Latin America and the Caribbean Feminist Al Network

Call for Concept Notes

2025

Contents

1. Background	3
2. The Latin America and the Caribbean Feminist Al Network	3
3. Feminist Innovation Model	4
Phase 1 – AI Seed (up to CAD 15,000)	4
Phase 2 – Al Prototype (up to CAD 50,000)	4
Phase 3 – Al Pilot (up to CAD 50,000)	4
4. Funding structure (all phases open simultaneously)	5
5. Who Is Eligible to Apply?	6
6. Requirements	6
7. Contracting	7
8. What do we offer?	8
9. Key Dates and Process	8
10. How To Apply	9
ANNEX 1: INDICATIVE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS AND SECTORS	10
ANNEX 2: REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCEPT NOTES APPLICATION	12
ANNEX 3: EVALUATION CRITERIA	16
ANNEX 4: DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES	19
ANNEX 5. CONCEPT NOTES TERMS & CONDITIONS	22

1. Background

The Latin American and Caribbean Feminist Al Network builds on years of collaboration among academic institutions, community-based organizations, and civil society groups across the region, with the support of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada. Bringing together feminist, anti-colonial, human rights-based, and community-led perspectives, the network seeks to advance democratic, diverse and context-aware Al governance, innovation, and research.

This **call for proposals** aims to strengthen community-centered alternatives to Al development—approaches that place feminist understandings of human rights at their core and respond to the pressing societal challenges of our territories. These challenges may include gender-based violence, access to justice, health, education and sexual and reproductive rights, labor rights, access to a healthy informational environment, socio-environmental justice, and the preservation of languages and cultures in Latin America and the Caribbean, among others. We welcome proposals that offer **actionable, long-term contributions** to addressing the region's social, economic, and environmental issues.

Selected projects will receive funding and mentorship from members of the Latin America and the Caribbean Feminist Al Network throughout the process. The program supports initiatives that **co-create technologies with the communities most affected by them**, ensuring that problem definitions, research priorities, and outcomes reflect real needs of the communities and contribute to the demands and rights of historically marginalized groups.

2. The Latin America and the Caribbean Feminist Al Network

The Latin America and the Caribbean Feminist¹ Al Network challenges the dominant model of technological innovation—one driven by capitalist, neocolonial, and patriarchal imperatives such as efficiency, scale, speed, and disruption—that concentrates power, wealth, and knowledge.

Instead, it envisions an **infrastructure of relationality**, where communities define what technologies serve them and under what terms they should be developed. Our technologies serve communities, not profits. Our datasets may be small, but they are rich, accountable, and meaningful—prepared with care, intention, and autonomy.

Aligned with this vision, this call seeks to support projects engaging with Al

¹ We understand that feminism is a movement of Western origin and that it can be exclusionary of other anti-patriarchal struggles in our territories. In this call, we seek to ensure that all people engaged in anti-patriarchal struggles, even if they do not identify as feminists, feel included and invited to participate.

across all stages of development. While we offer financial support, our deeper goal is to cultivate long-lasting relationships and collective capacities to confront the ongoing challenges of evolving technologies and global crises.

The support framework reflects our commitment to build not only technologies, but sustainable, inclusive, and equitable feminist research and innovation practices across Latin America and the Caribbean.

3. Feminist Innovation Model

We invite the submission of concept notes for projects at different stages of maturity: seed, prototype, or pilot. We recognize that communities, researchers, and professionals are at different points in their trajectories regarding feminist or community-centered artificial intelligence. Some projects may require initial funding to begin validating ideas with affected communities, while others are ready to develop prototypes or carry out pilot tests. By opening all phases simultaneously, we aim to enable applicants to join the program at the stage that best fits their level of readiness and context, while ensuring that all projects remain grounded in feminist or community ethics, human rights-based approaches, and the meaningful participation of communities.

Phase 1 – AI Seed (up to CAD 15,000)

Supports the validation of community needs, participatory design processes, and the establishment of rights-based, feminist and community frameworks.

Expected outputs: a community engagement plan, rights and equity analysis, preliminary data governance design, and a feminist or community ethics assessment.

Phase 2 – Al Prototype (up to CAD 50,000)

Funds the co-development of initial models with strong community input, focusing on testing validation methods and surfacing equity implications.

Expected outputs: a working AI prototype, documentation of community feedback integration, a feminist or community ethics assessment, and initial equity metrics.

Phase 3 – Al Pilot (up to CAD 50,000)

Enables deployment in community contexts with participatory monitoring and governance.

Expected outputs: a community-ready system, collective governance framework, participatory monitoring report, impact evaluation plan, and feminist or

community ethics assessment.

4. Funding structure (all phases open simultaneously)

Incubation Period: January 2026 – January 2027

Development Milestones: The project will receive funding for **one year**, but each development phase lasts **six months**. For example, if a project in its initial phase reaches the prototype milestone within six months, the team may request additional support to move on to the next phase.

Stage	Purpose	Max per Project (CAD)
Al Seed	Validate community needs, develop participatory approach, and establish a rights-based and feminist/community framework. Establish data sovereignty protocols. Create community datasets.	
Al Prototype	Co-develop initial model with community input, establish validation methods, and test equity implications. Participatory methodologies and meaningful participation of communities. Selection of open, non-extractive infrastructural choices.	
Al Pilot	Deploy in community context with participatory assessment, monitoring and governance.	50,000

In this call, we will fund up to four Seed projects, three Prototypes, and two Pilots.

This phased yet flexible approach ensures that diverse organizations, from grassroots organizations to research collectives and regional coalitions, can participate meaningfully and contribute to a robust ecosystem of feminist Al across Latin America and the Caribbean.

Projects funded at the **Seed phase** that demonstrate strong results and community impact during their incubation period may apply to advance to the **Prototype phase**. Similarly, **Prototype and Pilot projects** may seek

complementary support to deepen or extend their reach, based on documented outcomes and sustained community benefit.

5. Who Is Eligible to Apply?²

The **Call for Concept Notes 2025** is open to **interdisciplinary teams** that bring together social, technical, and feminist, intersectional, anti-patriarchal, community and anti-colonial perspectives and capacities. We welcome applications from **researchers, activists, innovators, organizations, and local communities** in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Our goal is to **co-create, in practice, the positive potential of AI** through alternative models of innovation that advance intersectional gender equality, socio-economic and environmental justice, and the overall quality of life for all.

Eligible applicants include actors from academia, civil society, and grassroots movements in eligible countries. Each team should combine diverse disciplines and lived experiences, be led by women or non-binary people, and include gender-diverse individuals in key decision-making roles. Teams must integrate both technical and social dimensions and demonstrate a proven record of collaboration with the communities they aim to serve, or ideally belong to.

6. Requirements

Leadership

Each team must be led by **two women or trans/non-binary principal investigators** from Latin America and the Caribbean. The team composition should reflect a clear commitment to **gender equality, intersectionality, diversity, and inclusion**.

Multidisciplinary composition

Teams must include both **social and technical expertise** among the principal investigators (for example, an economist, social scientist, gender or education expert, or health practitioner working with a computer scientist, data scientist, machine-learning specialist, or engineer).

Community leadership/partnership

Teams will ideally be led by communities or have a formal collaboration with a community-based organization within the Latin America and the Caribbean region. The teams need to ensure clarity about for whom and with whom the technology is being developed. The community partner (an organization or collective) must be represented by a person actively involved in the process, such as an Indigenous leader, trade-union representative, data labeler, platform worker,

²This call is not open to individuals, government ministries and agencies or private companies. It is open to public research institutes and public university centres, labs and departments, civil society organizations, cooperatives, and other collectives with legal status.

land defender, or sex worker. This representative must be recognized as an equal expert and full member of the team.

Regional location and geographic distribution

Applicants must be **based in Latin America and the Caribbean** (see list of non-eligible countries)³. Other members of the team may be located outside the region. but **are not eligible to receive funding**. The program seeks to support a **broad regional diversity** of projects.

Ongoing projects welcome

Teams with existing initiatives are invited to apply for additional funding to deepen or expand their project, provided they are **already working with specific communities.**

7. Contracting

Contracts will be established with the lead organization only; all other members, including community partners, will be considered subcontractors. If selected for funding, applicants:

- i) must meet all eligibility criteria listed in this call;
- ii) consent to the disclosure of their names and project titles in public announcements;
- iii) commit to complying with reporting and deliverable schedules; and
- iv) agree to follow IDRC's Open Access Policy, publishing data, evidence, and research findings in the public domain. Exceptions may apply for communities that follow their own data-governance principles. Lead applicants are responsible for ensuring that all subcontractors meet these same requirements.

We recognize that applicants may come with strong social-model concepts but less technological expertise, or vice versa. The program is committed to supporting non-traditional academic and civil-society teams, grassroots groups, and community-led initiatives with pioneering and transformative ideas. We will offer partner-matching, capacity building, and technical assistance where appropriate.

Proposals are welcome in **English, Spanish, or Portuguese**. If your primary language is different, please contact us. We will do our best to find a way to accommodate your needs.

³ List of non-eligible countries, individuals or groups under Canadian law: https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/sanctions/current-actuelles.aspx?lang=eng

8. What do we offer?

The Latin American and Caribbean Feminist Al Network is a network of over 80 regional researchers, activists, organizations and community leaders who have been at the forefront of feminist critical thinking around Al and technological development since 2020. As well as funding, we offer *acompañamiento* [accompaniment] for each project. Think of it as a mix of listening, mentorship, social, ethical and technical advice, and being together in solidarity. Every project will have monthly sessions with the innovation team and other members of the network that will accompany the process over a year and a half, as *compañeras* [companion].

9. Key Dates and Process

The call for Concept Notes will follow a structured timeline to ensure transparency and give applicants enough time to prepare:

October 21 – Launch of the Call: The official call for Concept Notes will open. From this date, all interested applicants can begin preparing their submissions.

October 31 – Deadline for Questions: Applicants may submit clarification questions up until this date.

November 3 – Publication of Answers: All questions and answers will be compiled and posted publicly so that every applicant has access to the same information.

November 9 – Deadline for Submissions: All Concept Notes must be submitted by this date. Late submissions will not be considered.

November 10 to 12 – Review Process: Concept Notes will be reviewed by the Latin American and Caribbean Feminist Al Network.

November 13 – Notification of Results: Eligible teams will then be invited to submit a Full Project Proposal, which will be assessed by the Scientific Advisory Committee.

December 19 – Deadline for Submissions: Full Project Proposals must be submitted by this date. Late submissions will not be considered.

January 5 to 9 – Interview Process: Interviews will be held with the team members.

January 16 – Notification of Results: Selected teams will be notified and asked to submit the required documentation to execute the contract.

This schedule ensures a fair process with clear opportunities for applicants to ask questions, receive feedback, and prepare strong submissions.

10. How To Apply

Please fill this form <u>form.jotform.com/252925712802658</u> with the following information:

- 2 Co-Principal Women Investigators with Terms & Conditions statement
- Concept Note Application according to the format proposed in Annex 2
- Legal registration of the lead proponent organization or group
- High-level budget (duration: 12 months in two six-month stages)
- Team Overview
- Team members CVs (one page each)
- Letter of support from the community confirming their commitment to participate in the project.

Should you have any questions, please contact: <u>info@iafeminista.lat</u> until October 31, when the deadline for questions closes. November 9 is the deadline for submitting your Concept Note.

ANNEX 1: INDICATIVE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS AND SECTORS

The Latin America and the Caribbean Feminist Al Network aims to advance a human rights, community-centered, and context-sensitive approach to Al—developed by and for the majority world—to tackle the most pressing challenges facing our societies.

Proposals must demonstrate how they will:

- 1. **Address** the differential impacts of AI on marginalized groups, including women, youth, Indigenous peoples, Afro-descendants, sex and gender dissidents, persons with disabilities, and rural communities.
- 2. **Engage** with communities as co-creators of knowledge, ensuring that Al research and governance reflect their worldviews, epistemologies, and priorities.
- 3. **Promote** meaningful participation and anti-colonial methodologies, ensuring that underrepresented voices are central to the project's governance and outputs.
- 4. **Apply** Gender Equality, Disability, and Inclusion lenses in both the generation and translation of knowledge, and our commitment to feminist/intersectional/anti-patriarchal,decolonial/anti-colonial, rights-based, community-centered Al.
- 5. **Consider** the intersection of AI, socio-environmental justice, and vulnerable communities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Research Areas and Priority Topics

Our work supports initiatives that tackle critical social and environmental challenges through a feminist and justice-oriented lens. This can include efforts that advance climate justice, support diverse ways of knowing and learning, promote care and well-being, and defend digital rights. We prioritize projects that uplift rural communities, protect bodily autonomy, center children's rights in tech, and ensure access to communication in multiple languages. We also value work that reimagines health through ancestral knowledge, fosters inclusive urban spaces, and builds fair, commons-based economies rooted in collective care. Priority topics should advance socio-cultural, economic, environmental justice with a feminist approach. Some examples include:

Socio-cultural, economic, environmental justice

• Feminist and commons-based economies & labor: focus on redistribution, valuing care work, and building economic models rooted in community well-being, especially those who have been marginalized from social

- systems.
- Addressing social inequalities: aligned with community-based governance, addressing the roots of inequality in land tenure, health, housing, migration, education, culture, language, age, ability, from the needs and perspectives of the communities.
- Climate justice & ecosocial transitions: defense of the commons, supporting land defenders and economic distribution linked to territorial regeneration and sustainable practices.

Feminist Data Collection & Deployment

- Data sovereignty & Al governance: protocols and standards for Indigenous and community-based data governance, including ethical datasets and situated data practices.
- **Digital rights & gender-based violence:** community-driven data and digital protection protocols to resist surveillance and online violence.
- Pluriversal technologies and knowledge: feminist, intersectional, communitarian technologies and methodologies for inclusion and accessibility, multilingual data collection, data and epistemic justice, linguistic revitalization, tools for pluriversal and inclusive education and emancipatory pedagogies.
- **Technopolitical documentation & memory:** feminist, intersectional, anti-patriarchal, decolonial, anti-colonial, community-centered approaches to archiving, cultural memory preservation, ancestral practices, dataset documentation, and protocols for accountability.
- Intersectional fairness models: embedding race, gender, class, disability, age, national origin, ethnicity, language, and other intersections into dataset design and ML experimentation.

ANNEX 2: REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCEPT NOTES APPLICATION

Format:

- Word limit: 3500 words (only applicable to the concept note proposal)
- **Style:** Any author-date format (APA, Harvard)
- Font: readable font; 12 points; single space.

Required sessions:

1. Project Overview (does not count toward the word limit)

- Project Title
- Authors
- Abstract (200 300 words)
- Five Keywords Relevant to Project

2. Research Statement:

- **Problem Statement** What structural, social, or technological problem are you addressing? Why is it urgent and significant in the regional context?
- **Research Questions:** What guiding questions will orient your work? How do these questions connect to feminist/intersectional/anti-patriarchal, decolonial/anti-colonial or community-driven approaches to AI?
- **Objectives:** What are the specific objectives of your research, and how will they challenge extractivist or exclusionary Al models to foster justice-oriented alternatives?

3. Research Methods

- **Methodological Design:** What methodological design are you envisioning for this project? How does your methodology align with feminist, intersectional, anti-patriarchal, decolonial, anti-colonial or communitarian approaches?
- Data management plan: How do you expect to collect/analyze data? How will you manage data? Where will you store data?
- Interdisciplinarity and embodied experience: Which disciplines, knowledge systems and experiences are you combining to develop a new model for AI? (e.g., feminist theory, social sciences, engineering, community knowledge, Indigenous epistemologies). How is your interdisciplinary approach structured to generate new insights and practices?

4. Community engagement

• Which **communities** are essential for the success of your project? (partners, communities, local organizations). Have you already worked with them? If

- yes, for how long? If not, what would you do to establish a relationship with those communities to participate in the project?
- Which communities (e.g., immigrant communities, Indigenous groups, women's collectives, youth, etc) will benefit directly from the project and how? Which communities could be harmed by the project? How will you guarantee that there is a distributed project governance structure and that extractivist research practices are not reproduced?

5. Relevance and impact

- **Alignment:** How does your proposal respond to urgent social challenges (e.g., climate justice, data sovereignty, digital rights, care economies) in Latin America and/or the Caribbean
- **Contribution:** How does your proposal advance feminist/intersectional/anti-patriarchal, decolonial/anti-colonial, human rights-based, community-centered approaches to AI?
- **Impact:** How will your research generate both technological and social innovations, strengthen local capacities, and support community-driven knowledge production?

6. Risks and Ethical Considerations

- What social, political, ethical, or technical risks may affect the viability of your proposal? What is your mitigation plan for the identified risks?
- What are the ethical principles and processes you will apply (e.g., consent, reciprocity, accountability, data sovereignty, feminist, community ethics)?
- How will you ensure transparent processes, safety, and consent in all phases of the project, particularly in data practices?

7. Feasibility & Sustainability

- **Feasibility:** What makes your project feasible in terms of team capacities, methodologies, infrastructure, software development, timelines, and resources? Describe the conditions that will make possible the successful accomplishment of the project.
- **Viability:** How will you demonstrate that your proposal can realistically be implemented under the conditions of the call?
- **Sustainability:** What strategies will you adopt to ensure the long-term **sustainability** of your results (e.g., alliances, community stewardship, open tools, training, or feminist infrastructures)? How will you embed practices that enable your results to persist beyond the funding period?

8. Disclosure of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use

As part of IDRC's commitment to transparency and fairness in the evaluation process, we ask all applicants to disclose whether any form of generative AI — including tools for writing, translating, coding, design or data analysis — was used

in the preparation of their application materials. This information will not affect the evaluation of applications but will help us better understand current practices and ensure responsible use of emerging technologies. Kindly note the following link from the <u>Tri-Councils: Guidance on the use of Artificial Intelligence in the development and review of research grant proposals</u>.

9. References and annexes if applicable (do not count toward the word limit)

10. High-level budget (for one year, divided into two six-month stages)

To be prepared and submitted based on the following budget categories.

- Personnel
- Consultants
- Evaluation
- Equipment
- International Travel
- Training
- Research
- Indirect Costs (up to 13%)
- Total

IDRC does not make grants for basic operating expenses, endowments, or facilities for individual school districts, colleges, universities, or human services organizations. It does not generally make grants to individuals or make program-related investments.

11. Legal constitution of the lead organization

12. Team Information

Team Overview

- Team or main contact email address
- Team description (200 words): What makes your team unique? Where are your team members located? Have you worked together before?
- Which disciplines are included in the team? (at least two disciplines are represented in the team and in the preparation of the concept note).
- From which standpoint are you approaching this research? You may answer in terms of your identity(ies) as researchers/activists/members of the community.

Team Member (for each member of your team)

- Full Name
- Email

- Organization or institution
- Discipline/s
- City, country
- Gender
- Short CV (1 pager) including links to your most relevant work

13. Letters of support

Community letter of commitment by the involved community, confirming its participation in the project, including relevant information to assess the type of participation and forms of collaboration.

Additional letters of support. Letters of endorsement from allied institutions, organizations, community organizations or individuals that will participate or contribute to the project success (max. 5). If faculty members or research centres are supporting your research project, they may also include letters of support with their contact information.

ANNEX 3: EVALUATION CRITERIA

The evaluation committee will be composed of globally recognized experts of the AI ecosystem and community leaders that will take into account the following criteria:

Category	Weight	Evaluation Criteria
Relevance of the Project	30%	 Alignment of the proposal to the objectives, themes and scope of the call. Clear demonstration and justification that the proposed work addresses critical gaps in evidence and policy in the areas/country(ies) of the research. The approach proposed in the research has clear potential to address identified issues and evidence gaps. A clear approach to address gender, disability and inclusion constraints is integrated in the research design and analysis. The project clearly articulates how it introduces innovative methods, architectures, datasets, or applications in Al that advance the state of the art by addressing regional challenges. The project shows awareness of ethical Al principles (privacy, non-discrimination, etc) and integrates them into design and objectives.
Quality and Rigour of the Research	30%	 Research questions and objectives of the research are clearly articulated, specific and answerable. Methodology is rigorous and appropriate for answering research questions. The AI models, techniques, or frameworks are described with sufficient detail and demonstrate methodological soundness, reproducibility, and validation plans. Methodology includes evidence of the use of intersectional, community-centered and multidisciplinary approaches. Legitimacy is well explained, including special attention to gender equality, disability and inclusion through an intersectional lens.

		 The proposal demonstrates that the proposed AI methods can realistically be implemented with available data, computing resources, and expertise. The proposal demonstrates access to or a plan to build high-quality, representative, and ethically sourced datasets suitable for AI development.
Team Composition and Strength	15%	 Strength of team composition, including gender diversity and capacity to integrate a range of relevant disciplines to the topic of research. Track record of research team including internationally acknowledged research outputs in the topic of the research (e.g. peer-reviewed publications). Capacity and experience with gender equality, disability and inclusion in research. Capacity and experience to implement the uptake strategy, including effectively supporting the stakeholder engagement and communications efforts required to influence policies and practices. The team includes members with proven experience in Al model development, evaluation, and deployment, or clear partnerships with technical experts or institutions that bring this capacity. The team demonstrates capacity to translate Al research into practical ideas, prototypes and pilots.
Feasibility	15%	 Appropriateness of approaches to mitigate likely and impactful risks. Explanation of ethical risks, mitigation strategies and processes for securing relevant ethics approval. The proposal includes a realistic timeline and milestones for AI development, testing, and deployment, accounting for data availability, infrastructure, and human resources. The approach includes consideration of how the AI innovation can be maintained,

		replicated or adapted beyond the project duration.
Budget	10%	The scale and scope of the project, as well as the potential uptake of the results, justify the size of the budget according to the project's level of maturity (seed, prototype, pilot).

Beyond these criteria, the selection process will prioritize diversity across topic areas, participating communities, and geographic distribution.

ANNEX 4: DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

As members of the Latin American and the Caribbean Feminist Al Network, we commit for our mission, processes, and initiatives to be:

- 1. Feminist/anti-patriarchal: We make visible the systemic oppressions faced by women, in our diversity, and challenge those oppressions and the different types of violence that we face in our capitalist, colonial and patriarchal societies- particularly women with marginalized identities and characteristics. We build AI applications and advocate for AI governance mechanisms that recognize and challenge these oppressions, and that aim to build more equal, just and peaceful societies. Our methodologies aim to transform harmful gender roles and norms and to redistribute power and resources, and to address issues that disproportionately affect women, such as care responsibilities, gender-based violence, and sexual health and rights. Furthermore, we apply an ethics of care that, one the one hand, recognizes that women have more care responsibilities in our societies and face constraints in that regard; and on the other hand, explicitly affirms that we care about each other and the communities in which we work, that we recognize our strengths, vulnerabilities, and barriers, and that we individually and collectively agree on the need for self-care and collective care as necessary for more equal and peaceful societies.
- 2. Intersectional: We address the fact that marginalized groups face specific types of violence, oppression and discrimination which are compounded in persons with more than one marginalized identity and characteristics- the ones that generally face disproportionate harm from AI systems when this occurs. In particular, we aim to make our work anti-racist, anti-ableist, and inclusive and respectful of the rights and knowledge of indigenous populations, and other marginalized and minoritized groups in our contexts.
- **3. Non-binary and trans-inclusive**: We recognize and address the fact that gender inequalities affect persons with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, and sexual characteristics (SOGIESC); particularly in a current context of backlash and women's rights and gender diversity internationally. Our work is non-binary, inclusive of sexual and gender diversity, and trans-inclusive.
- 4. Decolonial/anti-colonial and non-extractivist: Building on the Al Manyfesto, our work aims to "undo the colonial erasure of non-Western ways of being and knowing... we reject the Western-normative language of "ethical" Al and suggestions of "inclusivity" that do not destabilize current patterns of domination and address power asymmetries." Our methodologies aim to be non-extractivist by, among others: developing feminist Al systems to address the problems identified at local level in our own contexts, centering the lived realities of women and marginalized

- groups and the experiences of our bodies and territories, identifying and addressing structural issues that perpetuate inequalities and injustices, and aiming to make our work a concrete resource for systemic change.
- 5. Horizontal and pluriversal: Our network and partnerships are based on a non-hierarchical, horizontal approach based on autonomy, collaboration and responsibility. We avoid concentrating power, voice, visibility, space, decision-making power and resources in a few persons or organizations; rather, we work to challenge the systems that perpetuate such concentration, and to create new realities. Hegemonic epistemologies have built simplified categories, versions and hierarchies of the realities in our planet. Through our work, we aim to create and strengthen structures that allow, support and encourage the diversity of priorities and realities to co-exist.
- **6. Situated in our local contexts and community based and led**: Our work is grounded in local and specific contexts, shaped by the communities we serve, and designed to respond to their particular needs and rights. Instead of striving for universality, we focus on developing AI systems that are useful for the communities in which we live, and that are open, replicable, and adaptable across diverse contexts, peoples, and languages.
- 7. Sustainable: We understand sustainability through three angles: 1. All of us take action to ensure our Network is sustainable and fair to all, including by actively contributing our knowledge and solidarity to support the Network and each other; we aim to identify and eliminate any barriers to equal discrimination. 2. Our projects are community-based, link with relevant stakeholders and adopt horizontal and diverse governance structures that avoid creating dependence on external actors and epistemologies; we disseminate our knowledge to facilitate upscaling and replicability. 3. We commit to protect and sustain ecological and social systems in the contexts in which we work, and to the principle of "do no harm".
- 8. Committed to social, cultural, epistemic, linguistic, digital cultural, economic and environmental justice, and to human rights instruments and principles: We are guided by the concept of "justice" in different areas to center the fact that substantial equality for all persons and groups is not possible without addressing the root causes of inequality, including social, economic, institutional and legal factors. We center the needs, rights, priorities and experiences of marginalized groups to achieve equality in all areas; and we commit to human rights based approaches as tools to advance equality and to demand accountability from duty bearers.
- **9. Anti-militarist**: Advances in AI have been swiftly incorporated by the military ecosystem while militarized countries block the adoption of normative and regulatory frameworks to ensure compliance with human rights and humanitarian law. In this regard, we commit to ensure that our

work does not feed into the military sector, and to advocate for AI not to be used in situations of conflict -including but not limited to weapons and decision-support systems- without limits, standards and effective accountability mechanisms. Responsible/ethical AI cannot be so without addressing these issues.

- **10. Reciprocity**, **solidarity**, **sorority and allyship**: Our network is based on reciprocity, solidarity, sorority and allyship: we make a free and informed decision to be part of this Network to contribute to advance its objectives and to support each other in our current work. Additionally, we aim to support and express support for marginalized groups and those suffering from different and intersecting systems of oppression.
- 11. The defense of the commons: We are committed to protecting and collectively stewarding the commons—shared resources including data, knowledge, technologies, and ecological systems—against extractive, colonial, and proprietary forces. Rooted in feminist and decolonial ethics, we reject models of ownership that commodify communal life, resources, territories and ways of life, and instead uphold practices of reciprocity, conviviality, and care. Our AI research centers marginalized knowledge, sustains ecological and social systems, and resists digital enclosure. In defending the commons, we affirm interdependence, epistemic justice, and the right of communities to shape the technologies that affect their lives.
- 12. Self-determination and soveregnity: We are convinced that emerging technologies, including AI, will only contribute to the well-being of our societies if a) the related national governance mechanisms are developed with self-determination and sovereignty as guiding principles; and b) we have, support and mobilize national and local capacities to design, develop, deploy, monitor and evaluate such technologies. While international cooperation plays an essential role in our interconnected world, self-determination and sovereignty are essential for Latin America to achieve its full potential. In this regard, our network contributes to developing and installing these social, technical and financial capacities at local and national level in several countries in the region; to fostering regional cooperation among a wide variety of stakeholders; and to bringing this savoir faire to international fora, as we have done in the past.
- 13. Accessibility: According to the UN, "accessibility" is best defined as "the provision of flexibility to accommodate each user's needs and preferences". Our network and projects recognize the diverse needs and preferences of different communities and individuals, and aim to ensure that everyone has access and benefits equally from our work. In the context of disability, we will work to ensure that our work eliminates social, digital, economic,

physical and communication barriers, and facilitate reasonable accommodations.

ANNEX 5. CONCEPT NOTES TERMS & CONDITIONS

Submitting an application under this Call for Concept Notes will involve the collection, use and processing of your personal data. Below, you will find more details on how your data is used. If you have any questions or requests regarding the data processed, please contact the following email address: info@iafeminista.lat.

Collecting and processing the data contained in your proposal is necessary for evaluating it. We may use this information to understand and assess your application and to award grants which align with our values and mission. We also collect some personal contact details including your name, email address and the country you are based.

We will retain a copy of your data from the applications for our records. The legal basis for this is in preparation to enter into a contractual agreement with you for the provision of a contract, if the proposal is selected, and other final provisions detailed below (time periods). In some circumstances, we may share your application and details with our advisors, partners, and other funders in our network for specific purposes of the project.

During the process we collect some data that might be called "sensitive", under the Data Protection Regulations applicable in Chile and Canada, and that may require a special standard of care from the data controller.

When you make an application on behalf of an organization, we ask for information about the gender(s) of the leadership of your organization, your background, your goals, and the impact you hope to make through our support. This is optional. We will only collect this information based on your explicit consent. Since we want to reach an international and diverse applicant audience, we collect this information in accordance with this purpose. Special measures will be applied in relation to the custody of this data, in addition to ensuring its complete and immediate deletion once they are no longer absolutely necessary for the purposes of this call.

We will share your application data with our funders and advisors for the purpose of evaluating the merits of your application and determining whether an application has been made with other funders, in some cases. We do so on the basis of our legitimate interests in fulfilling our mission. At our discretion, we will also share application data with other, third-party funders in our network in order to understand how work is being funded in the area of our interests to ensure our resources are being well spent and to accomplish our goal of being a trusted knowledge exchange. We share this based on our legitimate interests primarily in ensuring that we are funding original, high quality, and relevant projects and ideas.

The information you submit will be assessed by our Scientific and Community Advisory Board and shared within our consortium, and stored on a safe cloud. We

will use your contact details to get in touch with you and to inform you of the outcome of your application.

Once you apply, we will retain the information for different time periods, depending on how it is categorized:

- We will retain unsuccessful applications that we deem outside the scope of our Call for Concept Notes for 1 year after the application process has closed.
 We do so on the basis of our legitimate interest in maintaining a record of the application process and reviewing our assessment practices and for consideration in the design of future calls.
- We retain unsuccessful applications that we deem to be relevant to our work for 2 years after the application process has closed on the basis of our legitimate interest in maintaining a record of the application process. The consortium will not use any ideas contained in a proposal received in this process without first contacting the applicant. In case the applicant's idea is relevant in the future and to invite the applicant to submit a further application, and maintain a record of applications to understand how the ideas and projects of applicants who applied multiple times have grown and developed over time;
- If your application is successful, we will retain it for at least as long as the award agreement is active and for a period of 2 years thereafter.
- We may also retain some non-personal information from all application categories for statistical purposes, including your country of residence, demographics, and other information. We retain this information on the basis of our legitimate interests in developing an understanding of the size and demographics of the audience we are reaching over time. This data will be duly anonymized beforehand for these purposes.