



## 2016 APPLICATION GUIDELINES

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Read these guidelines carefully before completing the Red Umbrella Fund application form.

Completed applications must be received by email before 1 August 2016 (18:00 hrs CET). Send your application to: [applications@redumbrellafund.org](mailto:applications@redumbrellafund.org)

### CHECKLIST:

1. Is your group, organisation, or network led by sex workers?	<input type="radio"/> Yes
	<input type="radio"/> No
2. Does your group, organisation, or network recognise that sex work is work?	<input type="radio"/> Yes
	<input type="radio"/> No
3. Is your group, organisation, or network interested in contributing to building and strengthening the sex workers' movement?	<input type="radio"/> Yes
	<input type="radio"/> No

If your answer is "yes" to all these questions, please continue reading these guidelines.

If you have answered "no" to any question, then your group, organisation, or network is not eligible for funding from the Red Umbrella Fund.

## **1. Who can apply?**

The Red Umbrella Fund provides funding to sex worker-led organisations and networks that are:

- based in any country;
- registered or unregistered;
- led by women, men and/or trans\* people.

## **OUR CRITERIA**

If you wish to apply, your group, organisation or network must fulfil the following 3 criteria:

### **1. Be led by sex workers for the benefit of sex workers.**

*Guided by [NSWP's](#) definition, the following criteria must be met to qualify as sex worker-led group:*

- ✓ *Decision-making body: 50% or more of the decision-making body must be sex workers (former and current - with at least an aspiration to include current sex workers). If not, what is the mechanism that ensures sex workers are in control of the organisation's activities?*
- ✓ *Spokespeople: 50% or more of the spokespeople must be sex workers. If not, what is the mechanism for ensuring it is the voices of sex workers that are heard?*
- ✓ *Staff: 33% or more of the staff are sex workers and have the same contracts and working conditions as other staff in the organisation.*

### **2. Be committed to connect to and strengthen the sex workers' rights movement.**

*Your group must be open to connect to other sex workers' organisations and allies and willing to share your experiences in order to strengthen the sex workers' rights movement.*

### **3. Agree with the principles of the Red Umbrella Fund:**

- We recognise the self-determination of sex workers;
- We believe that sex workers must be at the heart of the design, implementation, and evaluation of programmes;
- We oppose the criminalisation, legal oppression and other forms of stigma and discrimination against sex work;
- We recognise that sex work is work;
- We embrace the gender, sexuality, and all other types of diversity of sex workers;
- We commit to learning and using what we learn;
- We commit to support advocacy for rights based policies, laws, and practices that are based on evidence of what works, as analysed from sex workers' perspectives;
- We commit to advocacy and funding processes that are transparent and accountable.

#### **WE DO NOT FUND**

- Organisations that are not led by sex workers;
- Organisations that have a project or programme with or for sex workers, while the organisation as a whole has a broader focus;
- Organisations that seek to abolish or criminalise sex work;
- Organisations exclusively providing social or medical services;
- Organisations founded by or structurally dependent on political parties, government agencies or religious institutions;
- Business, credit programmes or income-generating activities;
- Academic research;
- Individual requests.

**OUR PRIORITIES:**

The following priorities will be used by our sex worker-led review panel to select applications for funding.

<b>For groups or networks working mostly at local or national levels:</b>	<b>For regional networks working at international levels:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Strongly contribute to the Red Umbrella Fund’s vision, mission, and strategic priorities;</li> <li>b) Most strongly demonstrate working to improve the human rights or work conditions for sex workers in their area;</li> <li>c) Demonstrate an inclusive approach towards marginalised groups within the sex workers’ movement;</li> <li>d) Are committed to democratic principles and shared leadership;</li> <li>e) Have annual budgets below 200.000 euro.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Strongly contribute to the Red Umbrella Fund’s vision, mission, and strategic priorities.</li> <li>b) Most strongly demonstrate commitment to i) build (organisational and advocacy) capacity of sex worker groups in their region; ii) link groups to each other as a way to jointly share, strategise and build solidarity; and iii) increase the visibility of local and national concerns in key regional or global advocacy spaces to improve the human rights and work conditions of sex workers;</li> <li>c) Demonstrate an inclusive approach towards marginalised groups within the sex workers’ movement;</li> <li>d) Are committed to democratic principles and shared leadership;</li> <li>e) Have annual budgets below 300.000 euro.</li> </ul>

**2. What kind of grants do we give?**

The Red Umbrella Fund provides flexible **core funding** to support the general coordination, functioning and strengthening of a group, organisation or network and its members. Core funding can be used to cover expenses such as registration costs, rent, salaries, advocacy, (peer led) capacity building, membership meetings, activities, etc. Our funding is flexible in that it can be used largely according to self-identified needs of the grantee, which may change over time.

**How big are the grants?**

Grants are between **8.000 and 80.000 EURO for two years**. See the table below for more details.

Please note that the final grant amount awarded can differ from the initial grant request.

<b>Grant sizes</b>	<b>Criteria</b>
<b>8.000 - 40.000 EURO</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ for any groups and networks that are <b>less than 2 years old</b>; and/or</li> <li>○ for any groups working at <b>local level</b> (city, district, province, etc.).</li> </ul>
<b>8.000 - 50.000 EURO</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ for groups, organisations and networks <u>more than 2 years old</u> working mostly at <b>national level</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>8.000 – 80.000 EURO</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ For any <b>regional networks</b> of more than 2 years old working at <b>international levels</b>.</li> </ul>

The Red Umbrella Fund expects to make about 20 grants in 2016. The exact number of grants will depend on the actual grant sizes. A total of 150.000 Euro is reserved for grants to regional networks (in any part of the world).

The Red Umbrella Fund is committed to fund and support sex workers' rights movements in all parts of the world, but depends on other funders for its income. Due to restrictions by our funders, in 2016 we expect about 50% of the grants to go to (some of) the following 45 countries:

Bangladesh, Bolivia, Botswana, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Cote D'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor Leste, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

The remaining budget may go to grants in any country in the world.

### **3. How to apply?**

- ⇒ Download the 2016 application form for groups or networks (select which one best applies to you) in English, French, Spanish, or Russian at <http://www.redumbrellafund.org/grantmaking/apply-grant/>.
- ⇒ Completed applications must be received by email ([applications@redumbrellafund.org](mailto:applications@redumbrellafund.org)) before: **1 August 2016 (18:00 hrs CET)**.

#### **Tips for completing the application form:**

- ✓ Make sure you send in the 2016 Red Umbrella Fund application form. We will not accept application forms from previous years.
- ✓ Respond to all questions - incomplete applications will not be considered.
- ✓ Inform your references that we may contact them. Make sure their contact details are complete and correct on the application form. Applications with incomplete references will not be considered.
- ✓ Put all relevant information in the application form. Do not send additional attachments.
- ✓ An international panel of sex workers will read your application and select the new grants based on the priorities shared above. Use the application form to explain why your organisation best meets the criteria and priorities set for this year.
- ✓ To convert your local currency into EURO, use the following online currency converter: [www.oanda.com/currency/converter/](http://www.oanda.com/currency/converter/).
- ✓ Try not to wait until the last moment to send in your application form – you may risk missing the deadline because of a computer or internet failure.
- ✓ When you send in the application form to [applications@redumbrellafund.org](mailto:applications@redumbrellafund.org) you receive an automatic confirmation by e-mail. If you do not receive a confirmation e-mail, we have not received your application. Do not send your application to a different e-mail address as it may not be considered.

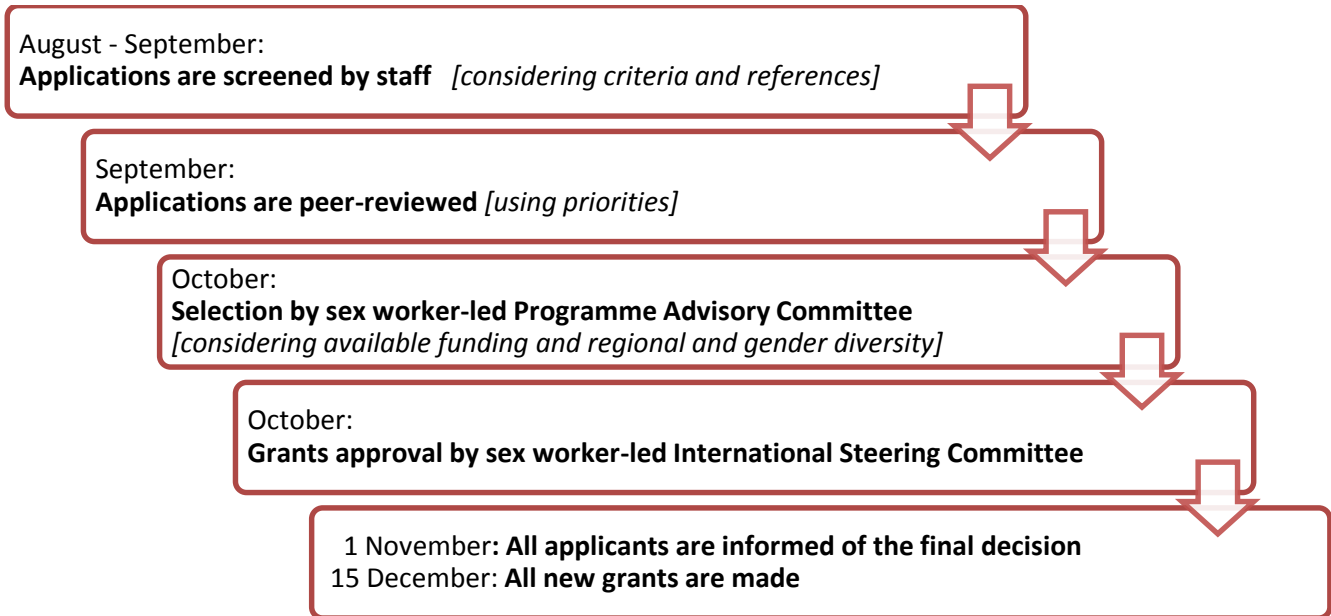
#### **Help!**

If you have questions about the application form or process or would like feedback on a draft application, e-mail us before 25 July 2016 at [info@redumbrellafund.org](mailto:info@redumbrellafund.org). We strive to respond to all questions within two working days.

## **4. What happens next?**

You will be informed of the final decision before 1 November 2016.

The following timeline summarises the selection process:



### **About the Red Umbrella Fund**

The Red Umbrella Fund is the first global fund *by and for* sex workers. Since its creation in 2012, the Red Umbrella Fund has provided grants to 78 sex worker-led groups in 45 different countries. Grantees are selected through an international review process in which sex workers are the main decision makers.

The Red Umbrella Fund believes that change will only be achieved through strong, collaborative movements of sex workers advocating for their rights, with the support of allies. Sex workers themselves are the best positioned to know what is needed for them, and best placed to do something about it. Our strategic priorities focus on promoting sex workers' human rights, building capacities of sex worker groups, and strengthening and sustaining the sex workers' rights movement.

#### **Where does our funding come from?**

The Red Umbrella Fund is grateful to the following funders for their support in 2016: American Jewish World Service, Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Count Me In!), Elton John AIDS Foundation, Ford Foundation, Levi Strauss Foundation, Mama Cash, Oak Foundation, and Open Society Foundations.

#### **More information?**

For more information, go to: [www.redumbrellafund.org](http://www.redumbrellafund.org) or contact us at [info@redumbrellafund.org](mailto:info@redumbrellafund.org).