



JOODS HUMANITAIR FONDS

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DUTCH JEWISH HUMANITARIAN FUND

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About JHF

Background

The Dutch Jewish Humanitarian Fund (JHF) started operating in 2002. The Foundation was established as a result of the negotiations on Jewish war claims in the Netherlands. In the settlement between the Dutch Jewish community, the Dutch Jews in Israel, and the Dutch government, it was agreed to allocate part of the Dutch government's contribution toward a fund supporting projects dedicated to restoring Jewish life in former communist countries, providing Jewish education, promoting mutual respect between people, and supporting civilian victims in war zones.

The award policy of the Dutch Jewish Humanitarian Fund is based on the principles of human rights and tzedakah. Tzedakah is not a privilege but a right. The aim of tzedakah is to establish a just society. These principles are embedded in the Jewish tradition. In Leviticus XIX (9) is the admonition "not [to] wholly reap the corners of thy field" but to leave them for the poor. The JHF logo (a rectangle with a corner cut off) symbolizes these values.

Support for Jews in Central and Eastern Europe

Nazi persecution and oppression by Communist dictatorships were a double blow to the Jews in Central and Eastern Europe. Following the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the Jews are trying to restore their communities, thereby perpetuating two thousand years of Jewish existence in their countries. JHF welcomes efforts to establish and enrich Jewish life. JHF aims to support projects dedicated to filling the "social and cultural void" in these Jewish communities by helping to rebuild the social and cultural structures that were destroyed with the deaths of millions of Jews during the Holocaust.

Hundreds of thousands of Jews have departed for the world centres of Jewry in the United States and Israel. But many have chosen to keep the torch of Jewish life burning in the country of their birth. JHF strongly believes that Jews who decided to stay in their countries of origin should receive support to assure the continuation of Jewish life. JHF aims to empower Jews to enhance Jewish life in Central and Eastern Europe to help them once again contribute significantly in these regions. It is for this reason that the JHF has a special interest in the younger generation - members of the new generation who will become the leaders, teachers, youth workers, and officials of the future. Organizations and projects dedicated toward cultivating Jewish values and traditions among the younger generation serve an explicit JHF objective. JHF also has an interest in strengthening the relationship between the diaspora and Israel.

Who is eligible to apply for a grant?

The aim of the organizations or their projects should be one or more of the following causes:

1. Building and ensuring the continuity of Jewish communities in such areas as culture, knowledge transfer, and enhancement of the non-capital infrastructure;
2. Facilitating Jewish education;
3. Promoting mutual respect between people;
4. Supporting civilian victims of war situations.

Organizations should not be registered in the Netherlands. Organizations cannot have its activities in the Netherlands and may not relate to the Dutch-Jewish community in Israel.

Are grants from the Dutch Jewish Humanitarian Fund restricted to countries in Central and Eastern Europe?

Grants from the JHF are intended primarily for organizations and projects in or directed towards the former Communist countries, with the exception of the former DDR. Support by the JHF of Jewish communities elsewhere in the world may be provided if:

- a situation gradually or suddenly emerges that is or can be harmful to a Jewish community or to Jewish individuals in a certain region (e.g. outburst of anti-Semitism, political, economic, natural disasters, or other emergency situations);
- the community itself is not able to meet the financial consequences of the changed situation;
- there is no support for (or only insufficient support) by governmental or non-governmental organisations whose primary goals are to support such communities or individuals;
- it is reasonable to expect that financial support would relieve the fate of the community in distress and/or its individual members;
- the support is in accordance with the mission of the JHF.

Support for civilian victims in a war zone may be provided if:

- civilians are Jewish and non-Jewish victims of ethnic violence;
- the violence stricken community itself is not able to meet the financial consequences of the changed situation;
- there is no support for (or only insufficient support) by governmental or non-governmental organisations whose primary goals are to support such communities or individuals;
- it is reasonable to expect that financial support would relieve the fate of the community in distress and/or its individual members;
- a clear relationship exists between the Dutch-Jewish communities in the Netherlands and/or Israel and the communities in distress;
- the support is in accordance with the mission of the JHF.

Multi-annual projects

Organizations that have received financial support of the JHF in the past three years for a category 1 project are not eligible for a fourth year grant for the same project, as a given project can only be subsidized by the JHF for a maximum of three years. These organizations may apply for other projects, or for core funding of their organization.

Although organizations should apply each year, it is expected that grants for core funding of the organization will be for multiple years.

Which organizations and/or projects are the most likely to be awarded a grant?

1. Organizations and projects in the former Communist countries will be given strong preference.
2. Organizations and projects with substantial co-financing and own contribution.
3. Organizations and projects dedicated to building and ensuring the continuity of Jewish communities in the areas of culture, Jewish traditions and heritage, knowledge transfer, and enhancement of non-capital infrastructure.
4. Organizations and projects dedicated to Jewish education, including Holocaust education to non-Jews.
5. Organizations and projects that promote mutual respect between people.
6. Organizations and projects dedicated to supporting civilian victims of current war situations.
7. Project grants requested by private institutions/organisations will receive preference over project grants requested by public or semi-public institutions/organisations.
8. Organizations and projects that are most likely to achieve their objectives.
9. Organizations and projects that will have broad based effectiveness for the money invested.

Applicants should note that:

- It is not the Fund's intention to approve applications for organizations whose primary purpose is to disburse direct or indirect grants.
- The Fund would expect that the bank account for remittances of a grant be in a bank located in the country of the organization's registration or the residence of the applicant. Exceptions to this are subject to the prior approval of the Fund.
- It is not the intention of the Fund to provide material support for Holocaust survivors.
- Applications for capital infrastructure will not be awarded.
- The Fund does not fund private initiatives or individuals.
- In principle it is not the Fund's intention to approve applications directed towards cleaning or restoration of graveyards.

How to apply for a grant

Special application forms for each category are available from JHF. These forms should be filled out on our website on or before 1 July 2011. This deadline will be strictly adhered to. Applications should be made for core-funding of the organization or for projects to start after 1 January of the following year.

Ordinarily, the Board of JHF will decide on awards of grants in November of each year. For further information, see [Grant disbursement](#).

Grant categories

The disburseable amount per year of our foundation is subdivided into three categories:

1. Thirty percent (30%) of the Total Disburseable Amount shall be set aside for small and/or innovative projects ("Category 1 Grants");
2. Sixty percent (60%) of the Total Disburseable Amount shall be set aside for organizational core funding, rather than project funding, to build institutional capacity, financial sustainability and long term development ("Category 2 Grants");
3. Ten percent (10%) of the Total Disburseable Amount shall be set aside for projects dedicated to victims of conflict situations ("Category 3 Grants").

Applicants can apply for a grant for category 1 and 2 in the same year, but will only be awarded for one of the two categories. Applicants can apply for two grants (for two different projects) for category 1 in the same year.

Disbursement Framework Category 1

Category	Category 1: small and/or innovative projects
Amount of the grant	The amount of any grant shall not be more than €8.000 per year.
Extra information	<p>Applicants can only apply for one year at a time provided, however, that grant applications for the same project may be made for a maximum of three (3) years. Each year the Fund will review the project and make an allocation decision independent from any prior year's decision.</p> <p>The geographic focus is Central and Eastern Europe.</p> <p>The “small and/or innovative” standard reflects the size of the project and not the size of the applying organization.</p> <p>An organization can submit up to two applications a year.</p> <p>Applicants can apply for a grant for category 1 and 2 in the same year, but will only be awarded for one of the two categories.</p>
Practical consequences	<p>Organizations applying for Category 1 funding should use the application form which can be found on the website of the JHF. Required documents should be included.</p> <p>Annual financial reports for the past three years must be sent by regular mail (example: for 2011, this would be 2008, 2009 and 2010). The original language is allowed. The financial reports must include a balance sheet, a profit & loss account per year and explanatory notes. Even if you have sent the annual financial reports to our office already in the past, you should send them again.</p> <p>Once a project has been completed, the organization shall promptly (a) send a Project Report, (b) provide reliable evidence that the project has been carried out, and (c) provide a statement of revenues and expenditures of the project.</p>

[Online application form](#) for category 1 grants

Disbursement Framework Category 2

Category	Category 2: organizational core funding to build institutional capacity, financial sustainability and long term development
Amount of the grant	The amount of any grant shall not be more than €50.000 per year.
Extra information	<p>Organizations that have received grants from the JHF in the past and have performed satisfactorily; and/or are - to the opinion of the JHF Board - reputable and widely recognized organizations which are considered leaders in their areas of service will be considered.</p> <p>Applicants can only apply for one year at a time.</p> <p>Subject to an annual review and re-application, It is expected that Grants will be for multiple years.</p> <p>While the grant request will be part of an organization's core funding, there must be demonstrated in the proposed budget the organization's commitment, and specific plan, for the development of institutional capacity, financial sustainability and long term development. Category 2 Grants are not intended to fund general organizational deficits of the past. The geographic focus is Central and Eastern Europe.</p> <p>Applicants can apply for a grant for category 1 and 2 in the same year, but will only be awarded for one of the two categories.</p> <p>An organization can submit one Category 2 application a year.</p> <p>Category 2 is reserved only for situations where the core funding is indispensable to the continuation of the organization, or is vital to essential projects that the organization has been forced to discontinue.</p> <p>As an indication for the amount you can request, please note that your application should be in proportion to previous subsidies from the Dutch Jewish Humanitarian Fund. Be aware that the amount of core funding provided by the JHF is limited.</p> <p>Core funding should be a financial contribution to an organization, not to a project.</p> <p>It is meant as an investment in organizational growth, aiding the organization to better position itself in the market and increase its professionalism. (Core funding is not intended as a means to fill a budgetary deficit). It should be regarded as an investment in the organization's future.</p>

JHF could allow for emergencies if something goes wrong beyond the organization's control and the organization is in deep water. Core funding is then considered institutional support, for instance if an organization encounters problems as a result of unforeseen circumstances (e.g. funders that suddenly stop funding or internal problems because a director has to stand down).

If JHF regards the organization as first class and of great importance to the region, and if there are no alternative (government or private) sources of income available, JHF may decide for "structural funding", keeping the organization afloat, helping and empowering them to look for alternative sources. JHF could decide to fund the organization for a period of one or more years if there are no immediate alternatives available.

Practical consequences

Organizations applying for Category 2 funding should use the application form which can be found on the website of the JHF. Required documents should be included.

Annual financial reports for the past three years must be sent by regular mail (example: for 2011, this would be 2008, 2009 and 2010). If the original documents were written in a language other than English, they must be translated into English. The financial reports must include a balance sheet, a profit & loss account per year and explanatory notes. Even if you have sent the annual financial reports to our office already in the past, you should send them again.

When reporting on the grant at the end of the grant year, organizations are required to send a detailed financial annual report and a detailed report on operations for the entire organization. If the JHF Grant equals or exceeds 20,000 Euro in a given year then an auditor's statement will be required as well.

[Online application form](#) for category 2 grants

Disbursement Framework Category 3

Category	Category 3: projects dedicated to victims of conflict situations
Amount of the grant	There is no limitation on the requested amount of the grant. Ten percent (10%) of the Total Disbursable Amount of the Dutch Jewish Humanitarian Fund shall be set aside for projects in Category 3.
Extra information	<p>Only in cases of emergency we will accept applications that are submitted between our regular submitting periods with the application deadline July 1st.</p> <p>Applicants can only apply for one year.</p>
Practical consequences	<p>Organizations applying for Category 3 funding should use the application form which can be found on the website of the JHF. Requested documents should be included.</p> <p>Annual financial reports for the past three years must be sent by regular mail (example: for 2011, this would be 2008, 2009 and 2010). The original language is allowed. The financial reports must include a balance sheet, a profit & loss account per year and explanatory notes. Even if you have sent the annual financial reports to our office already in the past, you should send them again.</p> <p>Once a project has been completed, the organization shall promptly (a) send a Project Report, (b) provide reliable evidence that the project has been carried out, and (c) provide a statement of revenues and expenditures of the project. Organisations need to send an annual financial report of the organization unless the JHF Grant equals or exceeds 20,000 Euro in a given year, in which case an auditor's statement will be required as well.</p>

[Online application form](#) for category 3 grants

Grant disbursement

Ordinarily, the Board of JHF will decide on awards of grants in November of each year. Decisions to award grants are subject to change until the amount of the grant has been definitively set. Additional information about possible grounds for change can be found in the Disbursement Regulations.

Disbursement Regulations

By applying for a grant, applicants accept the Disbursement Regulations.

Details about applying, evaluation criteria, requirements for applicants, settlements, objections and appeals, and other matters appear in the Disbursement Regulations of the Dutch Jewish Humanitarian Fund. The Disbursement Regulations are available at the office of the JHF. The text on this website is not the basis for definitive legal rights; it only provides guidelines.

Objections

Objections may be lodged against decisions by the Board. An independent Appeals Committee will look into these objections and advise the Board. Appeals can be made up to six weeks after the formal letter containing the Board's decision has been sent to the applicants.

Financial transparency

A registered accountant goes over the finances and the JHF grants annually.