



HUMAN MOBILITY INITIATIVE FUND – CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

1. Call background:

As migration is increasingly politicised and people seeking safety are meeting similar barriers across the world, there is a need to have a global perspective on migration and develop solutions that would facilitate migrants to exercise their rights and freedoms.

Migrants, including forcibly displaced peoples, around the world struggle for full enjoyment of human and civil rights. Their access to social services, health, education, housing as well as labour markets is often either limited, unavailable, or denied. Additionally, freedom of movement and right to family life are often curtailed. They are more likely to live in poverty and are at high risk of exploitation due to the discrimination and exclusion they face in labour markets.

Across the globe, every day, thousands of people are displaced, either internally or crossing international borders, due to multiple factors including conflicts, disasters, violence, food insecurity or climate change, often instigated by geopolitical power struggles and ambitions to control resources.

THE HUMAN MOBILITY INITIATIVE

Against this background, Oxfam has established the **Human Mobility Initiative (HMI)**, aiming to influence national, regional, and international policies to ensure that migration is recognised as a natural phenomenon that can be managed humanely and, in a way that respects and prioritizes human rights.

The **main outcomes** the HMI is aiming to achieve are:

1. The deliberate and systematic consideration and inclusion of the perspectives, needs and recommendations of local refugee, migrant, host community and women's rights organizations are shaping the policymaking.
2. Displaced persons are protected, their rights respected, and they have access to local and sustainable solutions that consider the rights and dignity of refugees/ migrants and that of hosting communities.
3. Global, regional, and national policies and practices on human mobility are strengthened through a principled and rights-based approach that recognize and harnesses human mobility's potential for development.
4. The links between displacement and other global issues such as climate change, inequalities, and civic space, are understood and prioritized by donors, humanitarian, and development actors.

Through this initiative, Oxfam also intends to support and consolidate a **global platform of refugee and migrant led groups and front-line organizations working with refugees and migrants**. Oxfam envisions that through an equal and mutually empowering partnership, and solidarity with such networks effort to influence policies can become more effective and impactful.



Within this initiative, Oxfam is launching the **Human Mobility Initiative Fund (HMIF)**, providing grants to local organizations. This Fund is specifically meant to contribute to OUTCOME n.1 and n.2 while also providing a concrete opportunity to develop the global platform for refugee and migrant-led groups and front-line organizations.

This is the first Call for Proposals of the Human Mobility Initiative Fund.

2. Objectives:

The **general objective** of the HMIF's Call for Proposals (CfP) is to support migrants/refugees-led organizations and front-line migrants/refugees' rights organizations in their work together on influencing and jointly **advancing a transformative migration policy agenda** by:

1. Ensuring that migrants and refugees' rights are respected, and they have access to local and sustainable solutions respecting their rights and dignity, reducing potential conflict with hosting communities.
2. Promoting the deliberate and systematic inclusion of the perspectives, needs and recommendations of local refugee, migrant, front-line and migrant/refugee women's rights organizations into policymaking.

3. Geographical scope:

This is a global call, and open to all regions including Africa, Americas, Middle East, and Europe. However, countries where Oxfam has an operational office and/or program will be **prioritized**.

For the list of countries see [here](#).

4. Available funds and Grants characteristics:

The **total funds** available for grants for the Human Mobility Fund are 170,000 EUR.

Each grant should be ranging from a **minimum** of **20,000 EUR** to a **maximum** of **30,000 EUR**.

Applicants can include additional co-funding if they are able / prefer to do so, however, please note that co-financing is not mandatory.

The **duration** of a project should be between a minimum of **six months to a maximum of nine months**, starting from the date of approval.

5. Thematic priorities and Activities:

Types of projects that can be funded under this call are:

- Evidence-based research / data collection and analysis AND/OR
- Migrants/refugees' rights advocacy and campaigns.



Examples of research/advocacy topics are included below. However, please note that applicants can suggest other topics that are relevant to refugee/ migrant rights in their context/ locality.

- The multiple drivers of human mobility (conflict, food insecurity, violence, climate change, inequalities etc.).
- Legal Status & rights (recognition of legal status; access to documentation; ability to claim asylum, access to legal services; involuntary/forced return; pushbacks; human rights violations; border violence etc.).
- Externalization of migration policies and impact of such policies on migrants/ refugees/ host countries and host communities.
- Pushbacks: denial of the right to cross a border to seek asylum or being pushed back from a border or from a European territory without being allowed to make a claim for protection.
- Criminalisation: the criminalisation of migrants, of those who act in solidarity with people on the move and of lawyers and humanitarians trying to support people on the move to access their rights.
- Access to basic services and economic rights (barriers or/and good practices).
- Addressing discrimination, xenophobia, and racism against refugees/migrants.
- Analysing specific anti-migration narratives and their impact.
- Challenges faced by women/girl migrants/refugees, and policies to address these challenges.
- Social cohesion and harmony (challenges and/or best practices).

6. Who can apply (eligibility for applicants):

To be allowed to apply for the funds, **ALL** the following eligibility criteria should be met by the applicant:

#	Criteria	Means of verification
A	<p>Non-profit nature and Valid registration Be a non-profit making organisation with a valid registration in at least one of the countries where the project will be implemented.</p> <p><i>*Exceptionally unregistered organisations/groups or organisations with invalid registration certificates (ex. expired) might be allowed to apply if they demonstrate that their lack of registration is due to legal and informal restrictions which account for violations of civil society's rights</i></p>	<p>Valid registration certificate showcasing the non-profit nature of the organization.</p> <p><i>** in case the registration certificate does not provide information on the non-profit nature of the organization, an additional official document should be submitted by the organisation demonstrating</i></p>
B	<p>Current Bank Account To have/be able to open a bank account in the organisation's name.</p>	Application form
C	Prior relevant experience	Application form

	Demonstrate prior experience of at least one (1) year implementing activities related to migrants/refugees' rights.	
D	Tax and social legislation compliance Comply with the requirements of applicable tax and social legislation in the country.	Application form
F	Involvement in harmful activities The applicant is not in any way involved in activities such as arms dealing, tobacco, alcohol, and gambling industries, registered in so-called tax-havens, or involved in; environmental or human rights abuses or corruption.	Application form
E	Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse The organization is taking all appropriate measures to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse.	Application form

7. Which projects can be funded (Eligibility of projects and activities):

To be considered eligible, projects should:

- Be aimed at achieving promotion /protection of refugee and/or migrant rights.
- Focusing on the thematic priorities and activities.
- Having a duration between 6 to max. 9 months.
- Requesting a contribution of min. 20,000 and max. 30,000 USD.
- Being implemented directly by the applicant; the applicant cannot provide grants to other entities; the applicant can apply in partnership with other entities, but it will remain the sole responsible for the financial management and expenditures in the project.

Moreover, projects **should not**:

- Discriminate against individuals or groups of people on grounds of their gender, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, or lack of them, or their ethnic origin.
- Be concerned only or mainly with individual sponsorships or scholarships for participation in workshops, seminars, conferences, congresses, training, or study courses.
- Support political parties or religious activities.
- Providing support/resources to illegal/criminal organizations.

8. Which costs can be covered (eligibility of project costs):

The following costs are **not eligible**:

- Debts and debt service charges (interest).



- Direct financial compensation to victims.
- Provision for losses, debts, or potential future liabilities.
- Costs declared and already financed by other funds.
- Purchases of land or buildings.
- Currency exchange losses.
- Credits to third parties.
- Salary costs of the personnel of national administrations including top-ups and similar emoluments.
- Bonuses included in costs of staff.
- Negative interest charged by banks or other financial institutions.
- Cash donations.
- Credit or loan schemes.
- Scholarships, sponsorships, and school fees.

VAT and Taxes

Taxes, including VAT, can be covered only if the applicant cannot reclaim them.

Costs Categories

The applicant is free to indicate the amount necessary for each cost category proposed in the application form.

However, these limits apply:

Human Resources	No limits
Program implementation costs* <i>*Costs related to the activities proposed but also workshops, meetings, travel costs etc.</i>	No limits
Communication	No limits
Operational costs* <i>*Administrative, office and equipment costs</i>	Maximum 30% of total contribution requested

9. Types of applicants:

The Human Mobility Initiative Fund is open to any organization meeting the eligibility criteria.

However, **priority will be given to:**

- Refugee/migrant-led organizations, in which more than 50% of the board’s members have a refugee/migrant background (including refugee/migrant-led women’s and youth organisations).
- Front-line organizations, which operate along borders and/or places of arrivals of refugees/migrants as well as transition/retention centres, refugee camps **AND/OR** provide regular support/services to refugees/migrants.



NOTE: If selected, the organization will be requested to share the board members' ID and background information to allow Oxfam to verify the refugee/migrant or/and women or/and youth-led nature of the organizations.

10. Application process and timeline:

Applications can be submitted via this link: <https://www.oxfamitalia.org/hmi-fund/>

The deadline for the submission of the proposals is 22 of February 2024, 23:59, Central European Time. Any application submitted after the deadline will be automatically rejected.

All applications should be in English.

If you have any question on the call, you can send an e-mail by 05/02/2024 to hmifund@oxfam.it. All the replies to questions will be published on 12/02/2024 at this [link](#).



We invite you to keep reviewing the website <https://www.oxfamitalia.org/hmi-fund/> for any update on the call's procedures or timeline.

10.1 Indicative timeline:

Phase	Date
Release of the call	22/01/2024
Submission of questions and clarifications	05/02/2024
Answers to Q&A	12/02/2024
Deadline for submission of applications	22/02/2024
Information to applicants about the outcome of the evaluation of the proposal	15/03/2024
Indicative start date of the project/initiative implementation	01/04/2024

11. Evaluation and Selection process:

STEP 1: Eligibility assessment

Once the deadline for submission is due, Oxfam team will verify the eligibility of the proposals submitted and inform the applicants about their eligibility.

STEP 2: Technical assessment

The quality of the project proposals will then be assessed by a Selection Committee, in accordance with the evaluation criteria set out in the evaluation grid below.

Each subsection will be given a score in accordance with the following guidelines:



- 0 = information not provided/ does not meet the criteria;
- 1 = poorly meets the criteria;
- 2 = partially meets the criteria;
- 3 = fairly meets the criteria
- 4 = largely meets the criteria
- 5 = entirely meets the criteria

Evaluation criteria	Max. points
1. Capacity of the Organization	Max 35 points
1.1 The organization has a significant previous experience in activities relevant to the project proposed	
1.2 The organization has the capacity to gather and process a significant amount of first-hand evidence and data on refuge/migrant-related issues and rights	
1.3 The organization possess the human expertise and capacities to independently implement the project	
1.4 The organization has already been involved in advocacy related work	
1.5 The organization has a well-established connection with local communities, movements and/or other relevant networks	
1.6 The organization has the capacity to amplify the reach of the action through media and/or social media	
1.7 The organization has proven experience in project or research addressing refugees/migrant rights	
2. Quality of the project proposal	Max 65 points
2.1 The proposed project provides a clear and well-judged response to the objectives (see section 2) and the thematic focus (see section 5) of this program relevant to the local context	
2.2 The proposed initiative ensures a meaningful participation of refugee and/or migrant communities, and of women and girls, including mechanisms to consult with - and respond to feedback from – all persons involved during implementation	
2.3 The proposed activities are clearly defined	
2.4 The project has a good potential to continue its impact in the future thanks to synergies with on-going activities and/or key realistic sustainability actions	
2.5 The project is realistic in terms of time and resources	
2.6 The proposal demonstrates cultural sensitivity and responds to gender-specific needs.	
2.7 The project partners bring a significant added value in terms of outreach, expertise, community participation and/or advocacy impact	
2.8 The project partners have capacity to work in networking with the other winners	
2.8 The budget is clear, sufficiently detailed and demonstrates project viability	
2.9 The ratio between the estimated costs and expected results is satisfactory	
2.10 Economy – proposed costs are necessary and realistic.	
2.11 Efficiency - proposed costs are proportionate to proposed activities.	
2.12 Effectiveness – proposed activities are likely to achieve positive results)	



Maximum total score	100
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12. Conditions for contracting:

To receive the grant, the selected applicants should provide the following:

- The details of the current bank account open in the name of the organization.
- Evidence of their prevention of sexual abuse and exploitation policies/practices.
- The Board Members' IDs and background information.
- Any other information or evidence requested for Oxfam to conduct the necessary vetting/ due diligence.

A grant agreement will be signed with the successful applicants, including all the conditions of implementation of the grant.

Grantees are expected to commit to the following during the implementation of their projects:

- Contributing to initiatives aimed at influencing migration strategies through various activities, including policy dialogs, media messaging etc.
- Availability to participate at networking and mutual learning and exchange events.
- Commitment to an inclusive approach that values diversity and considers the specific needs of girls, boys, women, men, children, non-binary gender, elderly people, people with disabilities, people with different religious backgrounds.

Funds will be disbursed in instalments:

- 80% at the signature of the grant agreement.
- 20% after the successful completion of the project.