The Council on Australia Latin America Relations (COALAR) was established by the Australian Government in 2001 to enhance Australia’s economic, political and social relations with Latin America. The Council’s goals are:

- Strengthened links between Australia and Latin America, particularly in the areas of mutual economic support (encompassing two way trade and investment), education, sustainability and applied research, and sport, culture and tourism, aligned closely with the policy of economic diplomacy;
- Closer engagement at a corporate level between Australia and Latin America;
- Increased engagement with and understanding of Australia in Latin America, and of Latin America in Australia; and
- Advice to government about opportunities that will enhance the Australia—Latin America relationship.

The Council Secretariat is part of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

**GRANT OVERVIEW**

The COALAR annual grants program provides funding support through a competitive process to selected projects that seek to enhance Australia’s economic, political and social relations with Latin America.

COALAR grants are intended to contribute seed funds for innovative proposals relevant to the goals and mission of the Council as stated in the 2014—2017 Strategic Plan.

**GRANT GOALS**

The Council invites funding applications each year from individuals and organisations for projects that demonstrate the potential for the development of long-term links and cooperation between individuals and institutions in Australia and their counterparts in Latin America.

The Council gives priority funding to projects in the following areas:

- Mutual Economic Support;
- Education, Sustainability and Applied Research; and
- Sport, Arts and Culture and Tourism.

In the 2017—18 Grant round the Council will consider favorably projects that strengthen relations with priority countries Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru, as well as through the Pacific Alliance.
The Council supports activities that promote:

- Latin America and Australia’s business capabilities, including in integrated management of energy, water, agriculture and mining – and in development of infrastructure; building – where possible on opportunities to extend interest and linkages between Australia and Latin America on public policy issues and administration;
- Australia’s economic credentials in terms of the ways and means by which Australian governments and public sectors facilitate the sound operation and growth of the Australian economy;
- Australia as a competitive, high quality tourist destination;
- Australia’s profile as a competitive and high quality provider of education and that encourage linkages between Australian schools, TAFEs, colleges and universities with Latin American institutions;
- showcasing Australia’s academic and science institutions as a potential source of direct or collaborative research and innovation where capabilities and strengths align with Latin American institutions. Tropical medicine and agribusiness, health, innovation and the digital economy have been highlighted as of current interest;
- public diplomacy and cultural activities in Latin America which showcase Australia as a diverse and dynamic society – and a willing collaborator – in performing arts, visual arts, literature, fashion and food among others; and
- supporting sports diplomacy and cooperation activities in Latin America that create or extend linkages and exchange from community to elite level.

For the 2017–18 grant round the Council has also identified agribusiness and leadership activities, tropical medicine and health and innovation and the digital economy.

Public–private partnerships involving co-funding are also encouraged.

The 2017—18 Grants Program has changed from a two step to a one step application process. This involves applicants submitting a full application, in English, online. The Council Board will then shortlist and select the successful applicants.

STEP 1 Review the Application Guidelines and the Council’s Strategic Plan 2014—2017 before commencing.

STEP 2 Submit your full application using the online application form accessed through our website: http://www.dfat.gov.au/coalardfat on the date the grant round opens.

The online application system will be accessible on 6th February and will close on 28th March at the times indicated. Late Applications will not be accepted. We recommend that applicants not wait until the last day to submit their applications.

All applicants for COALAR grants will be advised in writing of the outcome of the selection process. Successful applicants will be required to enter into a funding agreement and will be advised of any additional special conditions of the grant.

GRANT ASSESSMENT

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

1. The proposal demonstrates relevance to one or more of the following:
   - Enhancing and strengthening links between Australia and Latin America;
   - Influencing corporate Australia to initiate closer engagement with Latin America; and
   - Increasing awareness and understanding of Australia in Latin America, and of Latin America in Australia.

2. The project outcomes will:
   - Offer prospects for ongoing self-sustaining activity in business, including agribusiness and leadership activities, education, tourism, arts and culture, tropical medicine and health and innovation and the digital economy;
   - Including sport or youth activities, or sustainability and clean energy.

3. The project involves a sharing and transfer of expertise from which institutions or individuals in Australia and Latin American countries will benefit, and in ways that would directly advance COALAR’s objectives.

4. The applicant demonstrates the ability to plan, manage and evaluate the project.

5. The project outcomes are achievable within the stated timeframe and represent value for money.

KEY DATES

Monday 6 February 2017
Grant Round opens for Full Applications
9 am (AEDT)

Tuesday 28 March 2017
Applications close at 2 pm (AEDT)
Overseas applicants please note this will be earlier for you.

Early August 2017
Unsuccessful applicants notified and successful applicants advised of grant allocation, subject to funding for 2017—18 financial year.

For further information and updates, please visit:
https://www.facebook.com/coalardfat