

HLF Follow-on Funding

Partner Information – HLF Ukraine

The Help Localisation Facility (HLF): a locally led fund with and for civil society actors

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Information as of 23 October 2026

What is Follow-on Funding?

Follow-on funding gives current eligible HLF partner organisations in Ukraine the opportunity to apply for additional funding through a competitive selection process. It builds on their existing partnership with the HLF, recognises partners' investment in meeting HLF processes and requirements, and supports continuity in their humanitarian assistance and organisational capacity strengthening.

The HLF Grants Committee Ukraine may set specific priorities for follow-on funding, for example regarding geographic areas, sectors or participant groups. These are communicated to partners together with the invitation.

What Funding is Available?

Follow-on grants are available in two grant sizes, with grant amounts of EUR 200,000 and EUR 500,000. Grant duration is up to 12 months.

Follow-on grants include project funding, optional partner-led Organisational Capacity Strengthening (OCS) funding, and Project Support Costs (PSC) fixed at 7%, in line with the existing HLF funding model.

Who Can Apply?

Follow-on funding is restricted to current HLF partner organisations in Ukraine that are invited by the HLF. Partners are assessed against the eligibility requirements outlined below. Those meeting the requirements may be invited to submit a follow-on funding proposal.

Organisations that are not yet HLF partners can join the HLF through a Call for Registration (see How to Apply). HLF partner organisations that have accepted an invitation to the follow-on funding process cannot simultaneously apply to a new Call for Registration: They may choose to participate either in the follow-on funding process or in a new Call for Registration, but not in both.

Performance Assessment

During project implementation, the performance of each partner is reviewed by the HLF team in four areas: (1) programmatic capacity and MEAL, (2) accounting and financial management, (3) partnership reflection, and (4) procurement and human resources management. The areas are weighted as follows:

Category	Weighting
Programmatic Capacity & MEAL	45%
Accounting & Finance	25%
Partnership Reflection	15%
Procurement & HR	15%

Assessments are conducted using these predefined criteria and a standardised scoring framework. Partners whose overall performance does not meet the minimum overall performance score required level are not eligible for follow-on funding.

Each assessment area is scored on a scale from 0 to 4, and the overall performance score is calculated using the weightings above. Partners must achieve a minimum overall weighted performance score of 2 out of 4 to be eligible for follow-on funding. A score below 2 results in exclusion from follow-on funding. The identification of a Risk Indicator also results in exclusion from follow-on funding, regardless of the overall weighted performance score.

The performance assessment remains valid for two years.

Follow-on Due Diligence

Partners meeting the minimum performance requirements subsequently undergo a follow-on due diligence review which consists primarily of an administrative review of key organisational documents. In addition, a brief review of publicly available information is carried out to confirm continued alignment with the humanitarian principles. Additionally, the previous year's annual organisational budget must be at least equal to the follow-on grant size and must not exceed EUR 3,000,000, as the HLF focuses on small and medium-sized local and national actors (organisational budgets reported in local currency are converted into euros (EUR) using the Average Exchange Rate for the preceding calendar year is applied).

Partners who do not meet the minimum performance requirements, do not successfully complete the follow-on due diligence review, or do not meet the annual organisational budget requirements are informed in writing of the reasons for their ineligibility.

How are Partners Invited?

Partners that meet all eligibility requirements, including the annual budget requirement, have successfully completed follow-on funding due diligence review, achieved a minimum overall weighted performance score of 2 out of 4, and have no Risk Indicators are ranked according to their overall performance assessment scores.

The highest-ranked eligible partners are invited to submit a proposal for a grant of EUR 500,000, with the number of invitations determined by the funding available for this grant category. All remaining eligible partners are invited to submit a proposal for a grant of EUR 200,000.

Partners invited to apply for a grant of EUR 500,000 may voluntarily choose to submit a proposal under the EUR 200,000 grant category instead. However, partners may only apply under one grant category, not both.

Consortia are possible on a voluntary basis, but only together with an existing HLF partner organisation.

How Are Proposals Assessed and Selected?

Invited partners submit a full proposal. The partner leads the development of its proposal, and the HLF Country Team supports the partner to ensure that the proposal is compliant, logical and realistic. Responsibility for the proposal content remains with the applicant organisation.

The HLF Grants Committee Ukraine reviews and scores the submitted proposals against predefined selection criteria and makes funding decisions. These funding decisions are subject to final approval by the German Federal Foreign Office.

As more partners are expected to be eligible than grants are available, an invitation to submit a proposal does not guarantee funding. All final proposals are subject to assessment by the HLF Grants Committee Ukraine, and funding is awarded competitively within the available budget.

How and When Are Decisions Communicated?

The timeline for the follow-on funding process and the communication of funding decisions will be provided to invited partners.

Unsuccessful applications receive written reasons.