



United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery (UNVFCFS) **Circular n° 1/2024: Call for 2025 Applications**

The Secretariat of the United Nations Voluntary Trust 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 2024**, for regular grants that will be used between **1 January and 31 December 2025**.

Applications will be received and reviewed on a rolling basis until 1 March 2024. 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, 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](https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/issues/slavery/unvtcfs/guidelines-un-slavery-fund-2024-en.pdf) of the Fund will be considered. Please refer to the Guidelines when drafting and before submitting the application (available here: <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/issues/slavery/unvtcfs/guidelines-un-slavery-fund-2024-en.pdf>). Organizations should **pay particular attention to the following paragraphs of the Guidelines**, that have been updated:

- Paragraph 23, 49 and 77 – related to payment and financial obligations on the use of the grant
- Paragraph 54 – related to reporting obligations on the use of the grant
- Paragraphs 79-81 – related to mismanagement, fraud and misuse of funds

Organizations can request yearly grants ranging from US\$ **15,000 to US\$ 35,000**. 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 awarding a grant to 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, the needs addressed and satisfactory compliance with the Fund's Guidelines. The Board also considers the geographic distribution of resources. 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. During the two years that follow a five-year funding cycle, no application will be accepted from the organization in relation to a project in the same country of implementation. After this time lapse of two years, the same organization may re-apply to the Fund.

How to apply

Applications should be submitted through the [online grants management system](https://unvfcfs-grants.ohchr.org/default.aspx) (GMS – available here: <https://unvfcfs-grants.ohchr.org/default.aspx>). After logging into the GMS, enter into the 29th Session.

We encourage applicants to refer to the [user's manual](#) available on the GMS main page for useful information about submitting their application through the system (available here: https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/issues/slavery/unvtcfs/UsersManual_en.pdf).

Applicants are strongly encouraged to secure sufficient time to complete the application prior to the expiration of the deadline. In particular, new applicants must submit a request to register through GMS before they can submit an online 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 will allow them to create a password to access the online account. To report technical problems or request additional assistance while completing the application, organizations should contact the Secretariat by email: philippe.liondjo@un.org

New requirement

Organizations that have not yet done so, must register in the [United Nations Partner Portal](#) (available here: <https://www.unpartnerportal.org/registration>), which is a pre-requisite to enter into agreements with the United Nations.

For organizations that have projects funded by the UNVFCFS in 2023

Financial and narrative reports on the use of 2023 grants should be submitted through the online grants system of the Fund by **1 March 2024**.

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 where applicable) on the use of all previous grants, will not be eligible to apply for a 2025 grant.

*The Secretariat of the Fund
15 January 2024*
