

Frequently asked questions – Nordic Gender Equality Fund Call for proposals

What activities are funded through the Nordic Gender Equality Fund?

The Nordic Gender Equality Fund supports a wide range of activities:

The aims of the projects can be to contribute new knowledge, a sharing of experiences or Nordic networks.

This includes for example:

- good practise exchange,
- creation and piloting of new tools,
- working with target groups within the community
- organising Nordic workshops
- network-building
- participation of NGOs/voluntary organisations in Nordic or International meetings

The Nordic Gender Equality Fund has funded 67 projects since 2013, so to get an idea what has been done so far, please feel free to consult the [funded projects section](#) on our web page.

The projects are to consist of cooperation between a minimum of three partners. How are organisations from for example Aaland Islands, Faroe Islands and Greenland considered?

Each project must involve at least three Nordic countries, where the Faroe Islands, Greenland and the Aaland Islands may constitute one of these on an equal level.

In addition, Baltic countries and North West Russia can be included in a project with minimum two Nordic organisations.

How can organisations from the Baltic States or north-west Russia be included?

Grants can be awarded to activities that include cooperation in neighbouring areas, such as Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania and north-west Russia when the project include at least two Nordic countries.

Please note that the principal applicant should come from a Nordic country or the Faroe Islands, Greenland or the Aaland Islands.

How could we find allies and partners in Nordic countries?

NIKK organises a digital information event around the time of the call for proposals is open each year. Organisations looking for cooperation partners have the possibility to call for cooperation partners at the partner search section of this digital event.

How much money can be applied for?

The amount applied for should be between DKK 50,000 and DKK 500,000.

Organisations applying for grants need to be able to contribute at least 20 per cent themselves and/or have other sources of finance. The organisation's own contribution and/or other sources of funding could come from sponsorship or other financial contributions, voluntary work, participant fees, or indirect costs for example.

NIKK welcomes a mix of various projects, and it is as welcome to initiate new cooperation or organising a smaller workshop, for example, as it is to apply for funds for more substantial method development project. If a smaller project is initiated, it is possible to apply again for a more advanced project.

When can the approved project expect to be able to start their projects, and how long is the maximum project period?

The projects that are approved for funding, will be contracted during the month of June, and can start project implementation as soon as both parties has signed the contract.

Projects are required to start their activities during the year which they have received funding and most approved projects start their activities in the beginning of the autumn.

The project period is maximum two years.

What are eligible costs and what are ineligible costs?

NIKK receives various questions on what is eligible and what is not. Here are some of the costs that are most frequently addressed.

Salary costs for activities carried out in the project are eligible costs.

Please note that travel costs is only funded for representatives of volunteer organisations and invited speakers at an event.

Funding not be given for audits or indirect costs.

Indirect costs include overhead costs, such as the costs for central economic function in a larger organisations or other running costs (such as rent, electricity, IT).

What are the major DO's and DON'TS?

Please DO

In terms of content:

- Consider how the [selection criteria](#) Nordic benefit, added value for gender policy, sustainability/long-term view, implementation and economic viability are addressed in the project application
- Consider how the project results can become long term viable and take action to disseminate the results in a constructive way

In terms of formalities:

- Submit your application by the deadline at 2 pm CET (Swedish time)
- Submit a complete application form with all mandatory fields and attachments such as complete budget forms
- Submit a budget in Danish kroner, DKK

DO NOT

Please note that funding will not be granted for

- Activities already financed wholly or in part by Nordic Council of Ministers for Gender Equality (MR-JÄM), or the Nordic Council of Ministers.

- Political party organisations.
- Private individuals.
- Activities whose purpose is to generate a profit or equivalent for the funding beneficiary.

How do you take into consideration the COVID – 19 pandemic and the related restrictions in relation to project implementation?

When preparing for a project, it is recommended to plan to for what is currently possible, with a certain flexibility and mix of methods– and to be realistic in terms of the need for digital meetings and interactions initially.

There is also an understanding for the need to update the project plans along the line including some budget changes

However, it is important to note that corner stone aspects of the Nordic Gender Equality Fund, such as Nordic benefit and Gender Equality Added Value are to be respected when any changes are to be implemented to the project plans. Here we are happy to have a constructive dialogue regarding the changes needed.

How can independent researchers and scholars not affiliated to universities be involved in the projects supported by the Nordic Gender Equality Fund?

Salary costs for independent researchers are eligible cost within a project, so one possibility is to find partner organisations that will include a researcher in the project.

Another possibility is to take part as one of the minimum three cooperation partners as self-employed.

What do you mean by “Nordic benefit”?

The guideline refers to which extent the project:

- generates significant positive effects through Nordic cooperation, compared to the project having been implemented at the national level;
- manifests and develops Nordic cohesion, both within and outside the region;

- contributes new infrastructure that strengthens Nordic cooperation on gender equality
- responds in a constructive way to the challenges of Nordic cooperation such as national barriers and differences.

In the assessment process, the application will be assessed on how well it:

- justifies why the project should be implemented as Nordic cooperation;
- describes the added value and the challenges that the cooperating parties perceive in working together across country borders.

In the application form there is both a project description and a problem formulation - What is the difference?

While the project description is a brief summary of the project as a whole, the problem formulation is a section where the main problem to be addressed in the project is described.

In relation to the application form, what do you expect in terms of the section called Project plan?

The project plan to be attached to the project application gives the applicants the possibility to explain what they plan to do in the project in their own words. Information usually included here are, for example, the rationale of the project in terms of problem to be solved, what activities that are planned in order to reach the objectives as well as the overall timetable (what is to be done by whom and when).

Should the project plan preferably be written in English or is it fine to write in any Nordic language?

You are welcome to write the application (including the project plan) in English or in one of the Scandinavian languages Danish, Norwegian or Swedish.

How many applications do you generally receive and how many get funded?

It varies from year to year how many applications we receive, but on average the last years we have received around 35-40 applications and approved between 4 to 8 projects per year.