



Sufficiency First Coalition

April 2025

WORLD SUFFICIENCY LAB

The **World Sufficiency Lab (WSL)**, established in 2024, is a pioneering institution dedicated to providing decision-makers with rigorous, science-based evidence on the potential contributions of sufficiency policies to address the multifaceted challenges of the 21st century. As the primary global resource and voice for sufficiency, WSL is working towards mainstreaming the concept of sufficiency globally through the **Sufficiency First Coalition**. This initiative involves establishing **National Sufficiency Labs (NSLs)** in countries where the concept of sufficiency is already being debated. Additionally, it aims to support senior **Sufficiency Leaders** in countries where the concept is not yet widely known, as well as junior researchers who are developing capacity in the field of sufficiency. WSL's support includes developing national sufficiency research roadmaps based on the national Sufficiency Gap Reports, ensuring cross-fertilization through shared tools and joint projects, allocating resources based on available funding, and widely communicating research results and sufficiency-related activities at different levels of governance.

SUFFICIENCY FIRST COALITION

The **Sufficiency First Coalition**, which is built of the National Sufficiency Labs and the Sufficiency Leaders, aims to unite diverse stakeholders, including governments, businesses, non-governmental organizations, and academic institutions, to develop, design, adopt, implement and evaluate sufficiency policies at different levels of governance. The coalition will focus on the following key areas:

1. **Research and Innovation:** Support and fund research initiatives that explore innovative solutions and best practices to design, adopt and implement sufficiency policies and to develop sufficiency roadmaps and pilot projects.
2. **Capacity Building:** Provide training and resources to empower communities, organizations, and governments to develop, design, adopt and implement sufficiency policies.
3. **Public Awareness and Engagement:** Provide science-based evidence on the contribution of sufficiency to deliver on wellbeing for all within planetary boundaries and communicate the results widely to different stakeholders.
4. **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Establish mechanisms to track the progress and impact of sufficiency policies, ensuring continuous improvement and adaptation.
5. **Strategic collaboration(s):** Work with policymakers at different levels of governance to integrate sufficiency principles into municipal, regional, national and international legislation, ensuring that sufficiency becomes a cornerstone of national and international policies.

NATIONAL SUFFICIENCY LABS (NSLs)

Requirements and Guidelines for National Sufficiency Labs (NSLs)

- **Representation and Naming:** A NSL should be an **association** where the WSL is represented by one of its board members, who will play an active role in guiding and overseeing the NSL's activities to ensure cross-fertilization. The association should be called "<adjective corresponding to the country> Sufficiency Lab" (e.g. "Swiss Sufficiency Lab").
- **Branding:** NSLs should use **the logo and graphical chart** provided by the WSL, adhering to the detailed branding guidelines to ensure consistency and recognition.
- **Leadership and Hosting:** NSLs should be established under the leadership of renowned scientists, selected based on their expertise and contributions to research on sufficiency. The NSL should be hosted at the leader's academic research institution, leveraging the institution's resources and reputation.
- **Ethics and Conduct:** All NSL members must comply with WSL's ethics rules and code of conduct, which outline the principles of integrity, transparency and responsibility.

Activities of the National Sufficiency Labs (NSLs)

While the specific activities of each NSL may vary based on country-specific contexts and needs, a NSL should publish a national **Sufficiency Gap Report (SGR)** within the first year. This includes:

1. **Mapping National Sufficiency Stakeholders and Fostering Collaboration:** Identifying key stakeholders and building partnerships to support the development of the national SGR.

2. **Researching and Developing the National SGR:** Gathering and analyzing contextualized data to identify policy, innovation, and financing gaps and opportunities.
3. **Organizing Workshops with Key Stakeholders:** Collaborating with stakeholders to develop policy recommendations for the SGR.
4. **Organizing a National Sufficiency Summit:** Launching the national SGR and engaging with the broader community.
5. **Empowering National Sufficiency Ambassadors:** Conducting regular gatherings, in-person workshops, and online training sessions to identify, support and empower ambassadors.
6. **Following National Policy Agendas:** Working with sufficiency ambassadors towards the adoption and implementation of SGR policy recommendations.
7. **Identifying Research Priorities and Fundraising Opportunities:** Developing a fundable three-year research roadmap to ensure continuous progress, innovation and support to policy makers in the design, implementation and evaluation of sufficiency policies.

SUFFICIENCY LEADERS

WSL offers a two-year support program, with the possibility of a one-year renewal, to senior scientists in countries where the concept of sufficiency is not yet widely known. This support is also extended to junior researchers who are developing capacity in the field of sufficiency. The program provides these scientists with the opportunity to enhance and disseminate their sufficiency research by leading projects in their area of expertise. **Sufficiency Leaders** will join the WSL research team, reporting to the Research Director, who will share external project calls and provide support in responding to them. Additionally, WSL's communication team will assist Sufficiency Leaders in organizing events related to their research and participating in WSL's strategic research programming.

Requirements and Guidelines for Sufficiency Leaders:

- **Academic Credentials:** Sufficiency Leaders must hold or be pursuing an advanced degree (PhD) in fields relevant to sufficiency.
- **Publication record:** Senior Sufficiency Leaders must have a substantial number of peer-reviewed publications in fields related to sufficiency in high-impact journals.
- **Professional Experience:** Senior Sufficiency Leaders must have significant experience working in relevant sectors, such as academia, government, or non-governmental organizations.
- **Recognition and Awards:** Senior Sufficiency Leaders must have received awards or honors from reputable institutions that highlight their contributions to research in their area of expertise.
- **Leadership Roles:** Senior Sufficiency Leaders must have held leadership positions in relevant projects, organizations, or initiatives.
- **Conference Participation:** Senior Sufficiency Leaders must be regular participants in international conferences and symposiums as keynote speakers and panel discussants.
- **Collaborative Projects:** Senior Sufficiency Leaders must be involved in collaborative research projects or initiatives aimed at making significant impacts in the field of sufficiency.

Commitment of Sufficiency Leaders

1. **Leadership Structure:** Within six months of the application approval, Sufficiency Leaders must hire a co-leader to ensure gender and regional balance in leadership.
2. **Participation in WSL Research Activities:** Sufficiency Leaders must commit to conducting or supervising an **in-depth review** of sufficiency literature in their area of expertise. They should contribute to the **Sufficiency Library** and commit to **publishing** the key findings of their research within the first year of their collaboration with WSL in a **peer-reviewed journal** and a **policy brief** as part of WSL's scientific and public engagement.
3. **Webinar Organization:** Coordinate with WSL's communication team to organize webinar(s) that share key research findings of their research with a wider audience.
4. **Capacity Building:** Contribute to capacity building on sufficiency through active participation in the **Sufficiency Academy**, the **Sufficiency Community** and the **Sufficiency Blog**.
5. **Support for Young Researchers:** Support WSL in organizing **Sufficiency Summer Schools** to develop interdisciplinary skills, encouraging young researchers to enhance their research within WSL publication collections.
6. **Acknowledgement of WSL Support:** Acknowledge WSL support in all publications and activities related to the research project(s) supported by WSL.

Application Process for National Sufficiency Labs (NSLs) and Sufficiency Leaders

1. **Initial Inquiry:** Interested parties must submit an initial inquiry to info@thesufficiencylab.org , expressing their intent to establish an NSL or to become a Sufficiency Leader. This should include a brief overview of their qualifications and vision.
2. **Preliminary Review:** WSL reviews the initial inquiry to ensure it meets the basic requirements and guidelines for NSLs and Sufficiency Leaders.
3. **Formal Application Submission:** Qualified applicants will be invited to submit a detailed application, including
 - A comprehensive proposal outlining their plans for the NSL or their research project as a Sufficiency Leader.
 - Information on the proposed leadership, including the renowned scientist who will lead the NSL or the credentials of the Sufficiency Leader.
 - Details on the hosting institution and its resources (for NSLs).
 - A plan for adhering to WSL's ethics rules and code of conduct.
4. **Evaluation and Interviews**
 - WSL evaluates, with support from the Scientific Committee, the applications based on the predefined criteria listed above, including academic credentials, publication record, professional experience, and leadership roles.
 - Shortlisted applicants are invited for interviews to discuss their proposals in detail.
5. **Final selection and Approval**
 - The WSL board makes the final selection based on the evaluation and interviews.
 - Successful applicants receive formal approval and guidance on the next steps.
6. **Onboarding and Training:** Newly approved NSLs and Sufficiency Leaders undergo an onboarding process, including training on WSL's tools and methodologies, branding guidelines, ethics rules, and operational procedures.