



United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery (UNVFCFS)
Circular n° 1/2021: Call for 2022 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 2021**, for regular grants that will be used between 1 January and 31 December 2022.

Applications will be received and reviewed on a rolling basis until 1 March 2021. 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. Such assistance may be in the form of medical, psychological, legal, social, humanitarian, educational assistance, vocational or skills training or other support to their independent livelihood. 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).

Organizations can request yearly grants ranging from US\$ 15,000 to US\$ 30,000. Grants awarded by the Fund may be lower than the amount requested by organizations. The amount requested from the Fund should generally not exceed two thirds of the submitted budget of the project. As a rule, no project should be totally dependent on the Fund. Exceptionally, the Board may recommend financing projects which do not attain one-third of their total budget in matching funds.

Applications will be reviewed on a competitive basis, taking into account the merit of the application, geographic distribution of resources; the needs addressed; priorities set by the Board, and satisfactory compliance with the Fund's Guidelines. The awarding of grants is subject to the availability of funds

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. After a time lapse of one year, the same organization may re-apply to the Fund.

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>. After logging into the GMS, enter into the 26th 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>).

Applicants are strongly encouraged to secure sufficient time to complete the application prior to the expiration of the deadline. In particular, first-time applicants are advised to complete the registration process early to allow sufficient time to work on the application. First-time applicants will receive an

automatic notification by e-mail of the approval of their registration as well as the link (valid for a limited time) that allows them to create a password to access the online account.

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

Priorities for the 2022 annual call for applications:

The Fund welcomes any project proposal aimed at providing **direct assistance** to victims of slavery that is compliant with the Fund's mandate and designed in line with the Guidelines.

In addition, the Board established the following inter-related **thematic priorities for the 2022 call for applications** aligned to [the priorities of the Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery \(A/75/166\)](#). The Board therefore particularly encourages applicants from the organizations that respond to needs of people at particular risk of being exposed to contemporary forms of slavery and require increased attention and protection, including:

- indigenous peoples, minorities, people on the move, persons with disabilities, older persons and persons living in homelessness including street children;
- victims of slavery in the context of exploitation in the informal economy.

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

For organizations that have projects funded by the UNVFCFS in 2020:

- Financial and narrative reports on the use of 2020 grants should be submitted through the on-line grants system between **15 January and 1 March 2021**.
- **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 on the use of all previous grants, will not be eligible to apply for a 2022 grant.

*The Secretariat of the Fund
15 January 2021*
