Cluster Seed Fund Guidance
Stimulating growth through our network

What is the Cluster Seed Fund?

We are a global support network of people who support their community. We believe that every community has the gifts and skills it needs to achieve health and well-being for all its members. Our Clusters bring these gifts and skills together in one place to work to achieve the full potential of their own community.

This Cluster Seed Fund aims to stimulate growth in local communities around the world through our Clusters. We aim to create sustainability and self-sufficiency in our Clusters, and this fund is intended to support this. However, it’s important to remember that Arukah Network is not a funding agency. This small seed fund is only available to current Clusters with clear plans in place to show how a small amount of money will stimulate sustainable growth in their Cluster activities.

An example of this could be a Cluster project using sewing machines for income generation. A small amount of funding to purchase more machines could significantly increase the ability to generate much more income to support their health training projects in their community.

What is the process?

1. Clarify your Cluster’s goals for this year and agree within your Cluster how a grant from the Cluster Seed Fund can help your activities achieve your goals and become more self-sufficient.
2. Fill in and submit the Cluster Seed Fund Application form before the end of May 2021.
3. A member of our Support Team may arrange a call with you to discuss your project in more detail.
4. The Seed Fund Advisory Group will allocate funding in June. This group is made up from across the Network and will be reviewing applications to make sure funds will be used
sustainably and for the benefit of the wider community.

5. We will remain in contact with you over the following months to hear how the funding is being used.

6. Your Cluster will send a simple final report with photos, to share details about the impact of the seed fund, and details about your Cluster’s next steps.

Further information

Each Cluster can apply once in this funding round for the equivalent of up to £1,000. We hope to have further rounds of the Cluster Seed Fund available each year.

We encourage co-funding or match funding for bigger projects. The whole Cluster must benefit from the use of this fund. It must not be used to benefit just one Cluster member organisation.

There are different ways to do this:

   a. One organisation in the Cluster could take a lead, but funding still supports the Cluster and its wider community. For example, an organisation that runs counselling services could apply for funds to run basic training for Counsellors. Members of other Cluster organisations within the Cluster could attend the training, and use the skills in their own organisation, as well as in the wider community.

   b. The Cluster could come up with an initiative that will benefit the community, and which is delivered by various members of the Cluster as joint work. For example, a Cluster-led income generation project that will generate further income, and create opportunities for the wider community.

Our Support Team and Advisory Group are here to help you and your Cluster. We are ready to assist with preparation and applications for this fund, making connections with other organisations and any other support you may need. We are also keen to work with you to develop your longer-term plans, and help you seek further opportunities beyond this seed fund.
If you would like to make an application or discuss the process, please email team@arukahnetwork.org