

Useful additional information

Foundation Directories
to be found in most of the public libraries, e.g. "Directory of Grant-Making Trusts" or "Guide to the Major Grant-Making Trusts"

"Organisational Plan of the Commission of the European Communities"

List of the General Directorates, Directions, responsible persons
Office of the Official Publications of the European Communities, 2 rue Mercier, L-2985
Luxembourg or the National Offices of the EC

"Mittel und Zuschüsse der EG für Menschenrechts- und Migrantenprojekte"
Die Grünen im Europaparlament - Büro Claudia Roth, Hochhaus Tulpenfeld, D-53090
Bonn, phone 49-228-163138, fax 49-228-1686642

"cash coop - Vernetzungs- und Finanzierungswissen für selbstorganisierte Initiativen"
10 DM to Buntstift e.V., Holländische Strasse 208, D-34127 Kassel

Funds (selection) -

supporting projects of anti-racism/antifascism/human rights/migrants/refugees

Barrow & Geraldine S. Cadbury Trust / Barrow Cadbury Fund
Buntstift (and affiliated regional funds)
Commission of the EC - DG V (Migrants)
Commission of the EC - DG VIII (Development)
Commission of the EC - DG Human Rights
Commission of the EC - Task Force Human Resources
European Communities Youth Exchange Bureau - Youth For Europe
European Cultural Foundation
European Human Rights Foundation
European Social Fund
European Youth Foundation
Foundation for International Understanding
Fredstonden
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust
Mama Cash
National Ministries (Education, Youth, Development, Culture...)
Olat Palmes Minnesfond f. Int. Förståelse och Gem. Sak.
Steunfonds Vluchtelingen Organisaties
Stiftung Umverteilen
Trust Fund for Disabled Refugees c/o UNHCR
UNESCO
United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture
Volkswagen-Stiftung
World Council of Churches - Program to Combat Racism
Xmily Beweging
Zusters van Liefde



UNITED for Intercultural Action
European network
against nationalism, racism, fascism
and in support of migrants and refugees

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INFORMATION LEAFLET

No 1

"Shake Your Money Maker! How to get FINANCIAL support on (inter)national level"

September 1993

During the last Conference of the UNITED network (Köln 6/93) it was decided, that UNITED should provide information and tips on funding possibilities. This is a first short help for all the groups suffering from lack of finances.

You can contact UNITED for all additional questions and order in advance the Directory of Internationalism (edition November 1993) with the addresses of important funds.

Check-List for Applications

Where and how to apply...

- Core-funding (administration, salaries...) can be received from national level (state funds, labour office...) or by contributions of member organisations, trade unions etc.
- All funds like more to contribute to a concrete, clear, payable and interesting PROJECT.
- Reserve enough time! From the first contact to the fund to the receipt of the money it can easily take 3-12 months.

- Take at the same time contact to various funds, so that you didn't lose much time if you get a negative response. As a new organisation or with little experience you will surely get 90-100% negative answers. Show persistence, try it always again and be convinced of your good project.

- Subventions from various funds guarantee your independence

- Don't hide your political background and intentions. Be frankly and convince funds and institutions by your strong and clear profile and your good work.

- If you are applying to an international fund, pay attention to the international aspects of your application, or ask your international partners to appear as co-applicants.

- If your project is a youth project, you will sometimes have better chances or access to special youth funds.

- When having chosen for a possible fund, try to get as much information as possible: from persons who know them, from organisations who have already applied there, on the political background (parties), on their flexibility and openness... Do they support "alternative" projects? Do they support groups non-aligned to their organisation?

Contact to the fund and lobbying

Now it's the time to get closer contact to your fund:

- It is much advantageous to call directly the project officer and present shortly your project. You must be convinced by your project yourself and you must convince your partner, that the project is interesting for the fund and ask openly, whether you might have a chance with your proposal. Leave the impression, that it is an important project of an important organisation.

Ask for application forms, written information on the fund, last year list of subventions, deadlines, time for processing, possible percentage and amount of funding, language of application, direct phone and fax numbers etc.
Be sure that you got the personal name and spelling.

- Keep the personal contact also after your sending of the application. Ask whether the application form arrived and whether there are any more questions. If necessary, make another attempt to convince your partner emotionally of the project.

- Be aware that employees of an (inter)national institution are often more progressive, liberal and tolerant than the institution itself.

- For short written communication it is much quicker to use telefax. The postal ways within bigger institutions are sometimes incredibly long.

- Contact politicians, other personalities or well-known organisations, who know the fund and could contact it. Or contact persons, who have a good reputation and would like to write a "letter of support", which makes your organisation more "serious". Or do you know even somebody from the fund's decision making Board?

- Sometimes international funds have information offices on national or regional level. Try to get information/contact also here. If possible, also a letter of support.

The application

- It is much work to compile your application, which consists normally of an (unknown) application form putting together of extra pages (budget, list of activities, list of member organisations, letters of support...)
special information on your organisation and the project

and having finished your project:
reports (activity report, financial report) with sometimes bureaucratic demands

Regarding all additional efforts, such as contacts, phone calls, investigations etc., you have to decide, whether this amount of work will be compensated with possible amount of subvention
co-incident of your project with the fund's priorities and chance for a positive decision

- Make a copy of the application form before filling it in. So you have a reserve copy and must not wait for the sending of another form in case of writing errors.

- Use the application form sent by the fund. If it is impossible to fill it in with computers, it is normally accepted, if you take all the text over into your own computer form.

- Write in one of the fund's languages. Only if you have difficulties ask beforehand, whether it is allowed to use your own. Applications to the EC can be written for example in the 9 Community languages. But if you have no difficulty to write in French or English, you can save much time, which is needed for the translation.

- Answer all questions, or remark at least why you are unable to answer specific ones.

- Study precisely the demands of the fund and the special conditions to get support.

- Offer to acknowledge the support of the fund in your publicity about the project.

- Orientate yourself to the wording, which you found in the information leaflets of the fund. Pay attention to positive or negative emotive words.

- Describe positively your project, your successes and capacities and your future planning. Explain what positive results you hope to achieve.

- Don't be too modest with the money you are asking for. A good project needs an exactly fixed and often high financial support. You should ask for the highest percentage of funding possible. For the Commission of the EC normally 50%.

- The higher the amount of the demanded subvention, the more professional should your enclosed information material look like.

- Write a personal accompanying letter to the person in charge of the fund or your personal contact. Summarize why it is a good project and why you turn to the fund. But remember, all remarks that are not mentioned at the same time in your application, might be lost in the decision process.