

FAQ Education – Empowerment – Justice Programme (EEJ Programme)

Thematic and Geographical Focus

1. What are the various thematic strands of the EEJ Programme?

The EEJ Programme has 5 thematic strands:

- 1) The Price of Freedom of Expression (ensuring justice for those penalised for exercising their freedom of expression)
- 2) Targeted and Exploited (ensuring justice for women and minorities suffering discrimination)
- 3) Unscrupulous Greed (ensuring justice for victims following corporate infringements of human rights)
- 4) In War's Backyard (ensuring justice for victims after armed conflicts)
- 5) New Spring (ensuring fair legal systems in Tunisia, Egypt and states in the Middle East)

2. Does the EEJ Programme have geographical restrictions?

Yes. All supported projects must take place in countries that qualify for receiving Official Development Assistance (ODA) according to the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (you may find a list of eligible countries [here](#)).

Additionally, each of the thematic strands has geographical restrictions:

- 1) The Price of Freedom and Expression: **Middle East and North Africa**
- 2) Targeted and Exploited: **Europe** (projects on minorities) and **globally** (projects on women)
- 3) Unscrupulous Greed: **Latin America**
- 4) In War's Backyard: **Africa**
- 5) New Spring: **Tunisia, Egypt and the Middle East**

3. What if my Section's HRE work does not fit within the thematic strands listed for my region?

It is unfortunately not possible to receive funding through the EEJ Programme if your Section does not work within the thematic strand relevant for your region.

4. Will some Sections be prioritised for funding?

Provided that the application fits within the thematic and geographical priorities of the programme, priority will be given to section/structures in the global south and east that are identified by the movement as Priority Countries 2012-2015.

For further information about the thematic and geographical focus of the EEJ Programme, please see IHREC's web page (www.amnesty.no/ihrec).

Budget

1. What is the total budget to be disbursed as grants through the EEJ programme?

The total amount to be granted to all projects over the 5 years period is approximately US\$ 6 million.

2. Who is the back-donor of the EEJ funds?

The funds distributed through the EEJ Programme were donated by the Norwegian government as part of the Norwegian TV-Campaign (Telethon) in 2012. The grants provided through the EEJ Programme are administered by the International Human Rights Education Centre (IHREC), based at AI Norway, on behalf of the AI movement.

3. Is there a specific funding allocation for each theme?

No, there is no set distribution between the themes.

4. Will there be a certain amount disbursed every year?

We hope that the funding can be evenly distributed over the 5 year period that the programme will run (2013-2017), though the amount might be slightly lower in the first year of the programme. We aim to have each project running for a 4-5 year period, meaning that our ambition is that all projects that will be supported through the programme have started by 2014.

5. Is there a funding limit for each project application? If not, what would be the average size of grant that the committee would approve?

No maximum amount has been set for each project. We expect the average annual grant to be around US\$ 100,000 for each applicant. The size of the grant depends on the nature of the project and the applicant's capacity to implement the project (i.e. the size of the section's existing operations).

6. Is it possible to solicit funding for scoping activities for a future project?

Yes, we may grant funding for scoping activities during the first year of funding.

7. Match-funding is not required, but will projects offering match-funding from other sources be favoured?

No, projects offering match-funding will not be prioritized over other projects.

Decision making process

1. Who will be responsible for taking a decision on the applications that will get funded?

The Education – Empowerment – Justice Steering Group (EEJ SG) is responsible for the decision-making on granting of the funds in the EEJ Programme. The EEJ SG is comprised of the members of the already existing IHREC steering group with an additional member appointed by the board of AI Norway.

2. Does the Amnesty entities applying for funding from the EEJ Programme need an approval from the IEC for Government Funding of Human Rights Education work?

Yes. The EEJ funding is coming from a contribution to the work of Amnesty from the Norwegian government. All Amnesty entities applying for funding from the EEJ Programme therefore need to submit an application for IEC Approval for Government Funding.

3. What will be the criteria used for selecting successful funding applications?

When assessing the applications, the following criteria will be taken into consideration:

- ✓ Compliance with the thematic and geographical criteria for each strand
- ✓ The AI movement's country priorities and Critical Pathways
- ✓ Organisational status (priority given to AI section or a structure in countries where this exists and to organisations already known to AI in other countries)
- ✓ Applicant's organisational and administrative capacity
- ✓ Applicant's human rights education capacity (including previous experience in carrying out HRE work)

- ✓ Project duration and sustainability
 - ✓ Inclusion of active participation and empowerment in the project
 - ✓ Projects planned and implemented in cooperation with other organisations and associations
 - ✓ Projects' plans for monitoring and evaluation
- 4. Will we be informed of the outcome if we are unsuccessful in securing the funding? Will the reasons for this also be explained to us?**
Yes, all applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application. Unsuccessful applicants may request the reason for the rejection.
- 5. How will the EEJ grant team ensure that the grant-making process is transparent and fair for all Sections?**
Criteria for project selection are open, and all applicants may request feed-back on project drafts from the IHREC staff. Decisions on funding are made by the Steering Group.

Deadlines and time frame

- 1. Is there a deadline for submitting the funding application? When will the EEJ SG meet to discuss and make decisions on the applications?**
It is possible to apply at any time, and the IHREC is happy to comment on draft applications.
Applications will be approved every six months by the Education – Empowerment – Justice Steering Group (EEJ SG), tentatively in November and May every year. The first meeting of the EEJ SG is taking place by the end of November 2012. The deadline for submitting an application to a EEJ SG meeting is two weeks before the meeting takes place. The exact dates of the deadlines will be published on the IHREC's website.
- 2. How long will it take to know the outcome of the application?**
We expect decisions from the EEJ SG meeting to be communicated within a week or two after the meeting.
- 3. How long is the EEJ programme expected to last?**
The EEJ programme will last for 5 years (2013 to 2017).
- 4. How long is each grant expected to last?**
We aim to have each project running for a 4-5 year period. We encourage applicants to first apply for funding for a 1-year pilot project. During this year, a full 3-4 years project application may be developed and submitted to the IHREC.
- 5. Is there an advantage in applying earlier rather than later in the funding cycle of this grant stream?**
Yes, as we aim to support long-term projects (4-5 years), we encourage all potential applicants to apply for funding by the start of the life span of the EEJ programme. From the second year on, we will give priority to projects that have received prior funding and carried out their projects successfully.
- 6. Is it likely that the entire funding pot may be allocated before the end of the programme?**
It is likely that towards the end of the programme no funding will be available for applicants that have not previously received funding from the programme.

Number of applications per applicant

1. Can we apply a second time if we have been unsuccessful the first time around?

Yes, it is possible to apply more than once.

2. Can we submit several applications at the same time if we apply under different strands or is it only one grant per section?

It is possible to apply at the same time under different strands, but it is not likely that one section would receive two simultaneous grants under the EEJ programme. We therefore recommend that, in consultation with the IHREC staff, you prioritize developing a project under one of the strands.

3. Can we submit under the same strand as a lead organisation and then join another application as a partner?

The EEJ programme encourages cooperation among its grantees. It is possible for two or more applicants to submit joint applications, one of the applicants being the lead organisation.

Reporting requirements

1. What will be the narrative and financial reporting requirements for the successful grantees? Will there be any specific format and guidance to follow?

The grantees must submit annual narrative and financial (including audit) reports in addition to a final project report. Formats and guidance will be available from the IHREC for successful applicants.

Other

1. Can we submit our application in French or Spanish or is English the only language for the programme?

Applications should be delivered in English. Please contact the IHREC staff if this is difficult for your section.

2. What support will be available from the IHREC and IPU (the International Projects Unit at the International Secretariat) in developing the applications?

The IHREC staff would very much appreciate to comment on a concept note or draft project, in writing or by phone/Skype. IS staff in IPU and the HRE team are also available to provide guidance and advice on project applications.

3. Where can I find the application form and grant guidelines?

The application form and grant guidelines are available upon request from IHREC or IPU staff.

4. What are the contact details for the IHREC staff?

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