

1PPB - Instructions of the main budget holder for budgetary spending margin

I REQUESTED DECISION CONCERNS

General details of programme fund	
Name of programme fund	Human Rights Fund (ODA)
Policy department	Multilateral Organisations and Human Rights Department (DMM)
Funds centre	0501U020400**
Duration of programme fund	Open-ended
Total budget for programme fund	33.555.000

NB: Only for ODA activities			
See the glossary for explanations of development policy data terminology. The glossary gives more information about all the items that are highlighted in the table below.			
For further information please see the alphabetical list of terms and links to Rijksportaal (the central government intranet).			
Aid modality	Other programme-based aid		
Donor role	Lead or active donor		
Technical assistance (TA)	TA < 10 less than 10% of the activity budget		
Beneficiary's country/region			
Countries within the region (if applicable)			
Location within the country (be as specific as possible)	Choose an item.	Name of location(s):	
CRS code	15160		
Policy markers weighted 'principal' (no minimum or maximum)	PD/GG Human Rights		

Policy markers weighted 'significant' (no minimum or maximum)	
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II. FUND OBJECTIVE

2.1 Purpose of the Fund

The Human Rights Fund (MRF) is intended to support the implementation of Dutch human rights policy. Approximately EUR 52 million (ODA and non-ODA) is available each year, about two-thirds of which is delegated to the missions. Embassies can use these funds to make a tangible, result driven and sustainable contribution to improve the human rights situation in the country.

2.2 Priorities and allocation of drawing rights

Allocation of drawing rights to the MRF will be based and decided upon the requests received through the Annual Plan Cycle. Once allocated, the funds have to be spent on one or more of the priorities as mentioned below. No deviation from these priorities is allowed, unless previously cleared with DMM/MP (DMM-MRF@minbuza.nl). Additional funding can be requested via the monitoring reports cycle (uitvoeringsrapportage)

For further details, please see message [HRF Fund 2020](#) (berichtenverkeer DMM-2020-029 dated Feb. 21, 2020).

Projects which have been approved, must also be registered in the **the collaborative workspace**; [link](#).

2.2.1 Priorities

Priorities of the MRF:

- Freedom of expression
- Freedom of religion and belief
- Equal rights for LGBTI persons
- Equal rights for women and girls
- Human rights defenders
- Promoting the international legal order and the fight against impunity

Above-mentioned priorities are in compliance with the updated human rights policy as sent to Parliament on May 28, 2018 in the Human Rights Report 2017.

Projects to be funded must have a clear focus on one or more of these priorities, and within these themes increased efforts on equal rights for LGBTI persons, freedom of expression and freedom of religion and belief.

Barring relevant exceptions, HRF funds will not be allocated to parties in OECD-countries with a functioning rule of law (text motion in Dutch: geen financiering uit het MRF in "OESO-landen met functionerende rechtsstaat, behoudens relevante uitzonderingen").

2.2.2 Available budget

The total available budget for the programme fund can be found in the policy theme department's approved annual plan. Adjusted amounts, if applicable, may be found in the monitoring report (UVR) or a budget memo.

The budget holder can receive information about the depletion of their budgets through this [link](#). If the designated staff member cannot see the mission's details, please report this via SSP using [this link](#) and request authorisation.

III. FUND CRITERIA

Obligatory requirements for a Netherlands embassy/consulate general in a specific country to qualify for funding:

1. The country in which the project will be executed:
 - has a poor human rights record, or
 - plays or could play an exemplary role in the region, and/or
 - has the potential to become a strategic partner of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (e.g. leverage in international meetings, position of the country in the region, possible trilateral cooperation, member of the Equal Rights Coalition, member of the Freedom Online Coalition, etc.), or
 - is a focus country of the international courts/tribunals.
2. The project has to be result driven and clearly focused on one of the six priorities of the human rights policy:
 - Freedom of expression
 - Freedom of religion and belief
 - Equal rights for LGBTI persons
 - Equal rights for women and girls
 - Human rights defenders
 - Promoting the international legal order and the fight against impunity.
3. Funds will make a tangible and sustainable i.e. longlasting contribution to improve the human rights situation in the country or in the region. Projects must have feasible, realistic goals and focus on clearly defined results.
4. Core funding is in principle not allowed.
5. The maximum duration of a project is four years, thus offering possibilities for providing an instrument to implement the Multi-annual Country Strategies of the mission.
6. A human rights based approach guides all stages of the project cycle. This means that:
 - The goal of the project should contribute to the realization of human rights, preferably in line with country-specific recommendations issued by regional human rights bodies and UN Treaty Bodies, Special Procedures, and in the framework of UPR.

- Human rights principles such as participation, non-discrimination and accountability guide all stages of the project cycle (analysis, design, implementation, M&E)
- The projects' outcome aim to strengthen the capacities of individuals and groups (rights holders) so that they can claim their legitimate entitlements and/or government at all levels (duty bearers) so that they can comply with their human rights obligations.

Additional guidelines:

- An NGO is not required to have its headquarters in the country where the project is being executed. For example, the embassy in New Delhi may award a grant to a British NGO implementing a project in India.

- HRF funds can be used to support individuals or non-governmental organizations.

- The mission is responsible for spending the allocated funds and does not need to consult DMM or request its permission (unless the mission has plans to spend the funds on non-priority themes or in OECD countries as mentioned above).

- Social and technological developments make it necessary to constantly review and renew human rights policy. Policy innovation can be fostered through innovative partnerships with e.g. cities, businesses, youth organizations, and academic institutions. The human rights priorities invite applicants to work in innovative ways through new partnerships in order to create broad support and involve other influential human rights voices. Hence, such engagement with innovative partners in the implementation of all phases within the project cycle is strongly encouraged.

V. APPROVAL

Approved August 2019 by budget holder.

PROVISION OF COPIES

- FSO-Missions
- Registration on 24/7Plaza: [HBBZ](#), by sending an email to HBBZ@minbuza.nl

Glossary

<p><u>Policy marker weight</u></p>	<p>Policy markers can have one of two 'weightings':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - principal - significant. <p>Principal policy markers correspond to secondary objectives that are essential to implementation of the activity. Significant policy markers correspond to secondary objectives that are important but not essential to implementation of the activity. Both types of policy marker must be stated explicitly in the project documentation.</p> <p>Policy marker cannot be 'principal' if it is designated as 'significant'. Policy marker cannot be 'significant' if it is designated as 'principal'.</p>
<p><u>CRS code</u></p>	<p>The CRS code indicates the purpose of the contribution. The OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) instructs as follows: 'The sector of destination of a contribution should be selected by answering the question which specific area of the recipient's economic or social structure the transfer is intended to foster.' The CRS purpose codes establish a hierarchy of objectives. They have been devised by the OECD/DAC and are used internationally. Only one CRS code can be allocated to an activity at activity level. In line with the DAC's instructions, it must be as specific as possible. The CRS codes are used internationally in reporting to the OECD/DAC as well as in other external and internal reporting.</p> <p>When recording the purpose of the contribution in SAP, you must ensure that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the CRS code is consistent with the main objective as formulated in the BEMO; 2. the CRS code is consistent with the objectives of the budget, i.e. the funds centre and CRS codes should not contradict each other.
<p><u>Donor role</u></p>	<p>The donor role describes the Netherlands' role in multi-donor collaborations. There are three types of donor role:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Single donor: the Netherlands is the sole donor. - Lead or active donor: the Netherlands finances the activity jointly with other donors and is involved in the programming. The Netherlands may also act as coordinator and liaise with the recipient country on behalf of one or more donors. - Silent partner: the Netherlands finances the activity jointly with other donors but is not actively involved in the programming.

<p><u>Aid modality</u></p>	<p>Aid modalities are the different ways in which development aid is delivered to a recipient.</p>
<p><u>Beneficiary's country/region</u></p>	<p>This field refers to the target group's country of residence or country of origin, or the country that will ultimately benefit from the assistance. It need not be the country where the project is implemented. For instance, if the project concerns training in the donor country, use the country code for the students' country of origin.</p> <p>When there is only one beneficiary country, it is identified by a two-letter ISO code. A regional code should be used where activities are aimed at several countries on the same continent or at a target group spread over several countries on the same continent. The code WW (worldwide) should be used for activities aimed at several countries spread over two or more continents.</p>
<p><u>Technical assistance</u></p>	<p>Technical assistance is a development cooperation instrument intended to strengthen society's capacity at various levels in order to generate, transform, absorb and use skills and knowledge. It can take various forms such as the secondment of personnel, research, training and networking – all of which can occur in many variations. Technical assistance is an integral component of aid efforts aimed at structural poverty reduction.</p> <p>You must indicate whether the activity has a technical assistance component and, if so, what level of funding is involved (see list). Note that technical assistance does not include the normal staffing costs of a project or organisation.</p>