

PEACE Fund

What is the Peace Fund?

The **Peace Fund** is a small project facility which can provide timely support to civil society peace and democratic governance efforts for **Mindanao**. It will provide CIDA with the means to support small development projects designed to advance peace-related development strategies or initiatives. All initiatives undertaken with this mechanism will contribute towards the achievement of expected results of the Peace Links Program and to the broader CIDA Philippines program interim strategy.

What are the thematic areas eligible for support?

The **Peace Fund** will support local initiatives in the following thematic areas of effective democratic governance:

- Promotion and protection of human rights of women, children and marginalized or vulnerable groups
- Capacity development of peace advocates and other stakeholders in the peace process
- Community-based or indigenous conflict/dispute resolution mechanisms
- Community education on peace and security
- Community engagement in local decision-making processes (e.g. environmental management issues)
- Improved access to justice particularly for women and marginalized groups
- Law & policy reform advocacy

The **Peace Fund** will support projects or activities that directly support the peace process and those initiatives of the multi-stakeholders in the peace process such as the GRP, MILF, Mindanao Economic Development Council, and the larger Mindanao public.

Specific activities can include:

- Action or participatory research in the field of effective democratic governance, human rights & peace building, conflict resolution, policy reforms
- Knowledge and information sharing and dissemination, including best practices and lessons learned in effective democratic governance, particularly in peace building and conflict resolution in conflict-affected communities
- Policy advocacy including dialogues and consultations with and between civil society and the three branches of government, namely the executive, legislative and the judiciary
- Support for networking and collaborative efforts of local, regional and national organizations and with Canadian organizations
- Capacity strengthening of civil society organizations in the fields of advocacy and organizational management

Gender and Environment remain as its cross-cutting themes.

Who can apply?

CIDA's **Peace Fund** will partner with credible local civil society organizations from Mindanao that have good track record in implementing local initiatives. The Peace Fund will be primarily focused in providing support to advocacy activities directly contributing to peacebuilding and reconstruction and development efforts in Mindanao, including but not limited to conflict-affected communities.

While the geographic focus is in Mindanao, the **Peace Fund** will also be open to civil society organizations (NGOs, coalitions and networks and community-based peoples' organizations) with main offices outside of Mindanao but for project to be focused in Mindanao only.

While government agencies and local government units (LGUs) can not directly access the Peace Fund, they can work in partnership with local civil society organizations who will be the lead implementer and main grantee for the proposed project. Eligible partners may also include local partners of existing CIDA-funded bilateral projects.

What are the selection criteria?

- *Institutional track record* in management and implementation of development programs and projects including donor-funded initiatives;
- *Demonstrated capacity to work with or collaborate initiatives* with key stakeholders (government, local NGOs and POs), and other organizations working in the same field;
- *Financial capability* to share/counterpart at least 25% of the total cost of project, in cash or in kind or a combination of both;
- Manifested *commitment to initiate partnerships or collaborative endeavour* with similar serving organizations to contribute directly or indirectly to sustainable development and poverty reduction.
- *Potential for sustainability* at organization and project levels.

What are its guidelines?

- Proposed budget request may range from Cdn\$25,000 to Cdn\$50,000 for a period of one to two years.
- Funding is not available on a recurring basis. Proponent must submit only one proposal per organization
- Proponent organization must be able to provide a counterpart contribution (in cash and/or in-kind) of at least 25% of the total project cost
- In keeping with RBM and participatory development principles, the active participation of local partners/communities is considered an important criteria

- Requests for funding should have clearly defined goals, objectives, expected results, activities, timelines and budgets
- All projects are required to have a gender strategy and a Gender Mainstreaming Plan
- All projects are required to submit financial and narrative reports at the mid-project and post-project periods
- Monitoring and evaluation include auditing of the management and financial systems at any given time, and as deemed necessary by CIDA

What is the selection and approval process?

- An applicant organization submits the accomplished project proposal format. This is mailed to the Peace Fund Manager together with the supporting documents such as Certificates of Registration, resume of the Board of Directors and /or officers. When submitting the project proposal, it is best for the applicant organization to enclose a CD copy as well;
- The Peace Fund Manager acknowledges the proposal and provides initial desk appraisal comments;
- The proponent organization sends back the revised proposal and / or additional information;
- The Peace Fund Manager may visit the project site, community and proponent organization.
- Project appraisal documents are deliberated on by the Project Advisory Committee (PAC);
- Upon applicant's compliance and submission of the PAC's requirements, the project is recommended to the CIDA Head of Aid for approval;
- Contribution Agreement between CIDA and the proponent-organization is signed.

How to apply for a grant?

Proponents should carefully read the guidelines above prior to the completing the attached application form. A copy of the certificate of registration and other required supporting documents has to be attached to the application. The completed application form (*maximum 10 pages*) should be sent to:

The Peace Fund Manager
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 6819 Ayala Avenue, Makati City 0707
 Philippines
 E-mail: manil-da@international.gc.ca