

# Pool guidelines for the Nordic Youth Pool

## § 1 Purpose

- 1) The project aims to create dialogue and cultural engagement between young people across the Nordic region.
- 2) The purpose of the Nordic Youth Pool is to create new Nordic youth communities based on volunteering among young people throughout the Nordic region.
- 3) The Nordic Youth Pool seeks to achieve variations between types of activities and geographical locations.
- 4) The pool seeks to promote active citizenship, dialogue and commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals among young people across the Nordic region.

## § 2 Who can apply for the pool?

- 1) All youth associations and self-organized youth groups, which work according to democratic principles and are based in the Nordic countries, can apply for the pool.
- 2) The activity must be managed by young people. Young people must be responsible for the development and implementation of the project. Adults may have an initiating and guiding role, but young people must have the final decision-making skills. In this context, you are young when you are under 30 years.
- 3) Activities must be based on volunteering. Volunteers must be included in making the decisions and in the planning and execution of the activities, and the volunteering pillars in the project must be unpaid.
- 4) The group cannot receive support if the activity is for business purposes or serves commercial interests.
- 5) The activities can be organized in collaboration with civil or public actors, but must always be developed, owned and run by young people themselves and must be carried out by volunteering.
- 6) An organization or youth group may be excluded from grants if the youth group/organization or their members participate in, or if the youth group/organization does not abstain from, illegal activities or activities which may be considered to be contrary to the common law by being unlawful or otherwise based on undemocratic methods.

## § 3 Who is responsible for the project/activity?

- 1) The applicant is a natural person who has submitted an application in his/her own name on behalf of a group.
- 2) The legal responsible is a natural person who has the legal responsibility for the project. Generally, the applicant is also the legal responsible, but if the applicant is not of legal age, another legal person must be appointed.

#### § 4 Award criteria

- 1) The funds must be widely distributed throughout the Nordic region. This means that the Nordic youth pool will give priority to supporting applicants in countries that have received funding from the pool to a lesser extent than other countries.
- 2) Funds must provide diversification into activity types supported. This means that the Nordic youth pool will prioritize activity types that have received less funding than others. Activity types can be political seminars, nature walks, role-playing games, etc.
- 3) The pool will accommodate applications where more young people and / or countries are included rather than fewer.
- 4) The pool will accommodate applications involving several different types of youth organizations / youth groups. That is, associations / groups that have different purposes but which can be found together in the activity.
- 5) The pool will accommodate applications that emphasize diversity and persistent support for Nordic co-operation and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The quality of how the SDGs are implemented in the activity or project is more important than the number of SDGs implemented.
- 6) To receive support, young people from at least two different Nordic countries must be included in the activity.
- 7) All applicants who initially meet the purpose and are a part of the project's target groups will be considered for the pool.
- 8) All the above criteria are equally weighted. Priority is given to the above criteria in order to strike a balance between types of activities and acquisitions, geography and type, and size of supported associations and/or youth groups.

#### § 5 What can you apply for?

- 1) Activities and projects that strengthen meetings between young people across national borders in the Nordic countries, always involving young people from at least two different Nordic countries.
- 2) Activities and projects that focus on dialogue and concrete actions in relation to the implemented SDGs.
- 3) Acquisition of materials and facilities, as well as travel costs, which allow more young people to participate in Nordic activities.
- 4) Grants can be sought for all reasonable and necessary expenses related to travel, activities, projects and the like within the scope of the purpose.
- 5) However, you cannot apply for support for:
  - a. Rent, subscriptions or other fixed expenses.
  - b. Course and entry cost(s).
  - c. Salary and acquiring of volunteers.
  - d. Construction or renovation of buildings, as well as permanent procurement, which benefits only one player.
  - e. Activities without clear anchoring in the Nordic countries.
  - f. Political election campaigns or activities which are of the nature of actual worship or ecclesiastical acts.

- g. Costs that do not take into account climate and environmental sustainability.
  - h. Projects/activities/procurements initiated/held/purchased before the date of application.
  - i. Activities that are primarily social in nature.
- 6) If a supported activity/project generates revenue, the profits in the grant are offset.
  - 7) The activities must be held within 12 months from the confirmation of the grant.

## **§ 6 How much can you apply for?**

You can apply for either DKK 10,000-70,000 or DKK 10,000-100,000 per application depending on the number of countries involved.

- a. The pool may allocate lower amounts than applied for, taking into account the size of the pool and the appropriate distribution and use of the funds.
- b. If the activity involves two countries, you can apply for amounts between DKK 10,000 - 70,000.
- c. If the activity involves three or more countries, you can apply for amounts between DKK 10,000 - 100,000.

## **§ 7 How do you apply?**

- 1) Application for the pool can only be done online through the application form on the project's website. The pool secretariat can dispense from this in case of technical problems and the like.
- 2) Applications are processed after the application deadline. Application deadlines are published on the pool's website. All applications must be completed within 40 days of the application deadline.
- 3) The application must contain the following information:
  - a. Master data on all the project's project managers, as well as at least one contact person per country.
  - b. Brief description of the activity/project, including a timeline.
  - c. Budget.
  - d. An account number (including IBAN and SWIFT numbers).
- 4) The secretariat may, in connection with the case, request additional information for the application.
- 5) The date of the activity(s) must be stated.

## **§ 8 Grant**

- 1) The grant is being processed by the grant committee for the Nordic Youth Pool at a meeting after the application deadline. The committee assesses the application on the basis of the criteria described in §1-5.
- 2) The application can either be accepted, partially accepted or rejected after the case has been processed. Applicant will receive a reply within 40 days from the application deadline and shortly after the committee has made a decision.
- 3) The grant must be used in accordance with the agreed project period, as stated in the grant letter.
- 4) All significant changes to the project/activity content and/ or times that occur after the grant must be approved in advance by the pool secretariat.

- 5) The Grants Committee is set up annually and consists of 7 members under the age of 30. The committee is set up on the basis of a recommendation from the steering group of Nordic youth councils in the Nordic Youth in Sustainable Communities-project for approval by the Danish Ministry of Children and Education. The committee consists of one person from the presidium of the Youth Nordic Council (UNR) and at least one person from each of the five independent Nordic countries' national youth councils, as well as one person from a youth council or the like from the three Nordic self-government areas in rotation. It is required that the youngsters nominated to the grants committee have knowledge of working with young people, including young people's commitment and young people's involvement in the community, as well as being used to working with the UN's SDGs. In addition, up to two resource persons with relevant professional competence may be convened if deemed necessary by the members of the grant committee. Resource holders do not have the right to vote.

### **§ 9 How do you report?**

- 1) Unless otherwise agreed, you must report to the pool's secretariat within one month from the end of the project/activity, according to the approved project period, by declaring that the grant has been used as intended and that the conditions for the grant are otherwise fulfilled, as stipulated in the letter of appropriation.
- 2) The youth organization/youth group must declare:
  - a. How much of the grant has been used and eventually how much must be paid back.
  - b. The funds have been used in accordance with the application and these guidelines.
- 3) Every grant recipient must keep accounting records for 5 years from the end of the calendar year in which the grant-triggering project or grant-ending activity is completed and, if required, submit the material to the pool secretariat.
- 4) Random tests of paid funds will be carried out continuously. After specific assessment and discussion, annexes can be charged for the grant.

### **§ 10 PR and mentioning**

- 1) The Danish Youth Council and the Danish Ministry of Children and Education can use information on activities/projects to inform about the pool and the applicants are expected to contribute to a reasonable extent to this.
- 2) The pool secretariat is responsible for ensuring that the announcement of the pool and its application deadlines are available in all communication about the pool.
- 3) The pool secretariat is responsible for ensuring that all information about the pool is made available on the Danish State's Grants Pool-overview, in addition to the pool's website, with detailed guidance on application and deadlines.

### **§ 11 Administration of the pool**

- 1) The pool is administered by the Secretariat of the Danish Youth Council in accordance with an agreement with the Danish Ministry of Children and Education.

- 2) The pool is domiciled in Denmark, follows Danish legislation and all amounts are in Danish kroner (DKK).
- 3) The pool's guidelines are available in both Danish, Swedish, and English, but in case of doubt, the formulations in Danish applies.