In Country Volunteer (ICV) Alumni Grant
Volunteer Guidance

What is the ICV Alumni Grant?
The ICV Alumni Grant offers small funds for ICS in-country volunteers (ICVs) to organise activities that will have a positive and measurable impact in their community. The grant offers funding up to a maximum value of £1000 (GBP).

In 2015, world leaders agreed to 17 goals for a better world by 2030. A 15 year plan was created for everyone, everywhere with the aim to create a world where none is left behind and no one anywhere lives in extreme poverty. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a call to action and have the power to end poverty, fight inequality and stop climate change and we can all contribute to making sure these goals are met. You can read more about the global goals here.

Through funding from the ICV Alumni Grant, ICVs have been able to contribute to many of these goals, for example:

- SDG 8: Jobs, Employment & Economy - through employability skills & entrepreneurship training with young Ghanaian mothers;
- SDG 3: Good Health & Wellbeing - by holding Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights training in Kenyan schools;
- SDG 16: Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions - through youth leadership and peace workshops in South Africa.

We have five priority goals for the ICV Alumni Grant and these are:

If you have a great idea for an activity that will to contribute to these global goals and make a positive and sustainable impact in your community, then the grant fund can help you get started!

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Am I eligible?

If you can answer ‘Yes’ to all of these questions then you are welcome to apply!

1. Are you an ICS In-Country Volunteer?
2. Are you in an ‘active’ ICS country – Bangladesh, Cambodia, Kenya, Nepal, Tanzania, Uganda or Zambia?
3. Have you completed your Action At Home?
4. Do you have a great idea for a social action but need a small amount of funding (up to £1000 GBP) to deliver it?
5. Is the online application process currently open and accepting applications?

Is my activity eligible?

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<tr>
<th>Activities must:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Align with one or more of the five priority SDGs</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Make a positive and measurable development impact in the community</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>Involve and inspire others to take action</td>
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<td>Be inclusive and accessible to individuals from diverse backgrounds</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>Encourage your personal and professional development</td>
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<td>Be planned, delivered and reported on within 20 weeks</td>
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<th>Activities may also:</th>
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<td>Involve collaboration between ICVs and UKVs</td>
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<td>Provide the start-up for an ongoing activity that has the potential to become self-sustainable</td>
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What other information do I need to know?

- You can do a wide range of activities, including awareness raising, campaigning, workshops, parliamentary activity or social enterprise.
- You can apply for the grant as an individual or as part of a group of ICV alumni.
- UK volunteers (UKVs) can’t apply for the grant, but ICVs can plan activities that involve some collaboration with UKVs.
- You are eligible for a maximum of two separate rounds of funding from the grant, as long as you successfully complete your first activity.
- If you are unsuccessful this time, you can always apply in our next intake of applications.
What support will I receive?
You will be allocated a Grant Champion. This is an ICS staff member based in your country who will support you throughout your grant journey. For example, through an induction to the whole Grant process, check-ins via email or phone, and maybe a visit to your activity! You can find your country and agency’s Grant Champion here. If your agency is not listed, please contact the VSO representative for your country.

How do I apply for the grant?

Step one
Think of an issue that motivates you and the type of activity that might have a positive and sustainable impact in your community. Remember, it needs to align with one of our 5 priority SDGs.

Step two
Complete the online application form by the submission deadline, making sure it meets all essential criteria. You can contact your Grant Champion for further support, if needed.

** It’s important that your application clearly outlines how the activity meets the criteria, please answer all the questions in the online form **

Step three
If your application is successful, you will be invited to attend an online induction with your agency before you start your activity. It is essential that you attend this induction and it will also be an opportunity to ask any questions and meet fellow ICVs who have planned activities.

Step Four
You will receive funding to deliver your planned activity. You can now start creating change and involve and inspire others to take action! Remember to keep all the evidence – that’s receipts when you spend money and lots of photos and videos of your activity!
Step five
Once you’ve finished your activity, complete a report and submit this along with evidence of your expenditure. We want to hear about all the amazing work you’ve accomplished and share it with the global ICS network!

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I complete the application form offline?
Yes, paper application forms can be provided – just ask your Grant Champion.

Is there a deadline for submitting my application?
Yes, all applications are due in by a set deadline. Check out the ICS Grants Website for further details.

What if my agency no longer has an office in my country?
You can contact the Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) Grant Champion for your country and they will support you through the grant process.

Please contact your Grant Champion if you have any further questions.