

Application Criteria & Information - Matching Fund International Heritage Cooperation

Content

Topic

The project should address a heritage topic that connects the Kingdom of the Netherlands with one of the countries mentioned in the International Cultural Policy while also linking to subjects that resonate with audiences today.

Partnership

Projects applying for funding should stem from a reciprocal partnership between project leaders. By this, we mean a partnership based on a bilateral commitment with reciprocal input and responsibilities. For administrative reasons, the partner based in the Kingdom of the Netherlands must be registered with the Dutch Chamber of Commerce (KvK).

Audience

In all cases, the project must be accessible to a broad audience that, when engaging with the project, learns more about the past that connects the Kingdom of the Netherlands with the partner country. Therefore, the scheme is not meant for projects that are strictly academic or targeted at experts in the field.

The project must be accessible to an audience in the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the partner country.

Cultural disciplines

We support projects from all cultural disciplines, some examples are exhibitions, international events, theatre performances, podcasts, etc.

Support can also be requested for publications. In this case, two or more partners can collaborate through co-writing, but it is also possible for partners to collaborate on the content with one partner writing the text. An example would be a photography book where one partner is responsible for the photographs and the other for the text.

For documentaries or films with a cinema release contributions can only be requested for the public programming connected to the release. An example would be a lecture series connected to a documentary that is being shown in cinemas. Do note that this restriction does not include documentaries or films that will be aired on national television or available for free online.

Supporting documents

Budget

A total of € 90.000 is available per round of the Matching Fund. Applicants can apply for funding up to € 25.000 where the financial support from the Matching Fund can cover a maximum of 50% of the total budget.

For example:

Sources of income	Expected	Realised
DutchCulture Matching Fund	€ 15.000	-
Fund XYZ	€ 15.000	-
Total	€ 30.000	

To anchor the reciprocal partnership, financial support raised in the partner country or contributed by the project partner should also be included in the budget. In addition to monetary support, payment "in kind" can also be included in the budget to show the investment of the project partners and partner countries in the project. For example:

Sources of income	Expected	Realised	Note
DutchCulture Matching Fund	€ 15.000	-	
Fund XYZ	€ 15.000	-	
Community Organisation XYZ	€ 5.000	-	A performance space is being made available for 5 nights equal to a value of €1000 per night
Total	€ 35.000		

For book publications, funding can be requested up to €7.500.

For documentaries or films with a cinema release funding up to €10.000 can be requested for the public programming connected to this release.

The budget must include both the expected income and expenses and can be uploaded as an Excel and PDF document.

Letters

The application should include letters of intent from the project leaders that form the reciprocal partnership driving this project.

Additionally, the application should include two letters of recommendation from relevant professionals in the field. For example, these letters can comment on the importance of the project or the selected topic as well as the capability of the project leaders. These letters should not be written by the project leaders but can be supplied by those who are being consulted or in any other way lend their support to the project. Of course, these professionals can also be unattached to the project.

All letters can be uploaded as Word or PDF documents.

Curriculum vitae

The curricula vitae of the project leaders that form the reciprocal partnership should be uploaded as Word or PDF documents. Please do not link to online resources such as websites on LinkedIn.

Additional Factors

A complete application in line with all of the criteria mentioned above is eligible to receive funding through the Matching Fund. However, due to the popularity of the scheme and the limits of the available funding, it is unlikely that we will be able to grant support to every application that meets the criteria.

The list below specifies the additional factors that are considered to provide insight into what the scheme places importance on when assessing an application. An application does not have to meet all these points.

- The cultural-historical correctness and significance of the selected topic.
- Does the project address a relevant and urgent topic concerning discussions going on in the heritage and cultural sectors and/or society in general?
- Does the project contribute to multi-voicedness in public dialogue?
- Does the project promote new insights about the selected topic, providing a unique angle?
- Does the project address a direct need of specific communities or society in general?
- What is the impact of the project? This can, for example, be shown through the expected reach and longevity of the project.
- Does the project consider its impact on the environment and does it include steps to mitigate this impact?

Aside from the assessment factors there are also a few restrictions that applicants should take into account.

- A project that has previously received funding through the Matching Fund cannot apply for additional support.
- When applying the project can be in its research phase, but the implementation cannot start before the outcome of the Matching Fund has been announced. The outcome will be announced a maximum of 3 months after the deadline.

Application Process

Advisory meeting

If you would like to apply for the Matching Fund, please send a short introduction of your project to our Advisor International Heritage Cooperation. This introduction should make clear what heritage-related topic your project touches on, include information on the international partners working together on this project, and share how this project will be accessible to the public in the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the partner country.

If the project is a good fit for the Matching Fund we can schedule an advisory meeting. During this meeting, we will discuss the project proposal, provide information about the application process, and provide additional advice if relevant. After the advisory meeting, the application form for the scheme will be made accessible.

Submissions

Applications can be submitted using our online portal accessed via the link sent to applicants after the advisory meeting. Please note that applications which are submitted without scheduling an advisory meeting will not be considered

A complete application consists of:

- The completed application form
- A budget proposal
- Letters of intent from the project leaders
- Two letters of recommendation
- The curricula vitae of the project leaders

Current information about the deadline to apply for the Matching Fund can be found on the [website](#).

Should you have any further questions about your specific project or you are experiencing technical issues please contact us via internationalheritage@dutchculture.nl.

Assessment

Once the application is submitted, it is evaluated by a broad committee and the final decision is made by an independent council.

The committee consists of the following parties: DutchCulture's Regional Advisors and the relevant Embassy or Consulate General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Additionally, partners from the Dutch Cultural Heritage Agency, the Dutch National Archives and the Knowledge Centre for Intangible Heritage are asked to comment if applicable.

The advice of this committee is shared with the independent council, consisting of experts and professionals from the heritage field, which determines the outcome.

To keep the workload of the committee and independent council manageable, members are only asked to read the documents requested for the application. Therefore, it is essential that all relevant information can be found in these documents.

Outcome

The outcome of the Matching Fund will be announced a maximum of 4 months after the deadline. Applicants will receive the result of their application via email.

It is not possible to formally object to the outcome of the scheme. However, you can ask for further information regarding the result by contacting us via internationalheritage@dutchculture.nl.