



United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (UNVFVT)
Circular n° 1/2020: Call for 2021 Applications

The Secretariat of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (UNVFVT) is pleased to announce that the Fund will accept requests for funding from **15 January to 1 March 2020**, for grants that will be used between 1 January and 31 December 2021.

Project applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

Grants may only be awarded to organizations for projects that provide **direct assistance** to victims of torture and their family members. Such assistance may be in the form of medical, psychological, legal or social assistance. Applications from all regions will be accepted. All applications should be submitted in English, French or Spanish. The Fund will also receive a small number of applications for training and seminar projects aimed at strengthening the internal capacity of the applicant organization.

Only applications that strictly comply with the Guidelines of the Fund will be considered. Please refer to the Guidelines when drafting and before submitting the application (available here: <https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Torture/UNVFVT/Call/GuidelinesTortureFund2019revised49thsessionFINALENG.pdf>).

First time applicants or organizations previously supported by the Fund should submit project proposals that do not exceed USD 50,000. On-going grantees should note that, as a general rule, project applications should range between USD 30,000 and USD 100,000. Please note that the average grant size of the Fund in 2020 is \$43,000.

Applications will be reviewed in a competitive manner taking into account the merit of the proposal, the needs it addresses, the income available to the Fund, and if applicable, the number of years of continuous support received from the Fund.

Generally, projects for direct assistance to victims shall be supported on a yearly basis for a maximum of ten consecutive years, subject to a satisfactory evaluation of the project and availability of funds. After that, in the following three years, no application will be accepted from the organization in relation to a project in the same country of implementation.

How to apply?

Applications should be submitted through the [on-line grants management system \(GMS\)](#). Please follow this link: <https://grants.ohchr.org/Default.aspx>. After logging into GMS, enter into the 52nd Session.

We encourage applicants to refer to the user's manual available on the GMS main page to assist organizations when submitting their application through the system.

To report technical problems or request additional assistance while completing the application, applicants should address the Secretariat by email: ptissier@ohchr.org.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to secure sufficient time to complete the application prior to the expiration of the deadline. In particular, new applicants are advised to complete the registration process early to allow sufficient time to work on the application.

Applications will be received and reviewed on a rolling basis until 1 March 2020.

Priorities:

For 2021, priority will be given to applications for projects to be implemented in:

- Countries with shrinking or limited civic space.
- Countries in the Middle East, North Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Central Asia and the Pacific that are under-represented among current UNVFVT grantees.

List of grants awarded in 2020:

<https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Torture/UNVFVT/Call/UNTortureFundpubliclistofgrantsawardedin2020.pdf>

For organizations that have projects funded by the UNVFVT in 2019:

- Financial and narrative reports on the use of 2019 grants should be submitted through the online grants management system of the Fund between 15 January and 1 March 2020.
- **Project applications from an organization that has overdue reports will not be considered.** An organization that has failed to submit, by the set deadline, satisfactory financial and narrative reports (and audit report if applicable) on the use of all previous grants, will not be eligible to apply for a 2021 grant.

*The Secretariat of the Fund
15 January 2020*