



# Frugal Innovation Fellowship 2024

Application  
Guideline



# SUMMARY

While the process of innovation can at times be complex and lengthy, it can also be simple, frugal and scaled for impact. And the world currently has a lot of such stories to offer.

Social innovators, entrepreneurs, and practitioners like you have been solving problems within a resource-constrained setup, wrapped around a complex ecosystem of partners and stakeholders.

**BRAC Frugal Innovation Fellowship 2024** is aimed at supporting young innovators working in the space of **climate initiatives** in any of these 6 countries - Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, South Sudan, Kenya, and Bangladesh. This fellowship programme is coordinated by the **BRAC Social Innovation Lab (SIL)**, Bangladesh, along with BRAC International.

## We're looking for:

- Young professionals working on climate adaptation initiatives through climate entrepreneurship/social enterprise or climate activism from the aforementioned countries.
- The applicant should have been working with their initiative for about 2-3 years and not more.

## The evaluation of the applications will emphasise on:

- Problem Identification and Strategic Approach
- Impact and Beneficiary Reach
- Implementation Plan and Alignment with [BRAC Goals](#)
- Potential for Future Growth/Scalability

## The fellowship will offer:

- **Fellowship Award:** A grant of \$10,000 will be awarded to each fellow to support their initiative/innovation.
- **Present their Innovation and Findings at FIF 2024:** Fellows will have the opportunity to present the insights and evidence generated during their fellowship at FIF 2024 (to be held tentatively in Bangladesh in late-October), in the presence of fellow practitioners, sector leaders and other ecosystem players.
- **Connect with Development Sector Leaders:** Throughout the fellowship, as well as during their attendance in FIF, the fellows will be connected with practitioners and sector leaders.
- **On-ground Support:** The fellows will be provided on-ground support as they test out their ideas and interventions in their space of operations.
- **Mentorship Support:** The fellows will be provided mentorship and guidance to help them build on to their professional and aspirational goals with the hope of equipping them with the tools to contextually scale up their initiative.

# PURPOSE

We believe that frugal innovation – the development of high-value solutions with limited resources – holds the key to building climate resilience and improving lives.

Apply for the fellowship if you believe the same.

This fellowship aims to identify, support, and scale up impactful climate adaptation initiatives in the six target countries. We are seeking solutions that:

- **Strengthen resilience:** Build communities' ability to withstand and adapt to climate change impacts like extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and changing weather patterns.
- **Reduce vulnerabilities:** Address existing vulnerabilities of communities and ecosystems to climate change.
- **Promote sustainability:** Implement sustainable practices and technologies that minimise environmental impact and contribute to long-term climate resilience.
- **Scalability and replicability:** Focus on solutions that can be effectively scaled up and replicated in other communities facing similar challenges.



# WHO CAN APPLY

- Individuals based in or working with communities in any of the six target countries - Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, South Sudan and Bangladesh.
- We encourage applications from:
  - Early-stage innovators with promising ideas who have been running their climate initiative for around 2-3 years
  - Climate entrepreneurs
  - Climate activists



# SOLUTIONS WE SEEK

This fellowship seeks cost-effective, innovative, practical, and potentially scalable solutions to tackle climate change challenges. These solutions can be in the form of social enterprises, advocacy actions, or the like.

Some examples of focus areas include (but are not limited to):

- **Climate-smart agriculture:** Drought-resistant crops, sustainable farming practices.
- **Improved water management technologies & practices:** Improved smart systems of irrigation, water harvesting and storage, soil and water conservation.
- **Renewable energy:** Affordable and accessible energy solutions for rural and poor urban communities.
- **Disaster risk reduction:** Early warning systems, flood mitigation strategies, climate-resilient infrastructure.
- **Climate adaptive livelihoods:** Creating alternative livelihood options including sustainable income opportunities for communities impacted by climate change.

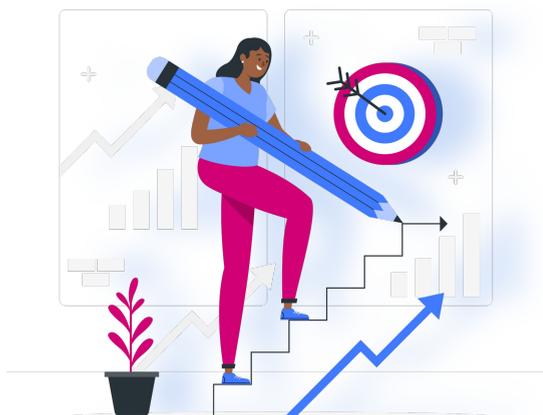
Some guiding principles include (but are not limited to):

- **Community-driven:** Solutions should be developed in collaboration with and for the benefit of local communities.
- **Low-cost and scalable:** Focus on using readily available resources and technologies to ensure affordability and replicability.
- **Impactful and sustainable:** Demonstrating a clear path towards positive long-term impact on climate resilience and livelihoods.



# APPLICATION AND SELECTION

1. **Submit applications:** Candidates fill out the application form and submit it on or before 30 April 2024, 23:59 (East Africa Time, GMT+3).
2. **Assess and shortlist:** Applications get reviewed by a panel of experts in climate change, development, and frugal innovation. Shortlisting runs tentatively till 10 May 2024.
3. **Interview shortlisted applicants:** Shortlisted applicants receive invitations for an online interview to discuss their initiatives in further detail. Interviews run tentatively till 20 May 2024.
4. **Announce finally selected applicants:** Based on a rigorous assessment, finally selected applicants are announced and awarded the fellowship tentatively around 25 May 2024.
5. **Fellowship period:** Fellows receive the grant and utilise the fund (fully/partially) tentatively from June to October 2024. This will run based on the rules and guidelines mutually agreed and understood between BRAC and the fellows, for the best result of the fellowship.
6. **Showcase initiatives on 1 & 2 November 2024 at FIF in Bangladesh.**



# CONTACTS

- **Application help & queries:**

(Note: While sending any queries, please write **Fellowship 2024 Query** in the email subject.)

**Mohammad Daulat-Al-Rashid**

Email (To): [daulat.rashid@brac.net](mailto:daulat.rashid@brac.net)

**Arshae Ahmed**

Email (CC): [arshae.a@brac.net](mailto:arshae.a@brac.net)

- **Useful links:**

**BRAC:** <https://www.brac.net/>, <https://www.brac.net/SDGs/>,  
<https://www.brac.net/program/climate-change-programme/>,  
<https://www.brac.net/climate/>

**BRAC International:** <https://bracinternational.org/>,  
<https://bracinternational.org/our-climate-commitment/>

**BRAC Social Innovation Lab:** <https://innovation.brac.net/>

**BRAC Frugal Innovation Forum:** <https://innovation.brac.net/fif2022/>

**Facebook:** [BRAC](#), [BRAC International](#), [Frugal Innovation Forum](#)

**LinkedIn:** [BRAC](#)



**Good  
Luck**