

## The Habitats Trust Grants 2022 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### 1. Is there any focus geography(s) for The Habitats Trust Grants?

THT Grants accepts proposals for the conservation of India's natural habitats and indigenous species of flora and fauna from all over India and does not focus on any particular geography. The proposed projects must have direct conservation benefits to threatened habitats or species.

### 2. Can I apply for more than one grant?

No, an organisation or individual can only send in one application at a time.

### 3. Can I apply for the same project applied for in the previous grants cycle?

Yes, you can.

### 4. Can an organisation apply if it is already associated or associated in the past with The Habitats Trust?

The organisation/individual has one year following the completion of the THT-funded initiative to apply.

### 5. Can I email/post my application?

No, we accept proposals only through the THT Grants online portal.

### 6. What documents are required to apply?

Please find below a list of mandatory documents you need to upload as part of your application:

Conservation Grant: PAN Card, Registration document (Certificate of Incorporation/ Registered Trust Deed/ Society Registration Certificate), Memorandum of Association & Articles of Association /Bye-Laws, Income Tax Return FY 2020-2021, Certificate of exemption under Section 80G/Section 35(1)(ii) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961, Certificate of exemption under Section 12AB of the Income Tax Act, 1961, Audited Financials for FY 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21

Action Grant (Organisations): PAN Card, Registration document (Certificate of Incorporation/ Registered Trust Deed/ Society Registration Certificate), Memorandum of Association & Articles of Association /Bye-Laws, Income Tax Return FY 2020-2021, Certificate of exemption under Section 80G/Section 35(1)(ii) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961, Certificate of exemption under Section 12AB of the Income Tax Act, 1961, Audited Financials for FY 2020-21

Action Grant (Individuals): Profile/CV of the applicant with image, PAN Card, Aadhaar Card, Latest Income Tax Return, Bank Statements (6 months from October 01, 2021, to March 31, 2022), Letter of recommendation

### 7. Is it possible to make modifications to the application once submitted?

No. Once your application is submitted, no changes are allowed. It is recommended to review your application multiple times before submission.

### 8. Is there an application/registration fee to apply for the THT Grants?

No, THT Grants do not charge any fee for applying.

### 9. What is the deadline for submission of the application?

For the Conservation Grant and Action Grant, THT Grants is accepting applications from 22nd June 2022 to 5th August 2022. The Seed Grant is open for applications all year round.

**10. Will I get a copy of my application once submitted?**

Yes. On submission of your application, a PDF is generated, which you can download and save for future reference and other endeavours. You shall also be receiving a link on your registered email address to access it. If you do not receive the e-mail within 24 hours of the submission, please write to us at [grants@thehabitatstrust.org](mailto:grants@thehabitatstrust.org)

**11. How will I get to know if my application was submitted?**

Post submission, a confirmation/acknowledgement e-mail is sent automatically by the backend server to the registered e-mail id. If you do not receive the e-mail within 24 hours of the submission, please write to [grants@thehabitatstrust.org](mailto:grants@thehabitatstrust.org)

**12. Will the THT Grants amount be given in cash or kind?**

The grant amount is given to the grant recipients in their bank accounts. However, for Conservation Grant recipients, the amount is given in a bank account opened by the organisation, specifically for the implementation of the proposed project.

**13. When will the results be announced?**

Around December 2022/January 2023 for THT Grants 2022. Specific dates will be announced soon.

**14. When will the project begin for the recipients?**

The THT Grants 2022 recipients will have to commence the project in April 2023.

**15. I have applied for my not-for-profit's registration certificates but have not received them yet. Am I eligible to apply?**

An organisation applying for the Seed Grant must be a registered not-for-profit entity in India i.e., Society, Trust, Section 8 (previously Section 25) company or an approved scientific research association under Section 35(1)(ii). If you do not have the relevant certifications, unfortunately, you will not be eligible for applying for the grant. The Conservation Grant applicants must have completed 5 years of functional existence (as per registration certificate) in India on or before March 31, 2022, and the Action Grant applicants must have completed 2 years of functional existence.

**16. Should the organization be a registered entity having 80G/35 (1)(ii)/12A/Audited Accounts to apply?**

Yes, an organization must be a registered not-for-profit entity in India [Society, Trust and Section 8 (earlier section 25) company or an approved scientific research association under Section 35(1)(ii)]. An organization applying must have registration under Section 12A, 80G or 35(1)(ii) of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

**17. Is renewal of 12A & 80G under New Registration Procedure under section 12AB mandatory for applying for The Habitats Trust Grants?**

The new registration procedure prescribed under Section 12AB of the Income Tax Act requires all existing trusts and institutions to re-register themselves under section 12AB of the Income Tax Act from April 1, 2021.

According to the new Compliance with regards to section 12A and section 12AA, All NGOs presently having exemption u/s 12AA of the IT Act shall have to reapply for the same by March 31, 2022 (As extended). and shall have to obtain new registration under Section 12AB.

**18. Can a professor or Research scholar from an academic institution apply for the grant?**

Yes, you are eligible to apply for the THT Action Grant and Seed Grant as an individual.

Please note that proposed projects must have direct conservation benefits to threatened habitats or species. Pure academic research work will not be considered; however, consideration will be given in the case of data gathering for data deficit species or habitats which may be a critical element in developing a conservation or management strategy.

**19. Being a faculty from a Government College (Govt. Institute), are we eligible to apply for the grants at institutional level?**

Associations/Institutes having a valid registration under section 35(1)(ii) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 can apply for the grants. Individuals who are not currently full-time employees of any registered not-for-profit entity in India i.e., Society, Trust, Section 8 (previously Section 25) company can also apply.

**20. Are government colleges allowed to apply for the grants at an institutional level?**

Associations/Institutes having a valid registration under section 35(1)(ii) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 can apply for the grants.

**21. Can a research Association/Institutions apply for the grant?**

Associations/Institutes that have a valid registration as an approved scientific research association under section 35(1)(ii) of the Income Tax Act, 1961, are also eligible to apply for the grants.

**22. I work for a for-profit company/enterprise; can I apply for Action Grant or Seed Grant?**

Yes, you can apply if that's the case. However, to apply for the Action Grant, individuals should not be full-time employees or board members of any registered not-for-profit entity in India.

**23. Is FCRA registration mandatory for applying in the Organizations category?**

No, since it's a domestic grant, FCRA registration is not mandatory to receive this grant, however, if the organisation has an FCRA, we encourage them to provide it to us along with the application form.

**24. Expenditure of more than INR 50 Lacs for Conservation Grant should be pertaining to which financial year?**

The applicant organisation should have an average expenditure of INR 50 lakhs in the financial year 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21. The average expenditure is examined and computed for the Conservation Grant application using the formula below –

$$\frac{[\text{Total Expenditure (2018 – 19)} + \text{Total Expenditure (2019 – 20)} + \text{Total Expenditure (2020 – 21)}]}{3}$$

Herein, Total Expenditure is the Net Expenditure (Gross Expenditure – Surplus/Unspent expenditure) incurred by the organisation, as captured in the Income & Expenditure table of Annual Audited Financials. Audited financials of the last 3 financial years, FY 2018-19, FY 2019-20, and FY 2020-21 are taken into consideration for the evaluation.

**25. What are the criteria for the evaluation of proposed projects?**

Kindly go to the <https://www.thehabitatstrust.org/grants.php>. Under Grants overview, please click on “Read More” for the particular grant category.

**26. If the organization's primary objective is employment generation, education, healthcare etc., can they also apply for The Habitats Trust Grant?**

The Habitats Trust Grants aim to recognize and support organizations and individuals whose primary objective is to conserve our natural habitats and indigenous species of flora and fauna. The object clause in the MoA/Trust deed of the organisation should be inclusive of the requirements of the grants.

**27. Do THT Grants support projects for filming education and awareness documentaries on habitats and their rare and unique wildlife?**

The grants do not support wildlife documentary films. Proposed projects must have direct conservation benefits to threatened habitats or species

**28. Can I apply for conservation of flora?**

Yes

**29. Can equipment, including fixed assets, be purchased under the grant?**

Yes. It is important to include detailed descriptions of requested equipment. The Habitats Trust encourages the use and re-use of equipment purchased with the grant amount. Organizations/individuals are required to clearly mention the use of the equipment during the project and after its completion.

**30. What is the difference between Recommendations and References?**

Recommendations are formal letters showcasing why you should get this grant by the recommender. This should be on official letterhead or signed off by the person attesting to your work.

Whereas references can be from anyone who is familiar with your work in the field. We will get in touch with your references at a later stage.