Cycle 19 has concluded (<u>announcement here</u>) with significant progress towards building on Optimism. With a total of 314 Mission Request applications received during Cycle 19, surpassing the entire Season 4's count of 304 applications, it's evident that the community's engagement and commitment are growing.

In Cycle 22, the Grants Council (GC) received 230 submissions, marking a slight decrease compared to the previous cycle. However, it's notable that the quality of submissions appears to have improved, reflecting a more refined understanding of project needs and objectives.

Here is the link with all the applications considered for Cycle 22

Key Considerations:

- 1. Finalists Transition
- : Finalists from Cycle 19 who were not awarded grants, comprising 54 out of 106, will be carried forward as finalists for Cycle 22. These finalists are marked in blue

on the linked document, indicating their continued consideration for funding.

- 1. Application Review
- : With 284 applications to review during Cycle 22, the GC faces the task of carefully evaluating each submission to identify projects with the greatest potential for impact and alignment with the mission's request objectives.
 - 1. Season 5 Conclusion
- : As this is the final round of Season 5, grantees for Cycle 22 will be announced on May 8th, marking the culmination of another successful season of grants and innovation.
 - 1. Quality Improvement
- : Despite a decrease in the number of applications compared to the previous round, the overall quality has shown improvement. To address potential budget constraints in certain mission requests, a proposal for the token house will soon be published by GC to increase the budgets of some of the mission requests.

While many of these applications may not proceed beyond the intake filter and preliminary review stages, the raw data provided can serve as valuable insights for analytics purposes.

As we progress into Cycle 22, the optimism and dedication of the community remain strong. By leveraging insights from past cycles and embracing improvements, we are poised to support impactful projects that contribute to the growth and development of the ecosystem. The GC looks forward to announcing the grantees on May 8th and continuing to foster innovation and collaboration in the seasons to come.