

Continuation of Projects



Cronfa Gymunedol Fferm Wynt
PEN Y CYMOEDD
Wind Farm Community Fund CIC

PyC recognises that some projects may never be self-funding and if they are delivering outcomes intended and still in line with the strategic aims of the fund and the local communities need repeat funding. Similarly, groups often guess that funders want to see new, exciting projects each time when in fact it may be that what is needed is continuation of a project that has had time to bed in and really start delivering outcomes. Pen y Cymoedd is prepared to consider continuation funding **as a mark of development and success** rather than a sign of dependency.

As a fund we are open to considering applications for continuation of a project already funded by PyC and we would encourage funded projects that may want to seek continuation funding to discuss this with the staff team in advance of the end of the project to reduce potential issues around retention of staff and long-term resource planning.

Pen y Cymoedd funding is flexible, including support for core costs and capacity building as well as project activities. This means that from the start of a grant we can support organisations to think about how to develop and fund their activities for the long term. Our staff team work hard to build up relationships with outstanding businesses, charities and community groups and know more about how we can support them to fulfil their mission and enable communities to thrive. That is not just about money, sometimes offering the opportunity to share learning can be just as important.

You would still need to go through formal application process and what we would be looking for in proposal is:

- projects where people and communities are working together and using their strengths to make positive impacts on the things that matter to them the most and are people-led.
- The community of beneficiaries has been involved in the design, development, and delivery of the activities you are planning as a continuation.
- What has been the learning from the original project? Was robust monitoring and evaluation carried out and does the evidence from that evaluation demonstrate a need for continuation of the project?
- An assessment of what was the reality of the outcomes and delivery of project rather than original expectations.
- Organisations that have achieved longer term financial stability and have more capacity to think about how to develop their work will increasingly work together with others, rather than on their own. We expect this will increasingly mean that when people come to us to continue their work, they will want to tell us how they will collaborate with others in doing so.
- We know there are opportunities where PyC funding can be a time limited part of longer-term growth plans, especially for for-profit businesses, social enterprises, or where charities can use our support to leverage funding from other sources. Match funding is not essential but for a continuation project, it would be beneficial if there was an element of earned income or match funding from elsewhere.

We always want projects to consider how project can continue to live without funding and so we would encourage to consider tapering of new funding request. As a continuation we would expect to see an exit strategy for end of project. It may be that project needs to continue but only for a set period but if this is an ongoing need or opportunity you need to have a plan for what will happen after funding of project.

While continuation funding is important and valuable, PyC still does need to find and support people with great ideas that we have never worked with before. Maintaining a balanced approach including both continuation funding and becoming more open and accessible is crucial as communities continue develop and experience new opportunities and challenges.