AFAC ARAB FUND FOR
ARTS AND CULTURE
الصنـــــدوق العـــــربي
للثقـــــافة والفنـــــون

North Africa Cultural Program (NACP)
Frequently Asked Questions

The North Africa Cultural Program (NACP) Cycle II is a four-year program (2024-2027) dedicated to the five countries of North Africa - namely Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, and Egypt - and comprises two support schemes, **a National Cultural Opportunities Fund, and a Regional Competitive Creativity Fund**.

The National Cultural Opportunities Fund (NCOF) offers:
- Core Institutional and Programmatic Support Grant for new organizations operating in North Africa through an open call application;
- Continuity Grant for NCOF grantee organizations of NACP Cycle I through an application by invitation only;
- Local Alliances and Collaborations Grant for NCOF grantee organizations of NACP Cycle I in addition to new partnering entities through an application by invitation only.

The Regional Competitive Creativity Fund (RCCF) offers:
- Seed Funding Grant for pilot collaborations in North Africa and the African continent and /or MENA Region through an open call application;
- Established Collaborations Grant for already established collaborations through an open call application.

The National Cultural Opportunities Fund (NCOF) will be paired with tailored capacity-building for organizations based on their initial OMT assessment and the Regional Competitive Creativity Fund (RCCF) will offer a 6-month seed funding and designed training to foster new collaborations and help them reach a point where they submit a full proposal to be eligible for collaborative funding. In addition, we will have annual local and regional country meetings and events to tackle important issues and reflections related to the arts and culture sector in North Africa.

1- Does NACP have an annual open call?

NACP is not an annual program like other AFAC programs. The one-time NACP open call will launch in January 2024 with two funding schemes: **the National Cultural Opportunities Fund (NCOF)** and **the Regional Competitive Creativity Fund (RCCF).**

The call for applications for both funds opens on the 5th of January 2024 and closes on the 4th of March 2024. The announcement will be made in June 2024.

2- How many grants does the program offer?

The North Africa Cultural Program Cycle II offers two funding schemes with several grants under each.

The National Cultural Opportunities Fund (NCOF) offers:
- **Core Institutional and Programmatic Support Grant** for organizations operating in Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia (application via open call);
- **Continuity Grant** for NCOF grantee organizations of NACP Cycle I (application by invitation only);
- **Local Alliances and Collaborations Grant** for NCOF grantee organizations of NACP Cycle I in addition to new partnering entities (application by invitation only).

The Regional Competitive Creativity Fund (RCCF):
- **Seed Funding Grant** for pilot collaborations in North Africa and the African and /or Arab Regions (application via open call);
- **Established Collaborations Grant** for already established collaborations or organizations with a strong collaborative track record (application via open call).

3- To which grants is my organization eligible to apply?

Eligibility Diagram

		Previous NCOF grantee organizations	Previous RCCF grantee organizations	New grantee organizations
NCOF	Core Institutional or Programmatic Support Grant		yes	yes
	Local Alliances and Collaborations Grant	yes		
	or			
	Continuity Grant	yes		
RCCF	Seed Funding Grant	yes	yes	yes
	or			
	Established Collaborations Grant	yes	yes	yes

Previous NCOF Recipients

Previous NCOF recipients are not eligible for NCOF Funding, but are eligible to apply for a **Continuity Grant or a Local Alliances and Collaborations Grant** with at least one previous NACP NCOF recipient from their local network. They are also eligible to apply to a **Seed Funding Grant** for regional collaborations with new partners, **or** to the **Established Collaborations Grant** for regional collaborations with at least one partner from the NACP regional network in Cycle I, or apply with non-NACP partners given they both can demonstrate a strong track record in their collaborative experience.

Previous RCCF Recipients

Previous RCCF recipients are **eligible to apply to the NCOF Seed Funding Grant if** they have **new** partners and wish to benefit from the seed funding track, and to the **Established Collaborations Grant** given they have demonstrated good practice in the management of their collaboration in Cycle I.

New Applying Organizations

New organizations not previously supported through the NACP NCOF fund are eligible for the Core Institutional or Programming Support Grant, the Seed Funding Grant, and the Established Collaborations Grant, given they comply with the eligibility criteria of each grant scheme.

New organizations are not eligible to apply for the Local Alliances and Collaborations Grant, but can be part of an application with at least two previous NCOF grantees in their country.

4- Can an organization apply to both the NCOF and the RCCF?
It is possible to apply to the NCOF and RCCF simultaneously with **ONE** application under each fund, provided that the applicant(s) meet the eligibility criteria of the grant scheme they are applying to. In the event of submitting or participating in more than one application per fund, AFAC reserves the right to disqualify all associated applications.

5-How many grants can my organization receive?

It is possible for an organization to receive support from **ONE** grant scheme under each fund (NCOF and RCCF), provided the eligibility criteria are met.

6- Can an applicant apply for only institutional support if it has enough funding for programs from other donors?
Yes, they can.

7- If an applicant is applying for a regional initiative but also needs institutional strengthening support, is that offered under the RCCF, or is this component limited to the NCOF?
The purpose of the RCCF is to support projects that are a collaboration between 2 or more institutions. However, the budget under the RCCF provides core support for staff and running costs up to 30% of the total budget requested.

8- Can a grantee of the NCOF or RCCF apply for any other AFAC program when their NACP grant is open?
Recipients of the national or regional grants cannot apply for other AFAC programs before the end of their NACP grant.
However, if an applicant already has another AFAC open grant, they are eligible to apply for support under NACP.

9- If the main field of work of the organization is annual festivals, is the organization eligible to apply for support under NCOF or RCCF?
It depends. For instance, if the festival is happening in one country, and is attracting artists from other countries, then it can receive support from the NCOF. However, if the proposal is an initiative for exchange, touring, etc. with other partners in the region, then the application should be submitted for support from the RCCF.

10- Does NACP accept applications from individuals?
No. NACP is for institutions/collectives/spaces with programming/networks/social enterprises.

11- Can I apply if I have previously benefited from an AFAC grant?
Yes.

12- Am I eligible to apply for an NACP grant if I am not actively present in a North African country (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, and Egypt) but my institution works in North Africa?
No. Eligible applicants are local entities based in one of the above-mentioned North African countries. International and foreign organizations, including UN agencies, are not eligible to apply.

13- My institution is Libyan and focuses on Libya but it works in the diaspora. Am I eligible to apply for NACP?
Yes. Exceptionally in the case of Libya, an applicant can be operating outside Libya as long as the work is relevant to and benefits the Libyan arts and culture scene. Moreover, the organization needs to have a strong/proven physical presence in Libya.

14- What is the expected duration of the grant?

The NCOF Core Institutional and Programmatic Grant, Continuity Grant, and Local Alliances and Collaboration Grant schemes cover up to 3 years starting June 2024 and ending in June 2027.

The RCCF Established Collaboration Grant covers up to 3 years starting June 2024 and ending in June 2027.

The Seed Funding Grant offers support over 6 months, after which supported collaborative projects are eligible to apply for larger collaborative funds that cover up to 2 years of implementation.

15- Is it possible to apply as an institution if we are registered as a commercial entity and not an NGO?

Applicants may be non-profit, social enterprises, registered, and non-registered entities.

16- Is it possible to send updates on my application after the submission?

Yes. Applicants can notify the AFAC grants managers of any updates affecting their application as long the results are not announced. However, you cannot send a new project file (e.g. new project description) after submitting your application.

17- How will I know my application has been submitted?

You will receive a confirmation email from the system informing you that you have applied. If you do not receive an email, your application is incomplete and has not been submitted. If you have completed the application, but have not received an email, please contact rachad.chamoun@arabculturefund.org.

18- What is the minimum and maximum funding amount I can apply for?

The National Cultural Opportunities Fund (NCOF)
- **Core Institutional and Programmatic Support Grant** a minimum of 50,000 USD and a maximum of 120,000 USD based on the organization's annual budget range;
- **Continuity Grant** for NCOF grantee organizations of NACP Cycle I (application by invitation) a maximum of 60,000 USD;
- **Local Alliances and Collaborations Grant** a maximum of 85,000 USD.

The Regional Competitive Creativity Fund (RCCF)
- **Seed Funding Grant** for pilot collaborations (open call application) a maximum of 10,000 USD; Seed-funded projects have the opportunity to apply for further collaborative funding with a maximum of 100,000 USD for up to two years;
- **Established Collaborations Grant** a maximum of 150,000 USD.

19- Do I have to submit my budget with the application?

Yes. Every application will require the completion of the online application form, which includes a budget.

20- Is it possible to apply for a grant without attaching supporting materials?

No. Every application will require the completion of the online application form. Additionally, there is a specific set of supporting materials that are detailed. All supporting material (other than in PDF, word, excel… etc.) must be uploaded and remain available until the announcement of the grant results to sites such as YouTube, Vimeo, DropBox, or other similar services but not Wetransfer.

21- What materials will I have to submit for my application?

Refer to the guidelines and the application template that include the requested supporting material.

22- It is not possible for me to submit an online application due to technical difficulties. Does this mean I cannot apply for the grant?

Yes. AFAC accepts online submissions only. Applications submitted via regular mail or e-mail will not be accepted. However, if you face technical difficulties with the AFAC online application, we encourage you to write to rachad.chamoun@arabculturefund.org.

23- In which language(s) can I submit my application?

Applications for NACP can be submitted in either English, French, or Arabic.

24- Does AFAC reconsider projects that were rejected during a previous cycle?

Yes. Applicants must submit a new application, even if it is for the same project that they applied with during the previous cycle.

25- Does AFAC offer 100% funding for projects?

Given the high demand for support, it is not guaranteed that potential grantees will be awarded their requested amounts in full. It is therefore encouraged that applicants diversify funding sources for the submitted projects. After selecting the projects, the jurors recommend the percentage of the requested amount to be awarded for each project.

26- Can I apply with a multidisciplinary project?

Yes.