	Strand A: Collaborating in Practice Framework Testing	**Strand B: Pathways to Partnership**
Fund Objectives	The funding would be used to: • Test the application of the Collaborating in Practice Framework, • Demonstrate how the Framework can support the design, governance, delivery and review of collaborative initiatives, and • Improve outcomes for disadvantaged groups through cross-sector collaboration.	The funding would be used to: • Build capacity within community and civil society organisations to build relationships with philanthropy and government and/or public bodies, • Test the application of the Framework particularly at the relationship building stage • Demonstrate how the Framework can support the design, governance, delivery and review of collaborative initiatives, • Improve outcomes for disadvantaged groups through cross-sector collaboration.
Target Organisations	Organisations that have established relationships with philanthropy, government, and / or public bodies and who have: - Matched funding from a philanthropic source equal to the amount requested. - A confirmed government and/or public body partner. - Agreement among all three partners on the proposed project deliverables and a shared commitment to applying and testing the Collaborating in Practice Framework.	Organisations that have <u>limited or no experience</u> of engaging with philanthropy, government, and/or public bodies. Applicants may already (but are not required to) have one partnership established at the application stage. This could be a philanthropic partner or a government and/or public body partner.

Award Details	Grants between €200,000 and €300,000 <u>across two years</u> Organisations will need to confirm matched funding from a philanthropic source equal to the amount requested at the time of the full application submitted in March 2027. In Year 1, successful organisations will receive up to half of the amount applied for (as per budget) and in Year 2 funding will be paid on receipt of a progress report that shows agreed outcomes have been achieved as per the grant agreement.	Grants between €100,000 and €150,000 <u>across two years.</u> In Year 1, successful organisations will receive up to a maximum of €100,000 for capacity building activities and partnership development using the Collaborating in Practice Framework (as per application and budget). In Year 2, organisations will receive the remaining funding (up to a combined total of €150,000), on receipt of a satisfactory progress report and secured matched funding equal to the Year 2 amount, as well as other agreed outcomes have been achieved, as per the grant agreement. Securing matched funding is a condition of receiving Year 2 funding.
What can the award be used for?	Funding can be used for partnership coordination, stakeholder engagement, applying and testing the Collaborating in Practice Framework with the three parties and any salary costs associated with the same. It must also be used for agreed project activities.	Year 1 funding can be used for capacity building activities, outreach, partnership exploration and stakeholder engagement. Organisations must use the Collaborating in Practice Framework and the accompanying toolkit to establish the partnership. Once the partnership is established, funding can support agreed project activities and further application and testing of the Framework. Capacity building activities could include training courses, strategy development, skills development among staff, engaging consultants for support with this work etc.

		Applications must demonstrate a clear plan in their applications to build capacity within the organisation and establish the three-party partnership.
Year 1	Year 1 costs as identified by the grantee will be awarded in May / June 2027 to progress their partnership work and project work.	Year 1 costs (focusing on capacity building activities, partnership exploration etc) as identified by the grantee will be awarded in May / June 2027 to progress their capacity building and partnership work. This can be for a maximum of €100,000.
Year 2	Year 2 costs as identified by the grantee will be awarded in June 2028 on the receipt of satisfactory reporting as per grant agreement.	Year 2 costs as identified by the grantee will be awarded, on receipt of satisfactory reporting as per grant agreement. The combined total of Year 1 and Year 2 costs can be up to a maximum of €150,000. This will include - Matched philanthropic funding equal to the amount requested for project work in Year 2. - A confirmed government and/or public body partner. - An updated project plan, including activities, budget, timeline, and impact measures, agreed by all three partners. Grantees will be allowed to claim Year 2 funding before the end of Year 1 if ready. However, they have a maximum time of 12 months from when the grant is awarded to meet these requirements.

Eligibility Criteria	Eligible projects under Strand A: • Must have matched funding from a philanthropic source equal to the amount requested. • Must have a confirmed government and/or public body partner. • Must have agreement among all three partners on the proposed project deliverables and a shared commitment to applying and testing the Collaborating in Practice Framework. • Must meet the objectives of the grant round and the particular strand, as highlighted above in the criteria. • As per the Dormant Accounts (Amendment) Act 2005, applicants will be required to adhere to the following purposes for their proposed projects: ○ the development of persons who are economically or socially disadvantaged; ○ the educational development of persons who are educationally disadvantaged; or ○ persons with a disability	Eligible projects under Strand B: • Must meet the objectives of the grant round and the particular strand, as highlighted above in the criteria. • As per the Dormant Accounts (Amendment) Act 2005, applicants will be required to adhere to the following purposes for their proposed projects: ○ the development of persons who are economically or socially disadvantaged; ○ the educational development of persons who are educationally disadvantaged; or ○ persons with a disability • Must reflect a focus on both project work as well as partnership building work. • Must have strong alignment to active government policy priorities and the proposed partnerships should work towards achieving the associated policy objectives. • Must have strong impact on the communities benefitting from the programme. • May be a current programme that will be developed or upscaled with the funding.

	• Must reflect a focus on both project work as well as partnership building work. • Must have strong alignment to active government policy priorities and the proposed partnerships should work towards achieving the associated policy objectives. • Must have strong impact on the communities benefitting from the programme. • May be a current programme that will be developed or upscaled with the funding. • Grant activities must start no earlier than June 2027 and run for 18 - 24 months.	• Grant activities must start no earlier than June 2027 and run for 18 - 24 months. ○ For Strand B, grant activities within the first 12 months include capacity building and partnership establishment using the Framework. Project activities must begin after the Year 2 payment has been secured.

Timeline for both the strands:

Activity	**Dates for Strand A**	**Dates for Strand B**
Opening Date for Stage 1 applications:	Tuesday 24th November 2026	Tuesday 24th November 2026
Closing Date for Stage 1 applications:	Friday 22nd January 2027	Friday 22nd January 2027
Assessment of Stage 1 applications:	25th January to 18th February 2027	25th January to 18th February 2027
Invites Issued for Stage 2:	19th February 2027	19th February 2027
Opening Date for Stage 2 applications:	Monday 22nd February 2027	Monday 22nd February 2027
Closing Date for Stage 2 applications:	Friday 19th March 2027	Friday 19th March 2027
Assessment and Due Diligence:	March to May 2027	March to May 2027
Year 1 payments will be awarded:	May 2027	May 2027
Grant activities to begin:	June 2027 (This should include both partnership as well as project work)	June 2027 (This should include the capacity building and partnership exploration and establishment work)
Project activities to begin	June 2027	This should begin after the Year 2 payment has been claimed by the grantee as per conditions set out in the grant agreement.
Year 2 payments will be awarded:	June 2028	Grantees can claim the Year 2 payment when they are ready and have met all the agreed requirement as set out in the Grant Agreement but it should be done within 12 months of the grant being awarded (before June 2028)