar to no-interest loans) or low-interest loans with customized, flexible repayment schedules. Funding amounts will vary depending on needs but are expected to fall within the range of \$10,000 to \$250,000.

How do I apply for the Pilot Fund?

The Pilot Fund application is currently open. The application will remain open until available funds are fully expended. Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis in the order in which they are received.

Eligible applicants should visit <https://www.sunvalleyinstitute.org/impact-idaho-fund/> and then click "Apply for Funding" to access and submit the online application. The application is an electronic form with a set of questions, covering high-level organization information and detailed project information. You may leave certain fields blank or qualify specific responses as estimates. We will help you define any unknowns as part of the process outlined below.

What happens after I submit my application?

Within two weeks following submission, our team will review your application and reach out to schedule a consultation. Within one month following submission, we will meet with you to better understand your project and determine whether your project aligns with the Pilot Fund's impact and financial criteria. If your project progresses to the due diligence phase, we will sign a memorandum of understanding and spend the next 2-4 months collecting additional information and performing impact and financial analyses. Timelines may vary on a case-by-case basis.

Towards the end of the process, we will make a funding recommendation to SVIR's Investment Committee, and a final decision will be made. If your project is approved for funding, legal agreements will be signed by both parties. Terms will include the funding amount, a customized repayment schedule and impact and financial reporting requirements, among other provisions.

What if I have other questions?

You may email impactfund@sunvalleyinstitute.org with any additional questions.