



SIMÓN BOLÍVAR FOUNDATION
"NATURAL DISASTERS EMERGENCY
RESPONSE PROGRAM: EARTHQUAKES IN VENEZUELA"

The Simón Bolívar Foundation Inc. (the "Foundation"), a 501(c)(3) private foundation of CITGO Petroleum Corporation (CITGO), reaffirms its mission to create greater impact by improving the health and wellbeing of vulnerable populations affected by disaster, conflict, and poverty, with special attention to children and mothers in and from Venezuela.

In response to the recent earthquakes impacting communities in Venezuela, the Foundation recognizes the urgent need to mobilize immediate humanitarian assistance to affected populations. While the Foundation has prioritized initiatives related to access to medicine, primary healthcare, nutrition, and COVID-19 response, this emergency highlights the critical importance of expanding support to victims of sudden natural disasters.

Earthquakes can result in significant loss of life, displacement, infrastructure damage, and disruption to essential services, including healthcare systems, water access, and food supply chains. In this context, the Foundation is activating its Natural Disasters Emergency Response Program to provide rapid and targeted support to communities affected by this emergency, especially in the most affected areas of Caracas and El Litoral (the coast). As the immediate support is granted for search and rescue and humanitarian response, the needs shift to recovery and rebuilding.

The Natural Disasters Emergency Response Program will support initiatives focused on delivering immediate humanitarian assistance in Venezuela, prioritizing access to essential health services and basic needs as well as initiatives that support rebuilding and recovery. The Foundation will award funds to eligible charitable organizations prioritizing those that are already vetted and registered within its internal processes to ensure an efficient and timely response.

This emergency response will align with one of the Foundation's key strategic objectives—Access—by increasing access to medicine, nutrition, and essential services for people affected by disasters. Priority interventions include:

- Healthcare: Emergency, primary, and specialized healthcare services for trauma patients affected by the earthquake, including treatment of injuries and rehabilitation.
- Access to essential medicines, orthopedic devices, and prosthesis for individuals affected by earthquake-related injuries.
- Food assistance and nutritional support.



- Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services.
- Psychological and psychosocial support for affected individuals and families.
- Family reunification.
- Temporary shelters.

Funding Priority

Priority will be given to proposals that directly address the urgent needs of communities impacted by the earthquake in Venezuela. Proposals must clearly:

- Describe the current situation and its impact on the target population.
- Demonstrate the specific humanitarian need being addressed.
- Provide an estimated number of beneficiaries.
- Present a clear and feasible implementation plan with an emphasis on rapid response.

Applicants must certify tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code, be a fiscal equivalent, or operate under a fiscal sponsor.

Evaluation Process

The Foundation will appoint an Evaluation Team to review all proposals. Submissions must meet all established criteria; however, the Foundation retains full discretion in all final decisions regarding grant awards.

The Evaluation Team will assess proposals using an established scoring rubric. While the rubric provides structured guidance, additional factors may be considered to assess the overall suitability and impact of each proposal.

Organizations will be evaluated based on:

- Financial capacity and operational readiness.
- Relevant experience in emergency or humanitarian response.
- Organizational capacity to deliver timely results.
- Prior performance with the Foundation, if applicable.

Proposals will be evaluated on their ability to achieve impact in the following areas:

1. Addresses the "Natural Disasters Emergency Response Program" objectives: provide short- and medium-term relief to victims affected by the earthquakes, in the areas of health and nutrition, as listed above.



2. Budget and cost-effectiveness.
3. Project design/plan.
4. Project impact.
5. Implementation time frame.

SCORING RUBRIC

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Does not meet criteria at all	Somewhat meets criteria	Mostly meets criteria	Meets basic criteria	Does a good job of meeting criteria	Exceeds criteria	Far exceeds criteria

Scores less than 4	Scores between 4 and 5	Scores 6 and above
PROJECT PROPOSAL MEETS PROGRAM PRIORITIES		
The project shows weak or no connection to the Foundation's priorities. - Activities do not clearly relate to humanitarian or public health goals. - Lacks evidence or rationale for targeting specific needs or populations. - Minimal understanding of regional context or Foundation objectives. - Unlikely to contribute meaningfully to program outcomes.	The project demonstrates partial or basic alignment with Foundation priorities. - Addresses at least one funding priority but lacks strong evidence or depth of justification. - Needs assessment is present but limited or outdated. - Some relevance to target populations, though linkages could be clearer. - Risk of overlapping with existing interventions without clear added value.	- Strong alignment and connection to one or more funding priorities - Clearly targets one or more of the Foundation's 2026 focus areas. - Responds to urgent, documented humanitarian or health needs with credible data. - Demonstrates deep contextual understanding of migrant and host community challenges. - Fills an unmet service gap or strengthens existing systems. Reinforces the Foundation's strategic objectives of access, capacity building



BUDGET AND COST-EFFECTIVENESS		
- Budget lacks clarity or major line items are not aligned with proposed activities. - Cost allocations appear arbitrary or disproportionate. - Administrative costs are excessive (more than 20%) or noncompliant with Foundation guidelines. Weak or absent financial controls and accountability mechanisms	Budget includes sufficient detail and has minimal amounts for all proposed activities. - Most costs are reasonable, but some items unclear or over/underestimated. - Budget narrative does not fully explain the linkage between resources and results. - Limited demonstration of efficiency or experience managing similar grants. Financial systems are adequate but not robust.	Budget is highly detailed and includes a clear and realistic picture of how funds will be expended for proposed activities. - Far exceeds expectation to achieve project objectives with proposed budget. - All costs are reasonable, justified, and proportionate to expected results. - Financial controls and reporting systems are credible and transparent.
PROJECT DESIGN/PLAN		
- The project is weak in design or infeasible. - Project has no realistic or unclearly stated goal(s) and objective(s) - Implementation plan lacks structure, logical framework, or timelines. - Activities are not feasible within the proposed timeframe or budget. No evidence of planning for risks or monitoring progress.	- The project has a reasonable structure, but with some weaknesses. - Project has at least one goal and/or objective addressing program priority. - Activities are logical towards achieving stated goal(s) and objective(s) Limited evidence of risk management or adaptability.	- The project addresses multiple priorities (health, nutrition, protection). - The project design is coherent, strategic, and operationally strong. - Project has SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Timely) goal(s) and/or objective(s) addressing one or more program priorities. - Project has a highly detailed plan with suitable activities to meet goals and objectives. - Activities are feasible and aligned with the proposed resources. - Includes adaptive strategies for contextual risks.



PROJECT IMPACT		
- Community or beneficiaries are minimally benefited. - Beneficiaries do not gain appropriate or useable skills/knowledge or appropriate services. - Project may have negative impact on beneficiaries or community	- Community or beneficiaries receive benefits during course of project. - Beneficiaries gain skills/knowledge or receive adequate services	- Benefits will outlast the project or program. - Beneficiaries gain high value skills or knowledge or receive high quality service delivery. - Project addresses root causes of a problem or issue
IMPLEMENTATION TIME FRAME		
Project can be implemented effectively in 4-6 months.	Project can be implemented effectively in 2-4 months.	Project can be implemented effectively in 1-2 months.
STRATEGIC RELATIONSHIP		
Large and reputable organization.	- Presence in a geographic area where SBF has no access. - Large and reputable organization	- Ability to subaward and manage subgrants with small organizations. - Presence in a geographic area where SBF has no access. - Large and reputable organization

Application Due Date and Grant Period

The Foundation anticipates awarding grants with implementation periods of up to 12 months. Please plan your organization's grant activities accordingly.

All charitable projects presented must use the log frame approach, including clear goals, objectives, and indicators for monitoring progress and evaluation of long-term impact, and success criteria for each goal and objective.

Proposals must be submitted by Versaic as soon as possible. Questions may be directed to fsaa@citgo.com

Grant Awards

The Foundation will award funds through the Natural Disasters Emergency Response Program on grants up to \$1.5 million per grant/per year. Funding will be available for:



- Program Implementation: Day to day management of the approved projects.
- Operation and Administrative Costs: Non-program staff salaries (i.e. accountant), utilities, rent, supply expenses, and other expenses as described in the approved projects. Operation and Administrative costs shall not exceed 20% of the total approved funding request and should be supported for audit trail purposes. The Foundation is looking at maximizing the amount of funds directly allocated to program implementation, therefore lower overhead costs will be favorably seen.

All grants may be subject to the recipient organization's execution of a formal grant agreement with the Foundation that incorporates the approved proposal and other terms and conditions to ensure these grants are used for the charitable purposes intended by this program and subject to due diligence process.

General Eligibility Requirements and Exclusions

Eligibility Criteria for Grant Programs

- Certify tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3), Title 26 of the U. S. Internal Revenue Code. If the organization that wishes to apply for a grant is not registered and recognized as a 501(c)(3) public charity in the U. S., it MUST apply for the grant through a U. S. 501(c)(3) public charity acting as fiscal sponsor of the sponsored organization. Alternatively, the organization may provide all information needed for an equivalency review to be performed by the Foundation, demonstrating that the organization is the foreign equivalent of a domestic public charity. Please note an equivalency review could significantly affect the timeline of grant awarding for projects.
- Can demonstrate at least two years of active and continuous operations implementing projects aligned with the Grant Program areas.
- Can demonstrate development and implementation of projects in the areas of the Grant Program, and management of projects in accordance with the magnitude of the grant to be awarded.
- Can demonstrate expertise in the country covered by the Grant Program.
- Provide copies of the organizations governing documents and current Directors and Officers.
- Provide annual reports, financial statements, and tax filings for at least the last two years and such other documents or information as the Foundation may reasonably request to properly qualify the applicant organization.



- Meet the compliance requirements and any other requirements of the Foundation to be awarded a grant.
- Not discriminate based on race, religion, creed, national origin, disability, handicap, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, veteran status, or any other basis prohibited by applicable law.

Funding Exclusions for Grant Programs

- Individual needs, including sponsorships, and other forms of financial aid.
- Fundraisers through third party organizations.
- Goodwill advertising, souvenir journals, or dinner programs.
- Sectarian activities of religious organizations.
- Political causes, candidates, organizations or campaigns or lobbying
- Books, magazines, or articles in professional journals.
- Capital projects and/or endowments (exceptions made for professorships and scholarships related to endowments in selected universities).
- Sports sponsorships.
- Door prizes for raffles.
- Organizations currently funded that have not submitted all required reports or met other requirements.
- Must not employ any individual that is employed by, and must not be related to anyone employed by, the Foundation, CITGO Petroleum Corporation ("CITGO"), Petroleos de Venezuela S. A. ("PDVSA"), or any affiliate or subsidiary of the Foundation, CITGO or PDVSA; and/or the Venezuelan government. The term Venezuelan government shall be interpreted in its broadest possible meaning. For purposes of this provision, "Venezuelan government" is defined in the broadest sense, including any individual or group holding themselves out as representing the Venezuelan government, including as a national, regional, or local governmental body, ministry, agency, state-owned enterprise, or political subdivision, and any officer or employee thereof, acting in an official capacity.