

EMERGENCY GRANTS



INTRODUCTION

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture awards **emergency grants to civil society organizations** directly assisting torture survivors to access legal, medical, psychological and social services in exceptional circumstances.

EMERGENCY RATIONALE

The Fund considers emergency grant applications only if they respond to the following criteria:

- **SUDDEN CHANGE IN CIRCUMSTANCES** that has caused an
- **EXTRAORDINARY INCREASE IN THE NEEDS** of torture victims for assistance requiring an
- **IMMEDIATE RESPONSE**

Emergency grants can be awarded for:

- up to **12 months**
- a **maximum of USD 100,000**
- with **no possibility of renewal or extension**

Emergency grants **respond**, for example, to the following:

Human rights crisis:

- political strife or uprising
- landmark trial (victims of torture requiring additional assistance)
- detrimental policy or institutional change in places of deprivation of liberty

Humanitarian crisis:

- armed conflict
- sudden influx of refugees and asylum seekers

Individual situation:

- urgent need of assistance for individual victims of torture (the application must be submitted by an organization on behalf of, and with the consent of, the victim)

Emergency grants **do not respond**, for example, to the following situations:

- existing and systemic patterns of torture
- cash flow difficulties of the organization

QUESTIONS FOR PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF ELIGIBILITY

Sudden change in circumstances

- What is the current crisis/situation?
- How is it different than before?

Extraordinary increase in needs

- What impact has this situation had on the practice of torture and on the needs of victims for assistance?
- What is the estimated number of torture victims in need of assistance?

Immediate response

- Why does this situation/crisis require immediate response?
- What are the existing gaps to assist torture victims and how is your organization currently responding?

Institutional capacity and specialized expertise

- What is the organization's experience with identifying victims of torture and providing tailored assistance to them?
- In what ways is the existing financial and staff capacity of the organization insufficient to respond to the emergency?

HOW TO APPLY

Please send a brief written response (maximum 2 pages) to the above questions to the Fund's Secretariat: pliondjo@ohchr.org or unvft@ohchr.org. After a preliminary assessment, the Secretariat may invite the organization to submit a full emergency grant application.