United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery (UNVFCFS)
Circular nº 1/2020: Call for 2021 Applications

The Secretariat of the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery (UNVFCFS) is pleased to announce that the Fund will accept requests for funding from **15 January to 1 March 2020**, for regular grants that will be used between 1 January and 31 December 2021. Project applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

Grants may only be awarded to organizations for projects that provide **direct assistance** to victims of contemporary forms of slavery and their family members. Such assistance may be in the form of medical, psychological, legal, social or humanitarian assistance, including vocational training and shelter homes. Applications from all regions will be accepted. All applications should be submitted in English, French or Spanish.

Only applications that strictly comply with the Guidelines of the Fund will be considered. Please refer to the Guidelines when drafting and before submitting the application (available here: [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Slavery/UNVTCFS/GuidelinesSlavery_en.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Slavery/UNVTCFS/GuidelinesSlavery_en.pdf)).

As a general rule, project applications should range between USD 15,000 and USD 30,000.

Applications will be reviewed in a competitive manner taking into account the merit of the proposal, needs it addresses, income available to the Fund, and if applicable, number of years of continuous support received from the Fund.

Projects for direct assistance to victims shall be supported on a yearly basis for a maximum of five years, subject to a satisfactory evaluation of the project and availability of funds. After that, in the following year, no application will be accepted from the organization in relation to a project in the same country of implementation.

**How to apply?**

Applications should be submitted through the on-line grants management system (GMS). Please follow this link: [https://unvfcfs-grants.ohchr.org/default.aspx](https://unvfcfs-grants.ohchr.org/default.aspx). After logging into the GMS, enter into the 25th Session.

We encourage applicants to refer to the user’s manual available on the GMS main page to assist organizations in submitting their application through the system (available here: [https://unvfcfs-grants.ohchr.org/default.aspx](https://unvfcfs-grants.ohchr.org/default.aspx)).

To report technical problems or request additional assistance while completing the application, applicants should address the Secretariat by email: slaveryfund@ohchr.org.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to secure sufficient time to complete the application prior to the expiration of the deadline. In particular, new applicants are advised to complete the registration process early to allow sufficient time to work on the application.

**Applications will be received and reviewed on a rolling basis until 1 March 2020.**
Priorities:

- For 2021, priority will be given to project applications contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Target 8.7 “Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.” In particular, projects assisting victims of slavery in the context of supply and value chains, and in conflict and humanitarian settings, will be prioritized.

- National and local organizations are encouraged to apply for grants directly to the Fund, rather than through their international partners. First-time applicants are also encouraged to apply.

List of grants awarded in 2020:

For organizations that have projects funded by the UNVFCFS in 2019:

- Financial and narrative reports on the use of 2019 grants should be submitted through the online grants system between 15 January and 1 March 2020.

- Project applications from an organization that has overdue reports will not be considered. An organization that has failed to submit, by the set deadline, satisfactory financial and narrative reports (and audit report if applicable) on the use of all previous grants, will not be eligible to apply for a 2021 grant.

The Secretariat of the Fund
15 January 2020