

Criteria for the IDN Events Fund 2025

Below is a living set of guidelines we use to allocate the [Degrowth Events Fund](#). They were put in place while the call was still open, when it became clear that we would receive too many applications to proceed on a case-by-case basis. We acknowledge it would have been preferable to share them with the initial call, and apologise that it was not possible. The guidelines reflect the values our team agreed on, yet we recognise they are neither flawless nor entirely objective. We will keep refining them and warmly invite your thoughts—or your involvement in future decisions—via [info\[at\]degrowth.net](mailto:info[at]degrowth.net).

1. **No big institutions** – applications from large, already-institutionalised organisations are excluded.
2. **Only first-time applicants** – projects that have not previously received this fund (previously from the [Support Group](#)) are excluded.
3. **New places (0-1)** – events in regions or communities where degrowth support is still scarce are prioritised.
4. **In-person over online (0-1)** – online events remain eligible, but because of their lower costs, they will normally receive a smaller grant than comparable in-person events.
5. **Small-scale gatherings (0-1)** – intimate or modestly sized events are preferred to very large ones.
6. **Working-class inclusivity (0-1)** – events intentionally accessible to and empowering for working-class participants receive additional priority.
7. **Minority-led organising (0-1)** – events organised by people belonging to minorities are encouraged.
8. **Participatory & non-hierarchical (0-1)** – events structured to share power and decision-making are preferred.
9. **Alignment with IDN principles (0-3)** – organisers should demonstrate commitment to the spirit of the International Degrowth Network.
10. **Additionality (0-3)** – we favour events that would not happen (or would be severely downsized) without our support.
11. **Relevance to degrowth discourse (0-3)** – proposals that make a clear, timely contribution to current degrowth discourse get priority.
12. **Creative or unique formats (0-4)** – innovative, artistic, or otherwise unconventional event designs are favoured.
13. **Global South focus (0-5)** – events based in, or led from, Global South or periphery countries ([This country grouping](#) loosely helps with the range) receive extra weight.
14. **Potential impact (0-7)** – events likely to catalyse meaningful social or ecological change, even if hard to quantify in advance, are valued.

*Each criterion has a small numeric range to keep assessment quick and transparent: **0-1** means simply “no” or “yes”; **0-3** lets us distinguish “not met”, “partly”, “fully”, and “exceptional”; **0-4** adds one extra notch for especially creative stand-outs; and **0-7** gives us finer resolution where impact is hardest to judge. The impact criterion does not go into final scores, but could help us differentiate very closely scored applicants. They do not have to be whole numbers. We add the points to obtain a first ranking, then discuss borderline cases together, remembering that numbers are only signposts, never substitutes for collective judgment. As with the criteria themselves, this scoring system will evolve, and we welcome your suggestions. Thank you for taking the time to apply <3