

2018 Open Call for Proposals Prince Claus Fund Network Partnership Programme

The [Prince Claus Fund for Culture and Development](#) supports, connects and celebrates artists and cultural practitioners where cultural expression is under pressure. The Fund stands firm with those who create, who believe in the transformative power of culture, who advance new ideas and explore new perspectives

The [Grants & Collaborations](#) programme of the Prince Claus Fund (the Fund) supports exceptional organisations with multiple-year funding through its [Network Partnership Grants](#).

The Network Partnership Grants are provided to cultural organisations for a period of 3 years.

The Network Partnership builds on the Prince Claus Fund's 20 years' experience in providing long-term financial support for exceptional cultural organisations. Over the past 15 years the Fund has supported 32 such organisations in Asia, Africa, Latin America, Eastern Europe and the Caribbean through its Network Partnership Grants. Currently, the Fund supports 12 cultural organisations through these Grants. With these organisations we have developed joint programming to create cultural activities within the local context that address issues related to social development.

The objective of the Network Partnership is to:

- facilitate connections that enable a Global Network that supports local activities of cultural organisations who work on freedom of expression; enabling regular exchange, cooperation and knowledge sharing with other like-minded organisations from other parts of the world who are part of the Network Partnership;
- strengthen the capabilities and structural sustainability of these cultural organisations through financial support and by connecting them to a wider network of the Fund in order to optimize their work, outreach and impact in their regions of operation;
- enable new local cultural initiatives that generate participation, talent development and empower local communities to express themselves.

This year the Fund is accepting applications for the Network Partnership Grant from cultural organisations based and operating in **Africa (Please note that only countries from this region listed in the [DAC List](#) will be eligible to apply for this grant).**

The Fund works together with successful applicants from the conceptualisation of the partnership activities to the implementation of its projects. It is a partnership which goes beyond financial support and thrives on the creative ideas and dialogue generated between the Fund and its Partners.

The Network Partnership Grant has two main components: 1) the development of a three-year *Network Partnership Proposal Plan of Activities* and 2) participation in the *Prince Claus Fund Network Partnership Annual Meetings*.

1. About the Network Partnership Grant (Proposal Plan of Activities)

With the Network Partnership Grant, the Fund aims to create a sustainable international network of strong and relevant cultural/arts organisations that enables structural stability for the organisations themselves. This year the Fund is inviting cultural organisations that are based and working within the African continent, and that have established track-records and networks, to propose a project plan they would like to carry out over the next 3 years. The Prince Claus Fund seeks to support groundbreaking, innovative cultural initiatives by outstanding cultural organizations that have a positive impact on their communities through the arts.

The Network Partnership Grant is a total funding of 50,000 EUR, to be distributed over 3 years. The organization may use the Grant for structural support or overhead coverage of the organisation. The organization may also use the funding for project based support. Project based support involves all aspects in the preparation, provision and production of singular projects. Please note that the aim is to create innovative projects that break new ground. Partners are required to secure additional funding for their proposal. A co-funding strategy will therefore be an important criteria in the selection of Network Partnership Grantees. The co-funding scheme is important because it enables greater co-responsibility, a greater pool of income for activities, and strengthens the prospects for sustainability of the organisation.

One important Criteria:

The co-funding must match the funding provided by the Prince Claus Fund with an own contribution (or funding from other sources) of minimum 50,000 EUR in total over the period of three years. This contribution must be dedicated to activity implementation, and must be cash income for the organization (not in-kind support). This co-funding structure will be reviewed jointly and annually by the Prince Claus Fund and the successful applicant. The successful grantees will sign a 3-year funding contract, during which time activities are developed that are in line with the following criteria of the Prince Claus Fund: quality, innovation, and relevance to development.

2. About the Network Partnership Annual Meeting

All Network Partnership Grantees supported by the Prince Claus Fund come together for a joint meeting at least once a year and successful applicants will be expected to take part. At these meetings there are valuable face-to-face exchanges and discussions on issues of joint relevance. Meetings hosted by a partner enable other partners to do local and regional outreach on their work.

These meetings offer more than dialogue, they stimulate possibilities for collaboration across regions among partners on issues of their own choosing. They enable the building of long lasting relationships among partners and link them to the wider network of the Prince Claus Fund so that local activities can be linked to a global network or organisations doing similar work in other parts of the world.

More information is also available on the Prince Claus Fund website:
<http://www.princeclausfund.org/en/programmes/about-the-network-partners>.

TIMELINE OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Deadline to send in Concept Note: **Friday, 9th March 2018 at 17:00h Amsterdam Time (CEST)**

Notification of Decision by: **end of April 2018**

Only shortlisted successful applicants will be asked to submit a detailed application form for the Network Partnership Grant. The exact deadline for this will be communicated directly to the shortlisted applicants.

GRANT GUIDELINES

1. Eligible Candidates

Eligible candidates are cultural/arts organisations that are working in the field of arts and culture and development and are based in **Africa** (***Please note that only countries from these regions listed in the [DAC List](#) will be eligible to apply for this grant***). Applying organisations must have experience functioning for at least 5 years, (verified through annual reports and/or auditor statements). **Applications from public institutions will not be accepted.**

Because of gender inequality in the arts and culture field, we welcome and prioritize applications by organizations whose work addresses gender issues and whose work empowers women through the arts. Also, we welcome and prioritise applications by organizations whose work addresses and/or is related to LGBTQI issues and empowerment through the arts.

The Network Partnership Grant is only available once; previous Prince Claus Fund Network Partnership grantees may not reapply;

2. Eligible Expenses

The Network Partnership Grant covers project-related expenses, running and operating costs of the applicant organisation for a three-year period (2019-2021). The organisation must provide proof of matching funds of a minimum of 50.000 EUR in total over the period of three years to be dedicated to activity implementation of the organisation. This contribution must be dedicated to activity implementation and must be cash, not in-kind support for activity implementation.

3. Place and Duration

Projects must start implementation by 1 January 2019 at the latest and be implemented until the end of 2021 at the latest.

4. How to Apply

Complete and submit the Network Partnership Concept Note. Only shortlisted organisations will be approached to fill out the detailed Network Partnership Application Form. All applicants will receive an automated reply from the Fund once they have sent in their Concept Note to proposals@princeclausfund.nl.

5. Selection Procedure

All applicants will be contacted by the end of April 2018 by email with an answer on their application. If the applicant is shortlisted, the Fund will provide information on the next steps in the application process. Please see the Prince Claus Fund's website <http://www.princeclausfund.org/en/programmes/about-the-network-partners> for more detailed information on the Network Partners and the selection procedure.

6. Grant Contracts

Once the Fund has made a final selection of organizations to receive a Network Partnership Grant, the Fund will draft a contract to be signed by the successful applicant. This contract will be signed before the end of 2018. The contract will include start and end dates, grant amount, financial requirements, payment schedule, general provisions, implementation and amendments, required reports, and partnership results.

7. Payment Schedule

Payment of the total grant amount shall be made in several instalments based upon the proposed project budget and liquidity plan.