

#### **NEW MEMBERS**

# Alianza Socioambiental Fondos del Sur (Socio-environmental Funds of the Global South Alliance)

The Alianza Socioambiental Fondos del Sur (Socio-environmental Funds of the Global South Alliance) is a new and pioneering initiative that brings together independent socio-environmental funds, locally founded and led, from all over the world. Fondos del Sur was created by local socio-environmentalists who believe that the only way to protect our planet and safeguard humans rights is by providing resources to support grassroots local organizations that face the negative impact of environmental devastation and, at the same time, propose fair and sustainable alternatives to protect the rights of communities and territories in all ecosystems.

The Alianza Socioambiental Fondos del Sur aims to expand its membership base in order to strengthen its impact. Therefore, we encourage local funds from the Global South that meet the criteria and obligations for association to apply to become members.

#### **CRITERIA AND OBLIGATIONS FOR NEW MEMBER ADMISSION**

### **MANDATORY CRITERIA**

- To be a fund for environmental justice, created and managed by local actors from the Global South:
- Be a fund that provides direct financial support to community-based organizations, allocating at least half of its annual budget to this direct support;
- Be a fund that also promotes institutional strengthening actions for community-based organizations;
- To be a fund with a focus on socio-environmental issues, but open to diverse funding in cross-cutting themes such as human rights, territorial rights, and gender;
- To be recommended by at least one member of the Alianza Socioambiental Fondos del Sur;
- Not to be associated with political parties, private companies, or religion-based groups;
- To agree with the political commitment of the Alianza Socioambiental Fondos del Sur to influence the global philanthropy field in favor of environmental justice in countries of the Global South.

### **Minimum Desired Organizational Structure includes:**

• To be a fund established based on a letter of intent with values, principles, and commitments. If the fund is not yet formally constituted, it is necessary that the

- formalization process is underway, and it is essential that the fund can initiate its support operations through established partnerships with other organizations or entities;
- For newly established funds that have not yet reached the goal of half of their annual budget allocated for direct grant-making, it is expected that this will be a fund's goal in the shortest possible timeframe.
- The fund must have a governing board composed of members capable of making autonomous and deliberative decisions;
- If there are funds that have been established but have not yet started their grant-making activities, they can be accepted as "adoptive members" of the Alianza Socioambiental Fondos del Sur;

#### **OBLIGATIONS**

- Participate in the General Assembly of Members;
- Participate in Working Groups;
- Provide information on fund activities when requested;
- Share capacities and lessons learned;
- Commit to working to promote, disseminate, and expand philanthropy for social justice;
- Commit to complying with established values, principles, and commitments, especially of trust, solidarity, and collaboration;
- Be transparent in actions taken, human resources, and financial management;
- Promote collaboration and complementarity among members and partners;
- Stay informed about updates from the Alianza Socioambiental Fondos del Sur;
- Promote the Alianza Socioambiental Fondos del Sur in their communication channels;
- Identify relevant opportunities for both the Alliance and the funds;
- Support the creation and/or strengthening of new funds in the Global South;
- Advocate for increased flexible grant-making for socio-environmental justice;
- Financially support the Alliance with an annual contribution according to a proportional table based on their annual budget.

## How to apply for membership?

Submit a letter of intent and commitment.

# **Annual Quota Table**

Organization Budget (in dollars)	Annual Quota (in dollars)
Over 1.2 millon	1,100.00
Between 1.2 millones and 600,000	770.00
Between 600,000 and 200,000	440.00
Below 200,000	240.00

# **Membership Intention Letter Template**

[Full Name of Representative]
[Address]
[City, State, ZIP Code]
[Date]

[Name of Organization] [Organization Address] [City, State, ZIP Code]

Dear Sir/Madam,

Through this letter, I hereby formalize the membership of [Name of Organization] as a member of the Alianza Socioambiental Fondos del Sur (Socio-environmental Funds of the Global South Alliance).

We confirm that [Name of Organization] is a fund focused on promoting environmental justice, created and managed by local actors from the Global South.

We emphasize that [Name of Organization] allocates at least half of its annual budget to provide direct financial support to grassroots community organizations or activities aimed at directly strengthening these groups.

We assure that [Name of Organization] is not associated with political parties, private companies, or religion-based groups.

[Describe the organizational structure of your institution].

[Present the reasons why [Name of Organization] wishes to be part of the Alianza Socioambiental Fondos del Sur].

We fully acknowledge the requirements and responsibilities assumed upon joining the Alianza Socioambiental Fondos del Sur and commit to comply with such obligations.

Sincerely,

[Full Name of Representative] | [Signature]