

Oxfam – Expression of Interest

Horizon Europe Call: HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-CLIMATE-01

Towards more effective, fair and coherent policies for climate change mitigation and adaptation in agriculture and forestry

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1. Strategic relevance to the call

The HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-CLIMATE-01 call aims to improve the effectiveness, coherence and fairness of climate change mitigation and adaptation policies in the agriculture and forestry sectors, through comparative, systemic analyses with a strong contribution from Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH).

Oxfam sees this call as a key opportunity to analyse how climate and environmental policies—particularly EU policies—generate real-world impacts beyond their immediate climate objectives, including social, economic and governance effects in third countries. This perspective is essential to support a just climate transition aligned with human rights, biodiversity protection and sustainable rural livelihoods.

2. Proposed thematic focus: EU policies with extraterritorial impacts (EUDR case)

Within the broad scope of the call, Oxfam proposes to contribute to the analysis of EU “horizontal” policies with extraterritorial impacts, using the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) as a key case study. The EUDR is highly relevant because it is a climate, environmental and trade policy directly affecting agriculture and forestry. It creates synergies and trade-offs between climate mitigation, biodiversity, competitiveness, human rights and social equity. It has differentiated impacts along value chains, with specific risks for small-scale producers, indigenous peoples and rural communities. It is influencing legal and institutional changes in producer countries, with both positive and potentially regressive effects. The EUDR provides a concrete entry point to address the call’s expected outcomes related to distributional impacts, policy coherence and mutual learning between science, policy and society.

3. Oxfam’s added value

Oxfam brings a unique combination of analytical expertise, field presence and policy engagement, particularly relevant for a project aiming to connect research evidence with social realities and policymaking processes.

Key strengths include:**Presence and experience in producer countries:**

Oxfam works directly with rural communities, producer organisations, indigenous peoples and labour actors in countries such as Peru and Guatemala, across value chains relevant to the EUDR (coffee, cocoa, palm oil, cattle).

Existing evidence base:

Oxfam Peru has produced in-depth analysis on unintended impacts of the EUDR, including risks of environmental deregulation, pressure on indigenous territories, compliance barriers for smallholders and power imbalances in value chains.

Climate justice and equity lens:

Strong expertise in analysing the distribution of costs and benefits of climate-related policies, integrating social, economic, environmental and human rights dimensions, fully aligned with the SSH focus of the call.

Science–policy–society interface:

Capacity to support mutual learning processes, stakeholder engagement, validation of findings and dissemination through European and Latin American networks.

4. Potential role within the consortium

Oxfam could contribute as an applied research and social analysis partner, complementing academic partners with empirical evidence and participatory approaches.

Potential contributions include:

- Case studies in third countries (e.g. Peru and Guatemala) on the socio-economic, environmental and governance impacts of the EUDR.
- Equity and distributional analysis, including compliance costs, exclusion risks and impacts on smallholders, rural workers and indigenous peoples.
- Assessment of policy coherence between the EUDR and national agricultural, forestry and human rights frameworks.
- Identification of enabling conditions for fair and effective implementation of climate policies.
- Engagement of local stakeholders in research, validation and dissemination activities.

5. Operational capacity

As this is a Research and Innovation Action, Oxfam underlines that its participation would be linked to the financing of in-country research capacity, including local researchers and technical support, ensuring methodological robustness and operational feasibility, as well as a European-based researcher, focused on the specificities of EUDR policy research.

6. Conclusion

Oxfam believes that its participation would significantly strengthen the social, equity and real-world impact dimensions of the project, contributing to more effective, fair and coherent policy recommendations for climate action in agriculture and forestry.