



Grant Program

Target Group, Areas of Focus and Solution Approaches

Sabancı Foundation does not only provide financial support to civil society organizations by giving grants but also provides technical assistance, experience sharing opportunities and works in partnership with the them. Accordingly:

- The grant process starts with applications of civil society organizations followed by a detailed review of all the applications. The applications qualified to be the grantees **become part of the Grant Program network**.
- Within this network grantees **meet with other similar organizations, participate in experience sharing meetings and get expert support if needed**.
- Grantees find the chance to **develop their capacities** with workshops such as communication, impact assessment or experience sharing.
- As part of the **monitoring process**, grantees present **interim and final reports** and the Foundation organize **fieldwork trips**.
- The stories of the projects are gathered under a publication called the **Sowing Season Grant Program Stories**.
- **Project video** describing the purpose, activities and outputs of the project is prepared.
- All of the activities are shared with public by using the **communication opportunities**.

Program strategy is designed taking into account the primary problems and needs of women, youth and persons with disabilities and determined as follows:

Target Group

Projects focusing on **women, youth** and **persons with disabilities** are being supported.

Areas of Focus

Within the Grant Program, the **education** projects that works under the themes of supporting quality education, securing access to education and retention and supporting rights based non-formal education, will be supported.

Supporting Quality Education, Securing Access to Education and Retention: Projects that will be supported in this field shall aim to improve the quality of formal education and to include and maintain groups which are experiencing difficulties in accessing education. The projects should cover at least one of the aspects below:

- Ensuring equal access to quality education
- Increasing the quality of special education and inclusive education
- Ensuring the continuation of girls' education
- Innovative education methods and improvement of digital competencies

Supporting Rights Based Non-Formal Education: Projects that will be supported in this field shall aim to strengthen women, youth and persons with disabilities or related actors working with these target groups and increase awareness about rights among these groups. The projects should cover at least one of the aspects below:

- Right based awareness and empowerment
- Social participation and representation
- Combating early and forced marriages
- Independent living and accessibility
- Fighting against climate change

* Projects on renovation or hardware procurement and vocational trainings will not be supported by the grant program.

Solution Approaches

You can find the success criteria of effective projects below. A project should:

- Provide a **rights-based approach**; support the **right-seeking process** of the people facing discrimination by raising their awareness.
- **Specify its target group clearly**. In case the target group is out of its area of experience, conduct a **needs assessment** in order to design the activities.
- **Empower** target group not only by providing trainings, but also by creating accessible opportunities, raise awareness in related actors and provide **effective solutions**.
- Ensure target group's **participation** in the project, make them active agents in creating solutions and instead of speaking on behalf of them, try to include the target group in the decision-making processes.
- Provide models to increase the **solidarity, cooperation and communication** among the target group and try to eliminate prejudices by bringing them together with other groups.
- **Get support** from experts if needed and **work in partnership** with them during the project design and implementation processes.
- **Gather data, prepare reports and share with the related institutions** in order to make the problems visible and undertake efforts to overcome systemic inequities by providing **new service models and/or proposals**, implementing and sharing results.
- **Put emphasis on communication**; run campaigns and include national and local press into the project to inform public and make the problem visible.
- Give importance to **inclusivity and environmental impact**. Plan all activities by considering issues such as gender equality, accessibility, and climate change.
- Use new and **innovative** education methods.