



2019 APPLICATION GUIDELINES



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



Submit your completed application online or by email (applications@redumbrellafund.org) before 31 July 2019 (18:00 CET).

BEFORE YOU START:

1. Is your group or network led by sex workers?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
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2. Does your group or network recognise that sex work is work?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
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3. Is your group or network interested in contributing to building and strengthening the sex workers' movement?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
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If your answer is “**yes**” to all these questions: continue reading these guidelines.



If you have answered “**no**” to a question, then your group 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 people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

OUR CRITERIA

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

1. Be led by sex workers for the benefit of sex workers. *Each of these points must be met to qualify for this criteria:*

- ✓ *Decision-making body: At least 60% of the decision-making body must be sex workers. This can include former and current sex workers, but with at least an aspiration to include current sex workers. Or if this is not met, why not and how do you ensure sex workers are in control of the organisation's decisions?*
- ✓ *Spokespeople: At least 60% of the people who speak on behalf of the organisation must be sex workers. If not, why not and how do you then ensure the voices of sex workers are heard?*
- ✓ *Staff: At least 33% of the staff are sex workers, with the same contracts and working conditions as other staff in the organisation.*
- ✓ *Focus: The main focus and – where relevant – membership of the organisation or network is on benefiting sex workers.*

2. Be committed to connect to and strengthen the sex workers' rights movement. *Your group must be connected to other sex workers' organisation(s), networks 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 *with* or *for* sex workers, while the organisation as a whole has a broader focus;
- Organisations that seek to end or criminalise sex work;
- Organisations exclusively providing social or medical services, income-generating activities or credit programmes;
- Organisations founded by or structurally dependent on political parties, government agencies or religious institutions;
- Businesses;
- Academic research;
- Individual requests.

OUR PRIORITIES:

These priorities will be used by our sex worker-led review panel to select applications for funding:

For local and national groups or networks:	For regional networks working at international levels:
<p>a) Strongly contribute to the Red Umbrella Fund’s vision, mission, and strategic priorities;</p> <p>b) Working effectively towards change for sex workers’ rights in governments, policies, laws, enforcement, legal systems, service provision or public opinion;</p> <p>c) Demonstrate an inclusive approach towards marginalised groups within the sex workers’ movement;</p> <p>d) Are committed to community involvement in decision making processes and shared leadership;</p> <p>e) Have annual budgets below 200.000 euro.</p>	<p>a) Strongly contribute to the Red Umbrella Fund’s vision, mission, and strategic priorities.</p> <p>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;</p> <p>c) Demonstrate an inclusive approach towards marginalised groups within the sex workers’ movement;</p> <p>d) Are committed to community involvement in decision making processes and shared leadership;</p> <p>e) Have annual budgets below 300.000 euro.</p>

2. What kind of grants do we give?

Type of funding

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 self-identified needs of the grantee partner including registration costs, rent, salaries, advocacy, (peer led) capacity building, membership meetings, activities, etc. Our funding is flexible because you can adjust your plans during the grant.

Size of 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 your initial grant request.

Grant sizes (Euro) (for 2 years)	Criteria
8.000 - 40.000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>Groups and networks that are less than 2 years old;</i> <li style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>and/or</i> o <i>Groups working at local level (city, province, etc.).</i>
8.000 - 50.000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o National level groups and networks of <u>more than 2 years old</u>.
8.000 - 80.000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Regional networks of <u>more than 2 years old</u> working at international levels.

Number of grants

The Red Umbrella Fund expects to make about 28 grants in 2019. The exact number of grants will depend on the actual grant sizes.

Although Red Umbrella Fund is generally committed to awarding 30% of its grantmaking budget to regional networks, this will likely be less in 2019 because of geographic restrictions of the funding we have available. If more than four grants are made to regional networks, any additional regional network grants will, by exception, be one-year grants to enable a staggered application process for regional networks in the future.

Where are the grants made?

The Red Umbrella Fund is committed to fund and support sex workers' rights movements in all regions of the world, but depends on other funders for its income. Due to restrictions by some of our funders, in 2019 we expect about 50% of the grants to go to (some of) the following 31 countries:

Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cambodia, Cote D'Ivoire, Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Mali, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tanzania, Timor Leste, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

3. How to apply?

- ⇒ Fill in the online form (English only) or download the 2019 application form (for groups or networks - select which best applies to your group) in English, French, Spanish, or Russian at: <http://www.redumbrellafund.org/grantmaking/apply-grant/>.
- ⇒ Completed applications must be received online or by email (applications@redumbrellafund.org) before **31 July 2019 (18:00 CET)**.

Help!

- Questions? Check our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page here: <https://www.redumbrellafund.org/grantmaking/apply-grant/faq/>
- For other questions about the application form or process or if you want advice on your draft application, e-mail us **before 22 July 2019** at info@redumbrellafund.org. We strive to respond to questions within two working days.

Important tips for completing the application form:

- ✓ Make sure you send in the 2019 Red Umbrella Fund application form. We do not accept application forms from previous years.
- ✓ Respond to all questions - incomplete applications will not be considered.
- ✓ Make sure the contact details of your references are complete and correct. Applications with incomplete references will not be considered.
- ✓ Do not send additional attachments. You can include additional information or links in the comment section at the end of the application form.
- ✓ 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 these criteria and priorities!
- ✓ To convert your local currency into Euro, use: www.oanda.com/currency/converter/.
- ✓ Do not ask for more money than you actually need and can spend well within two years. Many other groups can use the money too!
- ✓ If your group or network has not had much income before, you are not likely to get a grant of more than 20.000 Euro.
- ✓ Try not to wait until the last moment to send in your application - you may risk missing the deadline because of a computer or internet failure.
- ✓ When you send the application form to applications@redumbrellafund.org you will receive an automatic confirmation by e-mail. If you do not receive a confirmation e-mail, we have not received your application. Check the e-mail address and send again!

4. What happens next?

All applicants will be informed of the final decision before 1 November 2019. The following timeline summarises the selection process:

August – September:	Applications are screened by staff using criteria and references
August – October:	Applications are peer-reviewed by the sex worker-led Program Advisory Committee (PAC) using the criteria and priorities mentioned above
October:	Final selection is made by the PAC using also the funding (restrictions) available and considering geographic and gender diversity
October:	Grants selection is approved by the sex worker-led International Steering Committee (ISC)
23 October – 1 November:	All applicants are informed of the final selection.
15 December	All new grant contracts are made.

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 made 157 grants to sex worker-led groups in over 50 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 extremely grateful to the following funders for their support in 2019: American Jewish World Service, Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Count Me In!), Gates Foundation, Mama Cash, Oak Foundation, Open Society Foundations, and a few wonderful individual donors (you know who you are!).

More information?

For more information, go to: www.redumbrellafund.org or contact us at info@redumbrellafund.org.