

## 2024 PERMAFUND Grant Round Guidelines

### Permaculture International Public Fund

Please read these grant guidelines carefully before completing the grant application form

#### 1. Amount thresholds

Permafund grants are available for amounts up to AUD \$2,000 to community based organisations in Australia or overseas to support their work restoring and improving the natural environment and building sustainable communities.

Grant applications over AUD \$2000 will be considered on the basis of their alignment with Permafund's guidelines, assessment criteria and cost-effectiveness-

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#### 2. Who can apply

Applications can only be received from community-based organisations with elected office bearers. These organisations can be in Australia or overseas. Any groups unsure of their eligibility should contact the Permafund Grant Coordination team (details at the end of these guidelines).

#### 3. Purpose

Grants are for activities which demonstrate the ethics and principles of permaculture and support the building of sustainable communities. Projects must meet the Australian Government's requirements for endorsed Environmental Organisations:

*"The protection and enhancement of the natural environment, or of a significant aspect of the natural environment; or the provision of information or education, or the carrying on of research, about the natural environment or a significant aspect of the natural environment."*

*Natural environment includes all aspects of the natural surroundings of humans, whether affecting them as individuals or in social groupings.*

*The natural environment and concern for it can **include**:*

- *significant natural areas such as rainforests*
- *wildlife and their habitats*
- *issues affecting the environment such as air and water quality, waste minimisation, soil conservation, and biodiversity*
- *promotion of ecologically sustainable development principles.*

*The natural environment would **exclude**, for example:*

- *constructions such as the retaining walls of dams;*
- *cultivated parks and gardens;*
- *zoos and wildlife parks (except those parks and zoos principally carried on for the purposes of species preservation); and*
- *cultural sites and heritage properties."*

#### 4. Permafund assessment criteria

Preference will be given to applications that show:

- the applicant is able to complete the work (viability)
- an effective use of funds and other resources (value)
- the project is responding to an identified need e.g. where people are in poverty (social justice)
- the project can carry on after the grant money runs out (endurance)
- there will be recording of the lessons learnt (education)
- there will be clear results that can be measured (evaluation)
- the possibility of ongoing communication with Permafund (relationship)

If you intend to cultivate food as part of your project you will need to show how you will use some of the strategies described below.

#### Examples of permaculture techniques that protect the environment

- Propagation of rare and endangered native species (wildlife, plants, water life)
- Providing/preserving/protecting natural habitat for rare and endangered native species
- Building healthy soils with diverse biology that sequester carbon
- Soil conservation, prevention of topsoil loss from erosion
- Creating and using alternatives to chemical fertilisers, pesticides, fungicides and herbicides
- Keeping water in the soil, minimising runoff and evaporation
- Reducing-waste and the use of artificial materials such as plastic
- Preventing & reducing all forms of pollution of the natural environment - air, land & water
- Any EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS that address the above points

#### Examples of projects that Permafund grants have supported in the past:

- For soil conservation & improved land use for food security and sustainable development:
  - Planting 1,500 seedlings of paper trees – Ockenden, Cambodia
  - Biodynamic preparation education – Madurai, India
  - Solar water pump for rice cultivation – Odisha, India
- For project-based training using locals to improve land & produce food using permaculture principles
  - Expert mentor for a team to make swales, plant an edible forest & instal irrigation - Umoja Orphanage, Kenya
- For mentor support and professional development for community leaders
  - PDC and village plan for La Gonave Island, Haiti

#### 4. Additional information to submit with your application

- Letters of support from other partner organisations, the community & government officers.
- Contacts for referees – we like to speak with you and others about your organisation.
- A map showing your project's location. If your project involves planting, draw a plan of your project that describes your design
- A recent Annual Report for the organisation or other reports about the organisation.

#### 5. Learning, sharing and reporting

Recipients are expected to report on their project outcome. This can include brief notes, photos, comments from people involved, copies of receipts and comments from other local organisations. The important things to report on: were the funds well used and what has been learnt from the work? It does not need to be a long formal report. Reporting requirements might be stricter for larger projects.

The learning and sharing of learning is a major hope for Permafund's work. Where it is appropriate, information from grant reports will be used on the PA website and social media to promote the projects funded.

Please send your application and supporting documents by email to the Permafund  
E: [permafund@permacultureaustralia.org.au](mailto:permafund@permacultureaustralia.org.au)

**CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: Midnight AEST on 30 April 2024**

**Successful applicants will be notified at the end of June 2024.**

#### 6. For enquiries please contact:

Permafund Grant Coordination team - [permafund@permacultureaustralia.org.au](mailto:permafund@permacultureaustralia.org.au)

W: <https://permacultureaustralia.org.au/>

F: <https://www.facebook.com/permafundaustralia/>

I: [@permacultureaustraliaofficial/](https://www.instagram.com/permacultureaustraliaofficial/)