



COOK ISLANDS ACCESS TO SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMMES

The Development Coordination Division fosters relationships with a broad range of development partners to broker coordinated arrangements. These activities are increasingly delivered through diverse partnerships at a variety of levels including local government, civil society, private sector and national government agencies.

The Division seeks to provide high quality development advice to partners including Ministers, government agencies, committees, community groups, private interest groups and donors. If your organisation requires assistance or advice on accessing the following programmes, please don't hesitate to contact our team

Development Programme Manager – tracy.cheer@cookislands.gov.ck

Development Programme Assistance – mii.kino@cookislands.gov.ck

Grants for Community Groups, NGO, CSO and incorporated societies

Small Grant Programme Title	Grant Purpose	Deadline	Development Partner	Lead Organisation/ Ministry	Contact
Fisheries Development Facility (Fisheries Small Grants) Up to NZD\$3k per grant request	Grant is for a wide range of activities from kick starting small fisheries ventures to purchasing sea safety gear, hygienic storage of catch and upgrading fishing equipment.	Open for application annually	Cook Islands Government	Ministry of Marine Resources, Rarotonga	Ministry of Marine Resources – Cook Islands rar@mmr.gov.ck
Australia Cook Islands Grants Program NZD \$5k – NZD \$15k	The Community Grants Program will fund projects that have a direct, practical and immediate impact, and we encourage applications with a focus on community and/or rural development, education, gender equality, health and disability, sport, youth, human rights, the environment, small scale infrastructure, economic empowerment or agriculture. Click here for more information	Open for application in September, annually	Government of Australia	Australian High Commission, Cook Islands, Rarotonga	Australian high commission ahcrarotonga@dfat.gov.au



<p>Social Impact Fund NZD \$5k – NZD 20k</p>	<p>The Cook Islands Social Impact Fund (SIF) is a contestable grant fund The SIF is fully funded by the Cook Islands Government to support Registered Civil Society Organisations (CSO), Civil Society groups, Sports and Faith based organisations and Community groups. Calls for proposals to access the SIF are made at least once a year for Project Funding and once every three years for Programme Funding.</p> <p>Click here for more information</p>	<p>Project Funding Annually</p> <p>Programme Funding Triannual</p>	<p>Cook Islands Government</p>	<p>Ministry of Internal affairs, Rarotonga</p>	<p>SIF Manager: Angeline Tuara angeline.tuara@cookislands.gov.ck</p> <p>SIF Officer: Princess Elia Raukete elia.raukete@cookislands.gov.ck</p>
<p>India Grant Fund up to NZD 20k</p>	<p>To support, promote or develop social, cultural, or economic development and sustainability, it should directly serve the basic needs of the community and have a positive and sustainable impact on the living conditions of the target group (e.g. projects referring to education, vocational training, hygiene standards, community development areas, gender).</p> <p>Click here for more information</p>	<p>Open for application annually</p> <p>CLOSED – till further notice</p>	<p>Government of India</p>	<p>Ministry of Finance and Economic Management, Rarotonga</p>	<p>Development Coordination Division</p> <p>Programme Manager Tracy.cheer@cookislands.gov.ck</p> <p>Programme Assistant mii.kino@cookislands.gov.ck</p>
<p>New Zealand High Commission Fund - Up to NZD \$25k</p>	<p>The New Zealand High Commission Fund (the Fund) supports small scale, short-term community projects that contribute to wider community development and well-being. Projects must be in line with the New Zealand International Development Cooperation (IDC) (formerly NZAID) Programme’s mission of sustainable development.</p> <p>Click here for more information</p>	<p>Open for application annually</p>	<p>Government of New Zealand</p>	<p>New Zealand High Commission – Cook Islands, Rarotonga</p>	<p>New Zealand High Commission Office NZHC.RRO@mfat.govt.nz</p>
<p>UNESCO Participation Programme Up to NZD \$26k</p>	<p>Participation Programme funding supports initiatives in the areas of Education, Natural Science, Social and Human Sciences, Culture, and Communication and Information. Proposals focussing on gender and youth are particularly welcome</p>	<p>Open for application annually</p>	<p>UNESCO</p>	<p>Ministry of Education, Rarotonga</p>	<p>Office Manager, Sara Kapi, office.manager@education.gov.ck</p>



<p>Pacific Development and Conservation Trust Up to NZD \$50k</p>	<p>The Trust provides grants for a range of conservation, cultural heritage, development and goodwill projects and activities in the Pacific. It supports sustainable development where communities join in and work together with iwi (tribes), hapū (sub-tribe), aiga or whanau (family grouping). Click here for more information</p>	<p>Open for application in February and August, annually</p>	<p>Government of New Zealand</p>	<p>Te Tari Taiwhenua Department of internal affairs, New Zealand</p>	<p>Department of internal affairs trusts@dia.govt.nz</p>
<p>Global Environment Fund – small grants programme (GEF SGP) Up to NZD 50k per project</p>	<p>To support registered CSO’s, NGO’s and Island communities to deliver services to vulnerable and at-risk groups in 5 areas: Biodiversity, Land Degradation, Climate Change, International Waters and Persistent Organic Pollutants.</p>	<p>Open for application annually</p>	<p>United Nations Development Programme</p>	<p>C.Is Red Cross Society, Rarotonga</p>	<p>GEF SGP National Coordinator, Cook Islands Ms Patience sgp.ci@undp.org</p>
<p>US Embassy Grants program Up to NZD\$100,000k</p>	<p>Purpose of Grants: PDS New Zealand invites Statements of Interest (SOI) for projects that seek to do at least one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - strengthen U.S.-New Zealand cooperation and coordination on global issues of shared interest (e.g., combatting climate change, supporting Indo-Pacific security, promoting diversity and inclusion); - promote the mutual benefits of tech and innovation; - promote stronger connections between the people of the United States, New Zealand, the Cooks Islands, Niue, and the Pacific Island region; - and deepen U.S. relationships with Indigenous and Pacific communities, in Aotearoa New Zealand, Niue and the Cook Islands, based on our shared values and heritage. <p>Click here for more information</p>	<p>Open for application Annually</p> <p>1st February 2023</p> <p>1st May 2023</p> <p>1st August 2023</p>	<p>U.S. government</p>	<p>US Embassy & Consulate in new Zealand, cook islands and Niue</p>	<p>US embassy and Consulate in New Zealand publicaffairsusnz@state.gov</p>



<p>Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Up to (NZ\$110-115K)</p>	<p>Aids self-supporting social-economic development activities that will achieve sustainable and environmentally-friendly economic growth and improvements in living standards.</p>	<p>Open all year round</p>	<p>Japan Government</p>	<p>Embassy of Japan to the Cook Islands in New Zealand</p>	<p>Submissions to development@wl.mofa.go.jp Enquiries to: enquiry@wl.mofa.go.jp</p>
<p>Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects (GCGP) Up to NZD \$110-\$115K</p>	<p>Aids self-supporting cultural, higher education and cultural heritage activities (sports programmes are also considered). Application accepted all year round for NGOs, NFP, CSOs, Education institutes etc.</p>	<p>Open all year round</p>	<p>Japan Government</p>	<p>Embassy of Japan to the Cook Islands in New Zealand</p>	<p>Submissions to development@wl.mofa.go.jp Enquiries to: enquiry@wl.mofa.go.jp</p>
<p>UNDEF United Nations Democracy Fund Up to USD \$250,000</p>	<p>UNDEF supports projects that strengthen the voice of civil society, promote human rights, and encourage the participation of all groups in democratic processes. Priority areas (Youth Engagement, Media and Freedom of Information, Gender Equality, Rule of Law and Human Rights, Strengthening Civil Society Interaction with Government and Electoral Processes)</p> <p>Click here for more information</p>	<p>CLOSED – 2023 Call for Proposals to be announced</p>	<p>United Nations</p>	<p>UNDEF</p>	<p>Enquiries to: democracyfund@un.org</p>
<p>UNDP Ocean Innovation Challenge Up to USD \$250,000</p>	<p>The Ocean Innovation Challenge (OIC) is a unique new mechanism that has been designed to accelerate progress on SDG14 by identifying, financing, advising and mentoring truly innovative, entrepreneurial and creative approaches to ocean and coastal restoration and protection that sustains livelihoods and advances the 'blue economy</p> <p>Click here for more information</p>	<p>CLOSED – 2023 Call for proposals to be announced</p>	<p>United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</p>		<p>Proposals are submitted online. Please visit the Ocean Innovation Challenge Website.</p>



<p>BIOPAMA Up to EUR \$400,00</p>	<p>BIOPAMA aims to improve the long-term conservation, sustainable use of natural resources and ecosystem services in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries, in protected and conserved areas and surrounding communities. Protected and conserved areas and the landscapes within which they are located have indeed a central role to play in preserving the biodiversity and ecosystem services that the majority of rural communities depend on for sustainable livelihoods</p> <p>Click here for more information</p>	<p>CLOSED – Call for submissions to be announced</p>	<p>Multilateral</p>	<p>Biopama secretariat</p>	<p>Proposals are submitted online. Please visit the BIOPAMA website</p>
<p>Kiwa Initiative Local Projects – up to EUR \$400,000 Regional Projects – up to EUR \$5,000,000</p>	<p>Kiwa initiative aims to strengthen the resilience to climate change of the ecosystems, communities and economics of the Pacific Islands through Nature Based Solutions, by protecting, managing sustainably and restoring biodiversity.</p> <p>Technical Assistance is also available for this, from SPREP and SPC</p> <p>Click here for more information</p>	<p>Open for application Annually</p>	<p>Multilateral</p>	<p>Kiwa Initiative Secretariat</p>	<p>Kiwa Secretariat kiwa_initiative@afd.fr</p>



Grants for Individuals and Businesses

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Young Pacific Leaders (YPL) small grants	<p>YPL small grants competition is an opportunity for alumni of YPL programs. The competition provides funding for the Pacific region's most promising young leaders to carry out projects that improve their communities, countries, and the region. Projects cover one of the four YPL themes: Education, Environment and Resource Management, Civic Engagement, and Social and Economic Development.</p> <p>Click here for more information</p>	Open for application annually	U.S. government	US Embassy & Consulate in new Zealand, cook islands and Niue	US embassy and Consulate in New Zealand publicaffairsusnz@state.gov
Fisheries Development Facility (Fisheries Small Grants) Up to NZD\$3k per grant request	Grant is for a wide range of activities from kick starting small fisheries ventures to purchasing sea safety gear, hygienic storage of catch and upgrading fishing equipment.	Open for application annually	Cook Islands Government	Ministry of Marine Resources, Rarotonga	Ministry of Marine Resources – Cook Islands rar@mmr.gov.ck
Business Link Pacific – Adaptation Grant	For businesses that have been impacted by COVID-19 and have innovative ideas on how to adapt to the current business environment, or take advantage of new opportunities.	Call for submissions	Business Link Pacific	Chamber of Commerce	Chamber of commerce ci@businesslinkpacific.com
Smart Economy Initiative Up to NZD100k	The Government is introducing the SMART Economy Initiative (SMART) to provide a mix of grants and tax credits to support new commercial business ventures providing innovative ICT applications and services to business and consumers in the Cook Islands and abroad	CLOSED	Government of the Cook Islands	Ministry of Finance and Economic Management	Economics and Planning Division MFEM.economics@cookislands.gov.ck



<p>Smart AgriTech Scheme Up to NZD \$50k</p>	<p>This initiative will provide grant funding to support investment in smart, productivity-enhancing agritech and equipment to improve the commercial viability of agricultural businesses and the economic sustainability of the agricultural sector</p>	<p>CLOSED</p>	<p>Government of the Cook Islands</p>	<p>Ministry of Finance and Economic Management</p>	<p>Economics and Planning Division MFEM.economics@cookislands.gov.ck</p>
<p>UNDP Ocean Innovation Challenge Up to USD \$250,000</p>	<p>The Ocean Innovation Challenge (OIC) is a unique new mechanism that has been designed to accelerate progress on SDG14 by identifying, financing, advising and mentoring truly innovative, entrepreneurial and creative approaches to ocean and coastal restoration and protection that sustains livelihoods and advances the 'blue economy</p> <p>Click here for more information</p>	<p>CLOSED – 2023 Call for proposals to be announced</p>	<p>United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</p>		<p>Proposals are submitted online. Please visit the Ocean Innovation Challenge Website.</p>

Development Coordination Division, MFEM is responsible for reviewing and updating this information from time to time.

Also published at the MFEM website: [Development Coordination Division](#)

Contact us at the Development Coordination Division, MFEM on Phone 29 521 or Email: development@cookislands.gov.ck

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