Who can apply?

As a rule, only non-governmental organizations may apply to the Fund. Grants are awarded to entities that can demonstrate at least two years of experience in projects providing redress and assistance to victims of modern slavery.

When to apply?

Applications for grants must be submitted by 1 March every year for consideration by the Board at its autumn session. The grants awarded are disbursed at the beginning of the following year.

Grants requested from the Fund can cover an implementation period of up to 12 months during the calendar year, from 1 January to 31 December.

How to apply?

Online applications are to be submitted from 15 January to 1 March of every year at:
https://grants.ohchr.org/Default.aspx

Contribute to the Fund

Like all UN trust funds, the Slavery Fund depends entirely on earmarked contributions. The Fund accepts donations from States, non-governmental organizations, business companies and other private entities, including individuals.

Donors and potential donors are encouraged to increase their support to the Fund so that it can expand its crucial assistance to victims of slavery. Donors are invited to contribute to the Fund before the annual session of the Board, which is held in autumn.

For more information, please visit our website at www.ohchr.org.
Search: Slavery Fund

Contact us

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What is the Fund?

The Fund assists individuals, whose human rights have been severely violated as a result of modern slavery. It provides direct humanitarian, legal and financial assistance to victims through grants awarded to non-governmental organisations.

Since its establishment by the General Assembly in 1991 (resolution 46/122), the Fund has supported more than 400 organizations in 95 countries, providing rehabilitation and assistance to thousands of victims.

Small-sized grants are awarded yearly on a competitive basis, and may be renewed if conditions are met. A call for proposals is issued every year in January.

The Fund is managed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, with the advice of a Board of Trustees composed of independent experts from the five world regions. The Board meets once a year to determine priorities, to review policies and to adopt recommendations on grants.

What is modern slavery in today’s world?

The Fund addresses a number of contemporary manifestations of slavery, in addition to traditional slavery, such as serfdom, servitude, forced labour, debt bondage, the worst forms of child labour, forced and early marriage, the sale of wives and inherited widows, trafficking in persons for exploitation, sexual slavery, the sale of children and the commercial sexual exploitation of children.

All forms of modern slavery are strictly prohibited under international law.

Other forms of slavery are brought to light constantly

Modern slavery is a global and evolving phenomenon. The forcible recruitment of child soldiers, domestic servitude and sex tourism are among modern practices that amount to slavery.

Which type of projects does the Fund support?

The Fund aims to support projects delivering direct assistance to victims of modern slavery. Priority is given to projects aimed at providing redress, empowerment and the reintegration of victims of modern slavery. Assistance may include medical, psychological, social, legal, humanitarian and educational aid, vocational or skills training and other support for the victim’s independent livelihood.

“Modern slavery is a crime. People who perpetrate, condone or facilitate it must be brought to justice. Victims and survivors have a right to remedies and reparations.”

Ban Ki-moon
UN Secretary-General