

How to Access Funding

Opening the Call for Proposals

The WTO Fisheries Funding Mechanism (commonly known as the WTO Fish Fund) opens its first Call for Proposals on 6 June 2025

1. What is the Fish Fund?

- The Fish Fund was established at the WTO in cooperation with the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, and the World Bank, to assist developing and least-developed country (LDC) Members implement the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies.

2. How can the Fish Fund help WTO Members?

- The Fish Fund will provide developing and LDC Members that have ratified the [Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies](#) with grants to support technical assistance and capacity-building activities for the purpose of implementing the Agreement.
- Two categories of grants that will be offered:
 - > **Category 1** – Project Preparation Grants of up to USD 50'000 for activities such as studies, needs assessments, and preparation of larger projects.
 - > **Category 2** – Project Grants of up to USD 300'000 for more complex, programmatic interventions related to the implementation of the Agreement.
- In accordance with the direction of the Steering Committee of the Fish Fund, no funds will be disbursed prior to entry into force of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies.**
- For more information, visit www.wtofishfund.org and access the "Categories of Projects and Funding Windows for the Fish Fund".

3. What is the deadline to submit a funding request?

- The Call for Proposals is open until 9 September 2025. If the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies enters into force during this period, the deadline will be extended by one additional month.

4. Who is eligible to apply for funding?

- Only governments from developing and least developed WTO Members that have deposited their instruments of acceptance of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies with the WTO Director-General are eligible to submit funding requests.
- Requests should be made by national governments (ministries, agencies or public entities) responsible for implementing the project grants.

5. How to apply?

- To apply for funding, visit www.wtofishfund.org and complete the required form. The application must include the objective and description of activities, timeline and budget, national context, implementation arrangements, and other elements detailed on the website.
- Submit the completed proposal directly through the website. For queries or additional information, contact fishfund@wto.org.

6. What happens after an application is submitted?

- After the Call for Proposals closes, the Steering Committee of the Fish Fund will review and evaluate all submissions. Selected applicants will be notified following the Committee's decisions.
- Applicants may contact the Secretariat at fishfund@wto.org for updates or further details on the process.

We Are Here to Help

If you have any questions or require assistance at any stage of the application process, please contact the Secretariat of the Fish Fund at fishfund@wto.org.

Support is available to guide you through the requirements and procedures.