



# Community Centered Connectivity (CCC) Grant Program

Information Session

March 2026



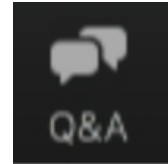
Welcome



# Welcome

## How to participate

- Use the Q&A to write questions →



## Agenda

- Meet the Team
- CCC Program Overview
- Program Objectives
- Eligibility & Selection Criteria
- Helpful resources
- Q&A

# Meet the team



Maiko Nakagaki  
Senior Program Officer



Aleah Loney  
Program Officer



Luciana Arlidge  
Associate Program Officer



Gulnaz Kordanova  
Associate Program Officer



Jean Baptiste Millogo  
Director, Internet Technology and  
Development



Naveed Haq  
Senior Director, Infrastructure and  
Connectivity



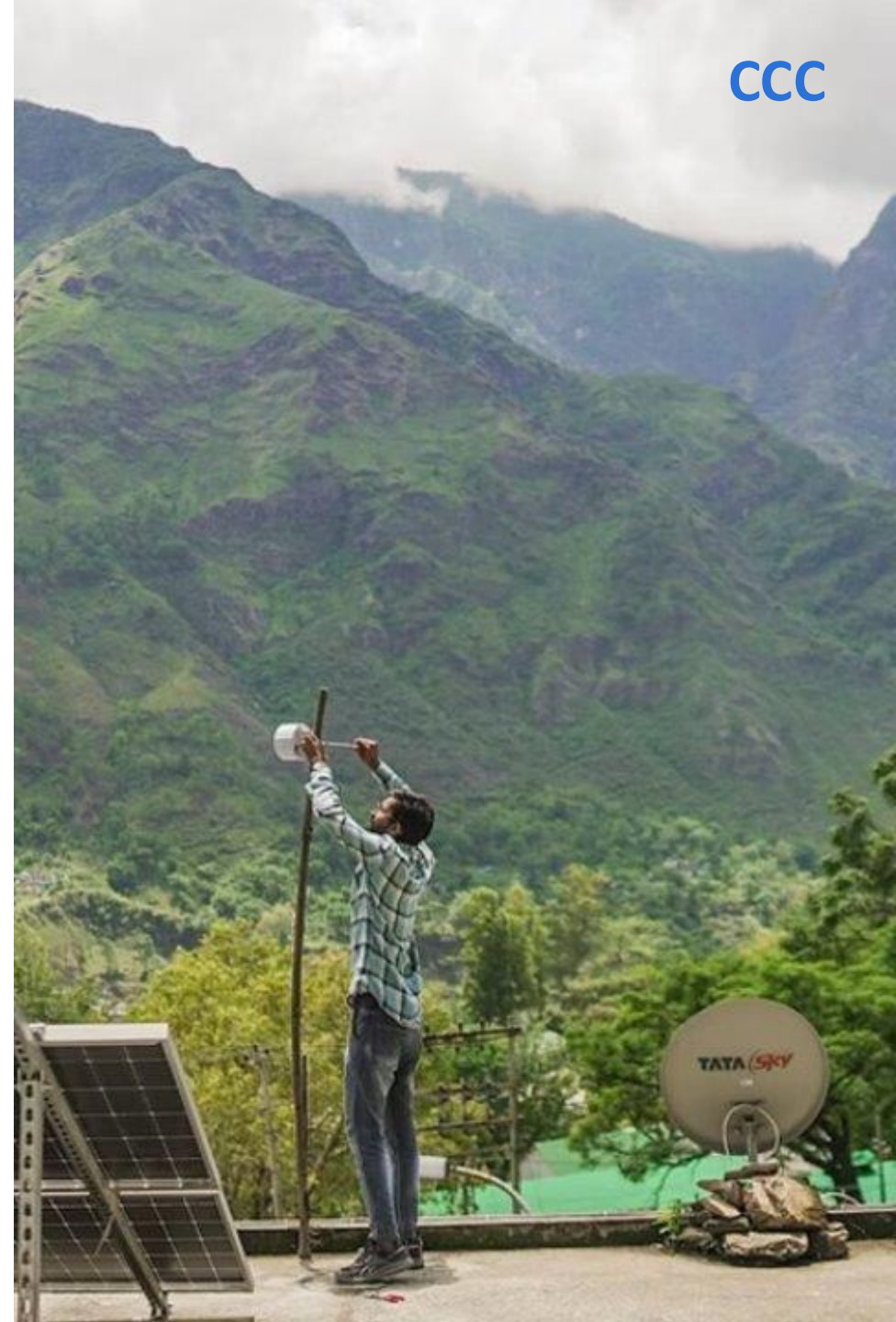
Paula Bernardi  
Director, Policy Development and  
Research



# The Digital Divide: 2 Billion People Offline

Over 2 billion people — about a quarter of the world's population — remain offline, most living in remote, rural, and low-income communities. They face three core barriers: availability, affordability, adoption.

The Community-Centered Connectivity (CCC) Grant Program addresses these challenges by supporting organizations that develop and expand Internet access in digitally excluded communities — solutions built for, with, or by local communities themselves.



# What Is Community-Centered Connectivity?

Community-centered connectivity means solutions are not imposed from outside, but designed with direct involvement from the people who will use and maintain them. They often emerge where other models have failed or are not viable.



## Community-Led

Built for, with, or by local communities — including community networks, cooperatives, and Indigenous-led projects.



## Locally Governed

Relies on local governance, affordable technology, and flexible models that reflect community priorities.



## Sustainable

Designed to be maintained and expanded by the communities themselves over the long term.

# Program Objectives

## Solve Connectivity Barriers

Support solutions that address availability, affordability, and adoption of meaningful connectivity for digitally excluded communities.

## Increase Internet Adoption

Strengthen digital literacy and local capacity to manage and maintain connectivity solutions.

## Build Partnerships

Support organizations that build and sustain collaborative partnerships with communities and other stakeholders to implement connectivity solutions and expand their capacity.

## Grow Organizational Capacity

Increase grantee partners' capacity to scale their work and expand impact over time.



# Funding tracks

The CCC Grant Program offers three tracks based on your organization's capacity, experience, and project scale. **Strong preference is given to organizations working with refugees/displaced communities, Indigenous communities, and women and girls.**

## Catalyst Track

Up to USD \$50,000

Build or expand one new connectivity solution in a community.

Project duration up to 12 months.

*Open to the public.*

## Scaling Track

Up to USD \$200,000

Deploy proven solutions to improve or expand connectivity across multiple communities.

Up to 18 months.

*Open to the public.*

## Systems Track

Above USD \$200,000

Large-scale replication across multiple communities or regions. Up to **24 months**.

**Invitation-only.**

**Application Open: 17 March**  
**Deadline: 7 May 2026**



# Eligibility Requirements

## Who can apply

- Legally registered non-profit or social enterprise with an official bank account in their name that is able to receive funds from U.S.-based foundation
- Demonstrated experience managing similar Internet connectivity work
- Demonstrated community support from communities where project will be implemented

## Additional Considerations

- Catalyst Track: preference for orgs that have managed grants over USD \$20,000
- Scaling Track: *must* have managed grants of at least USD \$50,000

## Priority Communities

- Refugees and displaced communities
- Indigenous communities
- Women and girls



# Selection Criteria

Applications are reviewed by internal and independent external reviewers.

→ **Program Alignment**

The project supports the overall objectives of the Community-Centered Connectivity grant program.

→ **Addressing Barriers**

Delivers a community-centered solution addressing the barriers to connectivity: Availability, Affordability, and/or Adoption.

→ **Team Capacity**

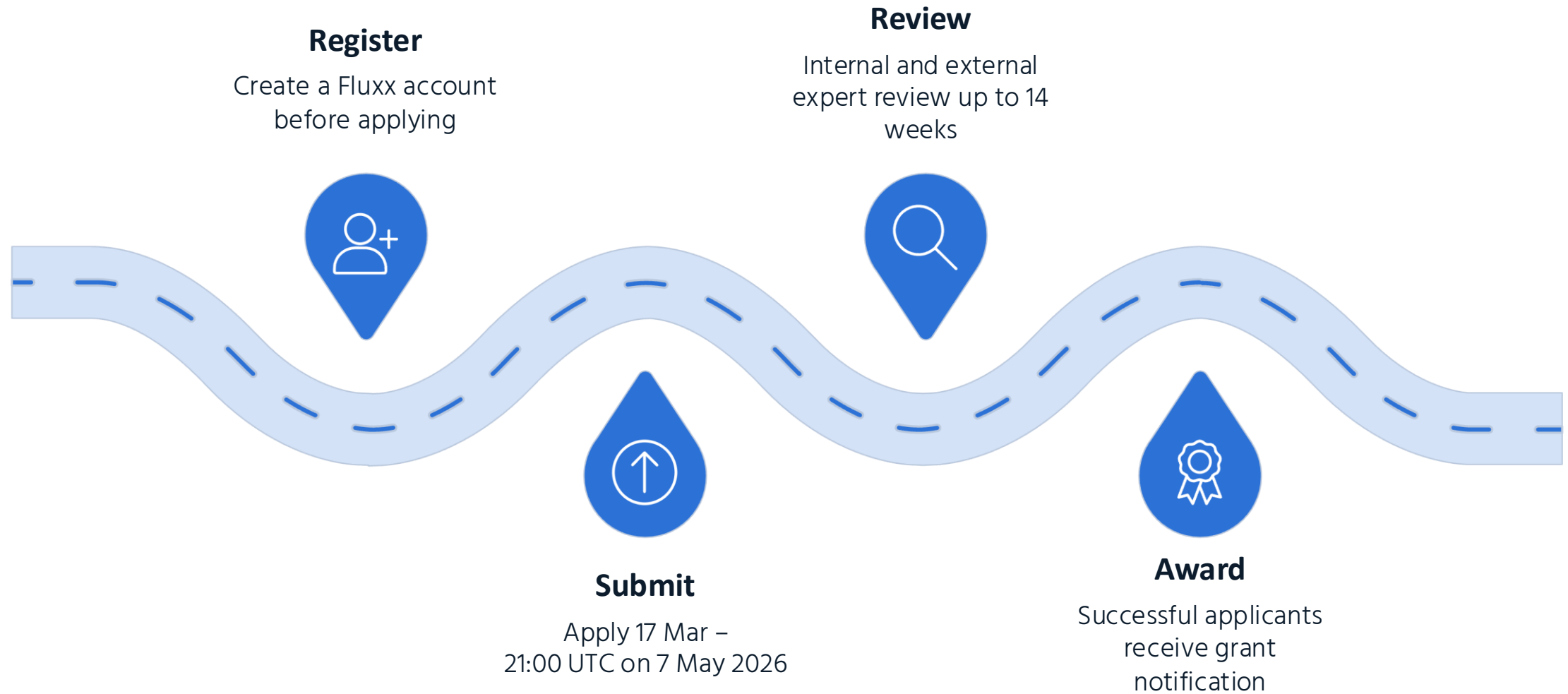
Applicant and/or partners demonstrate the knowledge, relationships, and experience to accomplish project goals.

→ **Clear Work Plan**

Goals, outcomes, key milestones, and work plan are clearly defined and aligned with each other.



# Timeline



Applications may be submitted in **English, French, or Spanish** via the Fluxx grants management system. No email submissions accepted. Applicants are strongly encouraged to register in Fluxx as early as possible. Example application forms for Catalyst and Scaling tracks are available on the Internet Society Foundation website.

# How to apply



The screenshot shows the Internet Society Foundation's Grants Portal. At the top left is the logo, a cluster of grey dots of varying sizes. To its right is the text "Internet Society Foundation" in a large, bold, black font. Below the logo and text is the heading "Welcome to the Internet Society Foundation's Grants Portal".

On the left side, there is a login section titled "Login (all fields required)". It contains two input fields: "Username" and "Password". Below these fields is a "Sign in" button. A link for "Forgot Password?" is located below the "Sign in" button.

On the right side, there are two registration options. The first is for "ISOC Chapter Officers", with a link for "Español | Français" above it. It includes the text "Are you an ISOC Chapter Officer? Sign in below using your ISOC credentials." and an "ISOC Chapter Sign In" button. The second option is for "New to the System?", with a "Register Here" button. Below this is a link for "Need help? fluxx\_help@isocfoundation.org".

At the bottom center, there is the "FLUXX" logo and links for "Privacy Policy" and "Accessibility".

- Register in the Internet Society Foundation's grants management system, Fluxx (<https://isocfoundation.fluxx.io>) It can take 2-3 business days for registrations to be completed so register in advance
- Applications are only accepted through Fluxx. Incomplete submissions will not be considered
- Applications may be submitted in English, French, or Spanish
- Application templates available on the CCC webpage for support
- We cannot provide individualized application guidance
- If you encounter any issues or technical difficulties with Fluxx, contact [fluxx\\_help@isocfoundation.org](mailto:fluxx_help@isocfoundation.org)



# Helpful resources

## Resources

- CCC Funding Track Eligibility Quiz (on ISOC Foundation website)
- [Blog: "What Is Community-Centered Connectivity and Why Should We Care?"](#)
- [ISOC's Community Network Do-It-Yourself Toolkit](#)
- [ISOC's Community Network Readiness Assessment Handbook](#)
- [CCC Application Guide](#)

## Questions?

- Email: [foundation@isocfoundation.org](mailto:foundation@isocfoundation.org)
- **Note:** Responses cannot be guaranteed for questions received within the last 24 hours of the application window. Individualized guidance is not provided during the application window.



# Frequently Asked Questions

## **Why community-centered connectivity?**

Communities most affected by the digital divide are among the most marginalized. CCC ensures people are active creators of their digital futures, not just passive users.

## **What counts as a CCC solution?**

Community networks, cooperatives, Indigenous-led connectivity projects, and other models using local governance, affordable technology, and community-driven sustainability.

## **Are ISOC Chapters eligible?**

Yes. Chapters applying for Catalyst-level funding apply through the Beyond the Net program. Chapters may apply for the Scaling Track if they meet eligibility requirements.

## **What are eligible expenses?**

Connectivity equipment, training materials, relevant travel, personnel/contractual costs, and indirect costs.



**Questions?**

**The application period closes at 21:00 UTC  
on May 7, 2026**



# Thank you.

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