



Australia Awards

Australia Awards – Nepal



Alumni Disability Initiative Grants - 2021

Background

The Australian Government is committed to disability inclusive development to enable people with disability to realise their full potential. Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) is a cornerstone of Australia's aid investment in Nepal and is one of the six priority sectors for Australia Awards Scholarships 2022 for Nepal. GEDSI also underpins alumni engagement activities in Nepal.

As part of its alumni engagement activities, Australia Awards – Nepal has managed the Alumni Disability Initiative Grants (ADIG) since 2018. Continuing the initiative, Australia Awards – Nepal announces ADIG-2021, which aims to support activities or pilot initiatives implemented by Australia Awards alumni in Nepal that positively impact and improve human rights and dignity of people with disability.

Grant Purpose and Timeline

The grants are designed to encourage and support alumni initiatives that promote innovation and collaboration for awareness building, capacity development, promoting equal opportunities, and reducing/removing barriers for people with disability in Nepal. ADIG-2021 will follow the 'nothing about us without us' principle, which acknowledges that people with disability benefit more from initiatives where they are full collaborators and active participants.

Applications for the grant are open to all alumni who may or may not be working in the field of disability but are passionate about addressing the cross-cutting theme of disability. ADIG-2021 welcomes applications from **individual alums** or **groups of alumni** to apply for up to **NPR 90,000** to implement a disability inclusion initiative. Group applications are encouraged. The five most deserving applications will be selected for the grant.

Interested alumni are required to complete the **Application Form**.

Successful applicants are required to implement their projects and submit the **Completion Report by 14 May 2021**. Furthermore, they are required to present their projects at relevant future events organised by Australia Awards.

Eligibility Criteria

- Be an Australia Awards alum of either
 - the DFAT-funded Australia Awards Scholarships, Australia Awards Fellowships, or Short Course Awards; or
 - another Scholarship or Fellowship program funded by the Australian Government.
- Be a Nepali citizen, residing in Nepal, and intend to use the ADIG-2021 in Nepal.
- Be applying to use the grant for
 - awareness building; and/or
 - capacity development; and/or
 - promoting equal opportunity among people with disability; and/or
 - reducing and/or removing barriers for people with disability.

- Agree to participate in a Fraud Management, Child Protection, and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment briefing prior to receiving the grant, and use and acquit the grant according to DFAT and Program guidelines.

Communications

The call for applications for ADIG-2021 will be emailed to all Australia Awards alumni from Nepal and announced on www.australiaawardsnepal.org. This initiative will also be announced on the Australian Embassy in Nepal's social media platforms.

Grant recipients will be requested to take photographs of their initiatives; selected stories with photos will be shared on the Australian Embassy's Facebook page and Australia Awards – Nepal webpage.

Application Process

Applicants must complete the Application Form, Activity Work Plan (Annex 1), Budget (Annex 2), and Application Checklist (Annex 3) and submit them via email, along with relevant supporting documentation, to grp-alumni-np@australiaawardsnepal.org by 30 March 2021. Applications received after the deadline will not be accepted. When presenting the budget, applicants must provide a breakdown of budget items where applicable. An alum can only be involved in submission of one proposal (either individual or group application); multiple applications by an individual alum will be disqualified.

Criteria for Selecting Applications

Applications will be judged against the following criteria:

- Applications must align with strategies included in [DFAT's Development For All strategy](#); [Partnerships for Recovery: Australia's COVID-19 Development Response](#); and [Nepal COVID-19 Development Response Plan](#);
- Applications must justify how the proposed activity will increase awareness and understanding of disability, contribute to capacity development, increase participation of people with disability and/or remove barriers and increase accessibility for people with disability;
- Applications must identify the activity's intended primary beneficiaries, providing estimates of numbers.

Grant Disbursements

The value of an ADIG-2021 is up to NPR 90,000. The grant will be formalised through a Grant Agreement with Scope Global, the Australian managing contractor for Australia Awards South Asia. Attending the Fraud Management, Child Protection and Preventing Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment briefing is mandatory for all ADIG-2021 recipients.

Seventy (70) percent of the grant amount (a maximum of NPR 63,000) will be disbursed in local currency after the contract has been signed and after grant recipients have attended mandatory briefing. Thirty (30) percent of the grant amount (a maximum of NPR 27,000) will be paid after submission of the Completion Report.

The grant funds will be paid by issuing 'account payee' cheques.

Grant Monitoring and Reporting

The **Completion Report** (Annex 5) must be submitted no later than 14 May 2021, alongside the completed Financial Acquittal and Declaration form (Annex 4) and all original receipts.

Recipients may be contacted by the Australia Awards office at any time to seek information on the implementation and progress of activities for audit/review purposes. Recipients may not modify any part of their ADIG proposed project without prior approval from the Australia Awards Office.

Fraud and Misuse of Funds

The Australian Government has a zero-tolerance approach to fraud and has robust systems and procedures in place to protect public money and property from fraud and corruption. Australia Awards plays a critical role in minimising exposure of Australian development assistance funding to fraud and corruption.

All recipients of a small grant MUST attend a Fraud Briefing via Zoom, delivered by the Australia Awards Office, before funds are transferred to the grantee.

Misuse of funds will be treated in line with DFAT's [Fraud Control Toolkit for funding recipients](#). Please read DFAT's [Fraud Strategy Statement](#) before submitting a grant application.

Child Protection and Preventing Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment

All recipients of a small grant must read, sign and abide by the DFAT Child Protection Policy and Code of Conduct, including the guidelines for photographing and filming children. Recipients who seek to work directly with children in their pilot initiative must first complete a child protection risk assessment, in line with DFAT's [Child Protection Policy 2017](#). The Australia Awards Office can provide support with this.

All recipients must also abide with DFAT's [Preventing Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment Policy 2019](#).

Key Dates

15 March 2021	Applications open
30 March 2021	Applications close
7 April 2021	Successful applicants contacted
8 April 2021	Induction on Fraud Management, Child Protection, and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment
9 April – 14 May 2021	Implementation of Alumni Disability Initiative Grants
14 May 2021	Submission of Completion Report

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