

'Santander Ayuda' will allocate 300,000 euros to projects focused on combating child poverty

- This will be the 26th Santander Ayuda call, with a new focus on fighting poverty among children and adolescents in Spain.
- A total of 30 selected projects will receive 10,000 euros each and the three initiatives that stand out for their innovative approach and impact will receive an additional monetary award.
- The application period begins on November 21 and will end on January 12, 2023, via the Fundación Banco Santander website.

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Fundación Banco Santander, launches a new call for its 'Santander Ayuda' programme. After analysing the existing needs in Spain, Banco Santander and the Foundation have decided to focus on the fight against poverty among children and adolescents. **The initiative will allocate 300,000 euros to 30 organisations** of the third sector with projects submitted from November 21, 2022, to January 12, 2023.

The selected projects will receive 10,000 euros each to further their objectives and the three most innovative projects with the greatest impact will be awarded an additional 10,000 euros.

Spain is the third country with the highest child poverty in the EU behind Greece and Bulgaria, according to Eurostat data. Additionally, according to data from the latest Living Conditions Survey by the INE, 28.7% of children under 16 are at risk of poverty; an indicator that does not measure absolute poverty, but rather how many people have low incomes in relation to the overall population, which for households with two adults and two children under 14, is less than 20,024 euros per year.

The purpose of this call for proposals is to support projects that contribute to **breaking the cycle of poverty and promoting the comprehensive development of children and adolescents** in situations of social vulnerability through socio-educational action.

In addition, mental health problems have worsened among children and adolescents. Minors in situations of poverty have a **four times higher probability** of suffering from mental health problems than those living in more affluent households (Save The Children, *Crecer saludable (mente)* report, December 2021).

"It is essential to break the cycle of poverty, and to this end we support the most vulnerable by promoting their opportunities for the future and their full integration into society", claims **Borja Baselga**, Director of Fundación Banco Santander.

The Banco Santander Foundation program has already distributed more than 3 million euros in six years to over 500 social projects that have benefited more than 270,000 people in vulnerable situations.

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About Fundación Banco Santander

Fundación Banco Santander strives to contribute to the construction of a more equitable, inclusive, and sustainable society.

With this objective, the initiatives are grouped into three lines of action: the promotion of culture as a tool to understand the world around us, social action to facilitate the progress of vulnerable groups and environmental care to protect the natural heritage.

All programs are concerned with creating collaborative networks with the third sector to address major global challenges.

More information about the Foundation can be found on the website www.fundacionbancosantander.com or through its Social Networks:

