**COP26 collaborative evaluation project**

**CGF UK Branch Citizen Engagement on Climate programme**

At the Foundation, we have been exploring what contribution we can make to addressing one of the most urgent global challenges for people and the planet: climate change. The UK Branch’s *Citizen Engagement on Climate* strand (launched in 2020) will help build and evidence the public mandate to tackle climate change. We are looking forward to playing our part alongside others with a long-standing track record on this issue. 2021 is our ‘scoping year’ before we launch our full strategy in 2022, that encourages us all to think beyond the forthcoming COP. Consequently, this year we have a key focus on building and collecting the evidence base for the value of public engagement work for climate action, and how to do public engagement work well.

**Introduction to the project**

A wealth of public engagement activity is planned around the Climate COP26 in Glasgow, November 2021, particularly in the UK as the host nation. This is an excellent opportunity to test and evaluate different ways to engage the public in climate change action, as well as an important moment to document the impact of the targeted public engagement work. We are very excited about this opportunity to bring together a group of practitioners to experiment on this theme with a collaborative evaluation project, and think ahead.

We are working with evaluators Sally Cupitt and Shehnaaz Latif to bring together 6-10 practitioners who are planning to undertake public engagement work for COP26, to co-design an evaluation framework for their work, and test it by collecting data at and around the COP in November 2021. The evaluators will subsequently analyse the data collected by practitioners to evidence the impact of the work and extract lessons for public engagement that will be useful for a wide range of practitioners. We hope this will also support our efforts to communicate the value of this work to decision-makers at a national and international level.

Some of the process will be developed in partnership with the group; however we have drafted the following timeline to illustrate what this project might look like:

**Part 1: project set up (May - July 2021)**

* Establishing the group of practitioners working on this project
* Informal 1:1 meetings between the evaluators and participants to learn about their needs and interests
* Group meetings to agree process and priorities, co-develop a theory of change and evaluation framework

**Part 2: data collection (June - November 2021)**

* Evaluators will develop a simple evaluation pack with tools and guidance, and host online training on the tools for the group
* Practitioners collect data in the field; the evaluators will be offering 1:1 support
* Continue group meetings as touch points to troubleshoot and discuss emerging themes

**Part 3: data analysis and presentation of results (December 2021 - January 2022)**

* The evaluators will analyse data and work with practitioners to understand their data
* In December we will hold an online findings workshop for participants and other key stakeholders, to test emerging findings
* The evaluators will write the final report for publication in 2022

**Who will the Foundation work with?**

We are seeking to identify and work with a group of senior practitioners who are planning activity to engage the public at or around the Climate COP26 in November. By this we mean any activity that aims to change public behaviour around climate change, using the COP26 as a focus or hook. Behaviour change could range from getting the public to reduce their own carbon footprint, to active involvement in campaigning around the COP26.

Please note that this does **not** mean only work that is planned during the COP event in November, nor only work in Glasgow or other COP locations.

We are interested in the whole spectrum of public engagement work for climate action, ranging from very local projects to national campaigns. For this evaluation project, we expect that there will be some value in bringing diversity that reflects the range of different public engagement activity together, balancing this with sufficient commonality to aid coherence.

The participants in the group should be decision-makers in their organisation, with the capacity to participate in collaboration meetings and collect data for the evaluation.

**What is involved?**

Participation in the evaluation project will require a commitment from a senior member of staff to be an active and engaged member of the group, willing to provide around seven working days of their time over 2021 for group meetings and to comment on project outputs, as well as time to collect evaluation data (we estimate that this may require around eight additional working days).

The participant should be able to attend at least three out of four of the following half-day meeting dates:

* 7 June 2021, pm
* 15 June 2021, am
* 30 June 2021, pm
* 20 July 2021, am

**What support will we provide?**

The Foundation will provide financial support of £6000 via a grant to each successful organisation to a) cover the cost of a member of staff to participate in the collaboration and collect data for the evaluation, and b) reflect a contribution to the core costs of the planned public engagement activity. Please note that we will enter into a partnership agreement with successful organisations to clarify responsibilities, timelines and funding.

At the data collection stage, there may also be the opportunity to apply for additional support from a small pot of funding which is intended for any proposals that may arise for piloting innovative data collection methods that would add to the learning from this project.

**What is the decision process?**

The deadline for submitting expressions of interest is **7 May 2021**. After this, we intend to notify shortlisted candidates on 10 May and we will hold **interviews on 12 and 13** **May**.

Please note that the final group will be small: we anticipate that no more than 6-10 organisations will be involved. We do hope, however, that the work that this small group does will have resonance with a wider range of actors who may be able to use the resources in due course.

**Expression of Interest in the COP26 collaborative evaluation project**

The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation welcomes applications from not-for-profit organisations who work in the UK and are planning public engagement activity at and around COP26, who have a keen interest in participating in the COP26 collaborative evaluation project.

To apply, please complete the form below, which should be emailed to: jloring@gulbenkian.org.uk by no later than **7 May 2021**.

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| APPLICANT *(the person who will participate in collaboration meetings and undertake data collection)* |
| Name |  |
| Role |  |
| Work address |  |
| Email |  |
| Telephone |  |
| Link to brief CV, max 2 sides A4 (*please send attachment if not available online)* |  |
| ORGANISATION |
| Name |  |
| Status *(e.g. registered charity, CIC)* |  |
| Location |  |
| Number of staff (full or part time) |  |
| Annual income and expenditure |  |
| Link to website |  |
| Link to latest annual review and accounts*(please send attachment if not available online)* |  |

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| 1. Please provide a description of the public engagement work your organisation is planning around COP26, with as much detail as possible and links if possible ***(maximum 300 words)***

*(please include: what demographic this work will target, what scale (local/national), where in the world you will engage the public, what form of public engagement you will employ, what the intended outcomes are, the timeline of your planned work, any additional relevant detail)* |
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| 1. What, if any, monitoring or evaluation work do you have planned for this project already, and what value do you think this collaborative evaluation project could add to your activity? ***(maximum 300 words)***
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| 1. Why do you want to participate in this project and what difference will you bring to the group? ***(maximum 120 words)***
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| 1. What evaluation questions would you be particularly keen to explore through this evaluation project? How could you use this to improve your work?  ***(maximum 120 words)***
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| 1. What is your previous experience of evaluation / collecting evidence to inform changes in practice, and what emphasis does your organisation place on this? ***(maximum 120 words)***
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| 1. What is your previous experience of working in collaboration, and how specifically did this help improve outcomes? ***(maximum 120 words)***
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| 1. Who else would you like to see involved in this collaborative evaluation project and why?
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| 1. Do you have any questions about the evaluation project or concerns about participation?
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**Please tick to confirm which half-day meetings you could attend:**

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| **7 June 2021, pm** |  |
| **15 June 2021, am** |  |
| **30 June 2021, pm** |  |
| **20 July 2021, am** |  |

**Please tick to confirm you are willing to commit up to 7 working days to attend meetings and comment on outputs for this project, and up to 8 further days to collect relevant data:**

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