



FarhangSara
SilkRoad Cultural Initiative

Arts Grants Guidelines

FS/SRCI Arts Grants Guidelines

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Welcome

Dear Applicant

Thank you for your interest in the FarhangSara/Silk Road Cultural Initiative (FS/SRCI) Arts Grants.

The FS/SRCI Arts Grants aim at supporting cultural actors who are engaged in the production, promotion, conservation and dissemination of Afghanistan's intangible cultural heritage.

The programme will support initiatives that:

- Enable, enhance and strengthen diverse cultural values encouraging peaceful dialogue
- Contribute to the cultural growth of Afghanistan
- Support and improve creative industries

As described by UNESCO, intangible cultural heritage “includes traditions or living expressions inherited from our ancestors and passed on to our descendants, such as oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festive events, knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe or the knowledge and skills to produce traditional crafts.”

The FS/SRCI Arts Grants support both traditional and contemporary forms of cultural production. They are inclusive and open to all: individuals, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, and relevant public institutions. Young cultural practitioners and women are particularly encouraged to apply.

Copyrights for works of art remain with the creator, and AKTC retains rights to images and promotional material. Copyrights for published, replicable material are shared between the creator and AKTC. Of replicable items produced during grant activities, 25% remain with AKTC, 25% are reserved for free distribution, and 50% remain with the creator.

Eligibility

A. Who is eligible?

You are eligible to apply for a grant if you are:

An Afghan individual, non-governmental organization, civil society organization, and/or relevant public institution with a project you would like to implement in Afghanistan (or with Afghanistan as the primary site of production).

An Afghan individual with a project you would like to implement in any of the SAARC countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka), Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Iran, or China.

A National from any of the SAARC countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka), Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Iran, or China with a project you would like to implement in Afghanistan.

An individual who meets one of the above criteria and is at least 17 years of age.

A team or organization who meets one of the above criteria, and at least one person who will be working on the project is at least 17 years of age.

B. What projects are eligible?

Projects funded by the FarhangSara/Silk Road Cultural Initiative may include, but are not limited, to the following:

- Works of Art
- Festivals
- Performances
- Exhibitions
- Research
- Media Programs

Projects must fall under one of the following Intangible Cultural Heritage Categories (see Annex 1 for a full list of allowed Fields of Activity)

- Oral Traditions and Expressions
- Visual & Audial Arts
- Media Programs
- Literary Arts
- Performing Arts & Living Traditions
- Social Practices, Rituals, & Festive Events
- Afghan Scholarship in Art & Culture
- Educational/Training in Afghan Art & Culture
- Traditional Arts, Craftsmanship, & Handicrafts
- Food Heritage
- Knowledge & Practices Concerning Nature and the Universe

C. A successful project proposal

Successful project proposals:

- Are relevant to the scope of the initiative
- Demonstrate clarity of intent
- Are ambitious yet realistic in terms of what can be achieved
- Foresee challenges and implement creative and effective solutions
- Are inclusive
- **Show a significant focus and/or long-term commitment to the promotion, protection, enhancement of, and interaction with Afghanistan's intangible cultural heritage**
- Present solid financial and programmatic planning
- Guarantee transparent management and accountability

The MAXIMUM allowable budget for any project is 15,000USD.

Application forms should be completed following the guidelines of this Manual. All fields in the form are mandatory, and incomplete applications will not be considered.

Projects supported under this Grant should not be longer than 9 months.

Applicants are allowed one proposal per year.

Applicants whose projects have been supported by this Grant are allowed to re-apply for a second round of funding. *Six months must have past since the completion of a previous project before applying again.*

If the proposed project idea is eligible and relevant, the FS/SRCI staff will contact the applicant and will closely mentor the development of the proposed project.

D. Selection Process

Proposals that meet the eligibility criteria will be reviewed, evaluated and archived by the FS/SRCI team.

Shortlisted applicants will be notified within one month of the Proposal Submission Deadline and will be invited for an **interview** (either in-person or over the phone) to discuss in further detail the feasibility and sustainability of the proposed project.

Following the interviews, the FS/SRCI team will submit the results to a **Jury** composed of national and international experts who evaluate and finalise the decision.

Once the application is formalized and included in the annual planning, a **legal and financial agreement** will be signed between the Aga Khan Trust for Culture and the awardees.

The FS/SRCI team will act as mentor, monitoring officer, and referent throughout the implementation phase

Awardees are requested to submit a detailed **report** at the end of the project along with relevant documentation and material produced.

Depending on the scale and the scope of the individual grants, the funding will be divided into **installments** to be detailed in the mutually signed agreement.

Refer to the diagram on the following page to see how the selection process works.

SRCI Arts Grants Selection Process



Awarding and Implementation Process



E. Proposal Submission

Completed application forms can be submitted digitally to the following email address:

silkroad.artsgrants@akdn.org

And must be sent with the Subject Line:

FS/SRCI Arts Grants Application

If you don't have access to email, please send both the filled survey and the completed application form to the following address:

FarhangSara/Silk Road Cultural Initiative
Aga Khan Trust for Culture
P.O. Box 5805, Central Post Office, Kabul, Afghanistan

1.1 Applicant's Profile

The following information needs to be provided:

- Name of Organization/Individual
- Main Contact
- Address
- Phone Number
- Email
- Provinces, Districts, Cities where you are active.

If you are an organization, specify for how many years you have been working and how many active members you have.

In this section please specify if you are active in multiple locations i.e. your main office is in Kabul, but you have work in Herat and Bamiyan.

In the Online Presence section, provide links to your website, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, or any other online/social media profile. If you do not have one of the listed accounts you may leave that section blank.

1.2 Experience and Collaborations

In the following sections:

- Provide the field of activity of the proposed project (see Annex 1)
- Provide a brief description (and links if available) of any previous project you have undertaken. If you do not have any previous projects, please tell us what makes you qualified to implement this project.
- Give reference and links when possible to any media coverage your projects and organisation may have received. If you do not have any media coverage, leave this section blank.
- List organizations, if any, you have collaborated or currently collaborate with.
- If your proposed project is a long-term commitment, please explain how you intend to continue working on it in the future.

2.1 Title of the Proposed Project

Please provide a title for the proposed project. This name will be used for all future documents.

2.2 Proposed Project Location(s)

Please explain the Provinces, Districts and Cities in which you plan to carry out the project. Remember, there are no limitations on where or how many regions your project can take place. *If a work of art or exhibition is intended to be placed in a public space or space in any way restricted (for example, universities, private galleries, etc.), an MOU should be signed between the entity and the applicant and submitted with the application.*

2.3 Proposed Project Beneficiaries

Please provide information on all the people, communities, etc. who will benefit from your project

2.4 Proposed Project Objectives

Please tell us what you want to achieve with this project. Include information about your purpose and goals with the project.

2.5 Proposed Project Summary

Please provide a short summary of your proposed project.

Please tell us which intangible cultural heritage element you will engage with and how it is incorporated in to the project.

See Annex 1 for full list of Intangible Cultural Heritage elements

2.6 Proposed Project Narrative

Please provide a narrative and detailed description of your proposed project.

Please address these questions:

- What are your overall goals and expected outputs?
- What are the activities that you are planning?
- Who are the people who will be involved? Are they men, women, or youth?
- What age group will you target?

- Why is this project important and what value does it bring to the intangible cultural heritage of Afghanistan?

This section is meant for you to tell us why this is such an important project for you, the people of Afghanistan, and the projects relationship to the intangible cultural heritage of Afghanistan.

2.7 Proposed Project Outcomes and Sustainability

How does your project relate to the following FS/SRCI outcomes?

- Enable, enhance and strengthen diverse cultural values encouraging peaceful dialogue
- Contribute to the cultural growth of Afghanistan
- Support and improve Afghanistan's creative industries

What is the scope of your project?

Use the indications below to define the scope of your project.

Is your project aiming at preserving a specific aspect of intangible cultural heritage of Afghanistan?

What does this project achieve artistically? If you are applying for funding for an artistic project, then please explain what new perspectives does your project provide for your specific artistic medium.

Does your project present a new idea or does it take an already existing idea and present it in a completely new way?

Does your project directly involve the public? Are you planning an event that will engage a large audience?

What sort of cultural dialogue does it encourage?

How do you think the work will be able to sustain it self at a certain level once the project is complet.

Using the template provided in the application, please define the **What**, **How**, and **When** of the project.

The **What**, represents the deliverables that your project aims to achieve and you should be able to measure them: think in concrete rather than abstract terms.

In the **How**, list all the activities you will be organizing as part of your project to achieve your deliverables.

Use the **When**, column to create a timeline of your deliverables and activities. What is the sequence and duration of the various components?

3.2 Monitoring and Evaluation

For your project to be successful you need to define a clear process to monitor development and evaluate progress.

Issues to be addresses in this section are:

- How will you keep track of your expenses?
- Who are the main people involved for delivering the project?
- Who is directly responsible to report to FS/SRCI team?

4.1 Budget

Use the template provided in this section to list all the costs your project will incur. If your costs do not fit any of the provided categories on the first page, please use the second page to list the relevant items.

The maximum allowable budget is 15,000USD

The costs not listed in the budget will not be covered.

Break down the costs and purchases in as great detail as possible.

You may use as many copies of the blank budget template as needed.

Please list any other funding sources you may have for this project.

Explanation of listed budget cost headings are on page 7 of the application form.

5.1 ANNEX 1 *Intangible Cultural Heritage Categories and Fields of Activity Chart*

- Oral Traditions and Expressions
 - △ Storytelling
 - △ Folklore
- Visual & Audial Arts
 - △ Painting
 - △ Calligraphy
 - △ Photography
 - △ Film
 - △ Sound Art
 - △ Drawing
 - △ Sculpture
 - △ Contemporary Art
- Media Programs
 - △ Television
 - △ Online/Social Media
 - △ Radio
- Literary Arts
 - △ Poetry
 - △ Creative Writing
 - △ Fiction
- Performing Arts & Living Traditions
 - △ Music
 - △ Theater
 - △ Puppetry
 - △ Games
 - △ Dance
 - △ Performance Art
 - △ Sports
- Social Practices, Rituals, & Festive Events
 - △ Festivals
 - △ Religious and/or non-religious rituals
 - △ Ceremonies
- Afghan Scholarship in Art & Culture
 - △ Research
 - △ Seminars
 - △ Publications
 - △ Presentations
- Educational/Training in Afghan Art & Culture
 - △ Training
 - △ Courses
 - △ Workshops
 - △ Publications
 - △ Presentations
- Traditional Arts, Craftsmanship, & Handicrafts
 - △ Ceramics/Pottery
 - △ Woodcarving
 - △ Tailoring/Embroidery
 - △ Rug weaving
 - △ Jewelry/Gemstones
- Food Heritage
 - △ Fusion
 - △ Lost Recipes
 - △ Traditional Dishes
 - △ Contemporary Cuisine
- Knowledge & Practices Concerning Nature and the Universe
 - △ Traditional Healing Systems/Herbal Remedies
 - △ Cosmology
 - △ Possession Rites/Shamanism
 - △ Traditional Knowledge/Use of Local Flora & Fauna



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