



GUIDANCE FOR GRANT-SEEKING ORGANISATIONS OUTSIDE THE UK

Introduction

This information sheet has been produced to help overseas organisations seeking funding from UK grant-making trusts and foundations find relevant sources of information.

Does ACF provide guidance to grant-seekers?

No. The Association of Charitable Foundations (ACF) is the leading membership association for independent grant-making charities in the UK. ACF's role is to help and support the work of members. It provides a framework in which grant-making trusts and foundations can learn from each other's experience, explore matters of common concern and achieve good practice in grant-making. ACF itself does not make grants and its remit does not include advising grant-seekers (in the UK or overseas) on suitable funders and/or on individual grant applications.

More information about ACF is available on our website: www.acf.org.uk.

Why is ACF listed in some directories as a point of contact for overseas grant-seekers?

We regret that this is confusing. Unfortunately we know that unsolicited entries for ACF as a point of contact for overseas grant-seekers, or as a clearing house for grant applications, appear in some international directories. This is not a service that ACF can provide and we hope that future editions of these directories will be corrected.

How many UK trusts and foundations support overseas grant-seekers?

Only a small proportion of UK trusts and foundations make grants outside the UK, and few give funds direct to organisations in other countries. Of these trusts and foundations, most prefer to give through a UK-based partner organisation which is working in the country concerned and/or which specialises in the sort of skills and support that are needed.

Where can we find out about UK trusts and foundations that will support overseas organisations seeking grants?

1. Directory of Social Change

The Directory of Social Change (DSC) is a UK charity which provides information and support to voluntary and community sectors worldwide. DSC publishes a wide range of books and provides various online resources. Their full product range plus details of prices, subscriptions, and how to order publications are available on their website: www.dsc.org.uk.

Three DSC publications that may be useful for overseas grant-seekers are:

- **The International Development Directory** provides information on UK trusts and foundations that will give grants direct. It also includes details of UK-based voluntary organisations working in the developing world that may be able to fulfill the role of 'partner organisation'
- **A Guide to the Major Trusts** provides information on the top grant-making trusts and foundations in the UK (ranked by grant expenditure); including large overseas development fundraising charities that make grants overseas.
- **Directory of Grant Making Trusts** covers the largest 2,500+ grant-making trusts in the UK.

DSC has also created several searchable websites of fundraising information. *www.trustfunding.org.uk*, for example, features information on more than 4400 UK grant-making trusts and foundations, including large overseas development fundraising charities that make grants overseas. Please note that all the DSC online resources are subscription-based.

2. Guidestar UK

Guidestar UK is an independent charity set up to provide a single, easily accessible source of detailed information about every charity and voluntary organisation in the UK. Currently Guidestar UK's searchable database (accessible via its website: *www.guidestar.org.uk*) contains details of the 167,000 registered main charities in England and Wales including grant-making trusts and foundations, some of which may assist overseas organisations. In the future charities in Scotland and Northern Ireland will be included.

3. Allavida

Allavida is an international development organisation supported by trusts and foundations and the UK government. Allavida's main programmes are in South East Europe, East Africa, and Central Asia where they support the development of the non-profit sector. Their work includes making grants and details are available on their website: *www.allavida.org*.

4. Medical research

The Association of Medical Research Charities (ARMRC) maintains a searchable database of member charities, including some which fund overseas medical research work. This database replaces the hard copy of the ARMRC handbook, which is no longer produced. Further details are available on ARMRC's website: *www.amrc.org.uk*.

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