## 2025 PERMAFUND Grant Guidelines
### Permaculture International Gift Fund

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

**Send your completed application form, supporting documents and jpeg photos as attachments by email to the Permafund E: permafund@permacultureaustralia.org.au**

**CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: Midnight AEST on 15th August 2025**

### 1. Grant 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 environment and building sustainable communities through permaculture education.

Grant applications over AUD $2000 will be considered and assessed on merit. Reporting requirements are stricter for larger projects.

### 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.

**Please note that the focus of the 2025 Permafund Grant round will be on applications received from organisations based in Australasia, South East Asia and the Pacific Islands.**

Any groups unsure of their eligibility should contact the Grant Coordination team.

### 3. Purpose

Grants are for activities which demonstrate the ethics & principles of permaculture and support the building of sustainable communities. As Permaculture Australia is an environmental organisation, grant projects must meet the objectives of the Australian Government for Environmental Organisations which are:-

*"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.*
   *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. Our assessment criteria

Grants are for activities which demonstrate the principles and ethics of Permaculture and support the building of sustainable communities. 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)

**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, preventing runoff and evaporation
- Minimising waste and the use of artificial materials such as plastic
- Preventing and reducing all forms of pollution of the natural environment - air, land and water
- Conducting educational programs, courses & workshops that address the above points

## Examples of projects that Permafund grants have supported:

**For project-based training using locals to improve land and produce food using permaculture principles**

- *Empower 50 smallholder women farmers of Binde with composting and agroforestry training to plant 500 tangelo trees intercropped with other species.* FARMSAHEL INC, Burkina Faso, Africa

- *Intensive training in Permaculture for 50 women farmers*, SwaYYam, India

**For soil conservation and improved land use for food security and sustainable development:**

- *Establishing high-valued fruit, timber and heirloom vegetable seeds nursery in Mindanao.* WAND (Water, Agroforestry, Nutrition and Development Foundation), Philippines

- *Promote regenerative agriculture and sustainable livelihoods for marginalised communities in Kapeni, Blantyre.* Chinansungwi Relief Hand Organisation (CHIREHO), Malawi

- *Permaculture in urban landscape and community development to strengthen food security*. Seed4Com 7H Urban Permaculture Project - Quezon City. Philippines

- *Establishing a 3,000 seedlings capacity seeds and seedling nursery in order to promote permaculture in 3 pilot villages*. Agatha Amani House, Kenya

**For mentor support and professional development for community leaders**

- *Training Farmers in Climate Smart Agriculture to cushion the effects of climate change in remote communities*. Youth Empowerment for Development Initiative YEDI, Zambia

- *Train Permaculture teachers and distribute indigenous seeds* Kajulu Hills Eco-Villages Community Based Organisation, Kisumu, Kenya

## 5. Additional information to submit with your application

- Letters of support from other partner organisations, people, government officers (if we think we will fund your project you will have to provide these at some stage)
- Contacts for referees – we like to speak with you and others about your organisation
- Map of the project location
- A recent annual report for the organisation or other materials from the organisation
- Please make sure your project will support your community to protect or improve the natural environment.

## 6. Timeline

It will really help you for both your application and your project implementation if you create a detailed timeline. For a guidance on how to create a detailed timeline please see Item 10 below.

## 7. 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, 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.

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.

## 8. Submitting your application

Please send your application and supporting documents and photos by email to the Permafund E: permafund@permacultureaustralia.org.au  by **Midnight AEST on 15th August 2025.**

**Successful applicants will be notified at the end of October 2025.**

**9. For enquiries and more information please contact:**

Permafund  Grant Coordination team - permafund@permacultureaustralia.org.au

**10.  Timeline design information**

It will really help you for both your application and your project implementation if you create a detailed timeline.

| Goal | Time table |
|---|---|
| **Goal - Community consultation**<br>**People care**<br><br>Assess and record the human issues related to the project. Things like:<br>What do people want and need in terms of food?<br>Will people be able to maintain the project in future years?<br>Is literacy an issue?<br>What about thieves and security?<br>Are women and youth involved?<br>Is fencing needed to protect your planted areas from grazing animals and wildlife? | **When will you start talking to people in your community about your project?**<br>Start date:<br>Finish date:<br>1. Write down a summary of your project and a list of questions to find out if it is what people really want.<br>2. Write down some roles for people who might want to get involved<br>3. Collect names of people who would like to be involved for roles that interest them.<br>4. Train project staff & volunteers<br>(include women as participants and trainers and encourage youth to participate)<br>Resources required: |
| **Goal - Site analysis and preparation**<br>Assess and record the site conditions. This will involve making notes and drawing a diagram which shows:-<br>Shady and sunny areas<br>Areas of compacted soil<br>Groundwater, potentially boggy areas<br>Potential erosion areas<br>Existing vegetation<br>Wildlife including bird species<br>Human settlement<br><br>Soil testing  - the first 5 and others if you can<br>● Slake test<br>● Penetration test<br>● Snakes soil test<br>● Jar test (clay silt sand)<br>● Infiltration test<br>● Worm check<br>● pH test | **When will you start your site analysis and preparation?**<br><br>Start date:<br>Finish date:<br>(You don't need include the below with your application):<br>What will you do? (e.g. will you do soil testing?)<br>EXAMPLE - ADAPT to YOUR PROJECT<br>1. Collect rainfall data and estimate best and worst rainfall over the coming months<br>2. Soil testing<br>3. Set up compost bays<br>4. Plant cover crops (what species and why?)<br>5. (keep adding tasks for this goal)<br><br>Resources required: |

| Goal | Time table |
|---|---|
| ● Lab analysis<br>● Soil life with microscope | |
| **Goal - Design and mapping with participants**<br><br>Having talked with people, what things would you now like on your site?<br>Be sure they are arranged in a way that makes sense in terms of stores and flows of materials, people, animals etc . | **When will you start designing your project in detail with all the participants?**<br><br>Start date:<br>Finish date:<br>(You don't need include the below with your application):<br>EXAMPLE - ADAPT this list to YOUR PROJECT<br>1. List all the elements you would like on your site<br>2. Draw a map that shows all the elements including trees and other plantings that you intend to put in. Be sure they are arranged in a harmonious way that will allow materials to flow with minimal effort.<br>Resources required: |
| **Goal - Education**<br>If you are planning to run an education program we would like to see your course content. We would like to see a description of the theory and practical parts.<br><br>Do you need to time certain education activities with practical works, eg. seed raising?<br>Put education on the schedule. | **Attach education content as a separate document.** If it's not yet complete, attach what you have now and send it with your application.<br><br>Start date of course:<br>Finish date of course:<br>Resources required: |
| **Goal - Growing summary** (If you are running an on ground project)<br><br>**Objective:** plan where to plant trees<br>**Objective:** support species<br>**Objective:** timing of cover crops,<br>**Objective:** watering requirements,<br>**Objective:** propagation needs<br>**Objective:** work out labour needs | **When will you start your growing summary**<br>Start Growing summary date:<br>Finish date:<br><br>Resources required (You don't need include the below with your application):<br>● Who will do the physical labour?<br>● How many people-hours will it take?<br>● How many and what species of trees might you plant?<br>● Depending on your project add more detail here, e.g. cost. |

| Goal | Time table |
|---|---|
| | |
| **Goal - List in order a schedule of works**<br>Show us the approximate **order** in which you intend to do all the tasks required. The sorts of things that might need to be done are ALL THE ABOVE and:<br>● Fertility strategy/preparations<br>    ○ e.g compost<br>    ○ e.g cover crop<br>● Pruning chop/drop of existing vegetation<br>● Grass removal, soil preparation, amendments<br>● Propagation including obtaining seed<br>● Planting - biggest trees first (what are they?) down to seedlings and seeds.<br>● Mulching and protection of young plants.<br>● Animals - if they have a role describe it. | (You don't need include the below with your application but it will help you with planning)<br><br>1. Task 1 (e.g. collect climate data)<br>2. Task 2 (e.g. site map and photos)<br>3. Task 3 etc.<br>   You might have 50 tasks<br>   List what you can here<br>   We understand plans can change! |
| **Record milestones when goals are met** | |

**For questions & more information please contact the Permafund Grant Coordination team - permafund@permacultureaustralia.org.au**