



THT Seed Grants FAQs

1. Is there any focus geography(s) for THT Seed Grants?

Proposals for the conservation of India's natural habitats and native species of flora and fauna are accepted by THT Grants, and no particular geography is focused on. It is required that the proposed projects have direct conservation benefits to threatened habitats and/or species.

2. Can I apply for more than one grant?

Only one application per month can be submitted by an applicant; however, if a grant is received, a new project cannot be applied for until the project duration is over.

3. Can an organisation apply if it is currently associated with The Habitats Trust?

Yes, it can, but preference will be given to new applicants.

4. Can I email/post my application?

No, proposals are accepted only through the THT Grants online portal. Incomplete applications are not accepted. In case of a technical glitch, the THT Grants team should be informed via email or call.

5. What documents do I need to apply for the THT Seed Grant?

The following mandatory documents are required to be uploaded as part of the Seed Grant application:

Organisations:

- PAN Card
- Registration document: Certificate of Incorporation/Registered Trust Deed/Society Registration Certificate
- Memorandum of Association & Articles of Association/Bye-Laws
- Certificate of exemption under Section 80G/Section 35(1)(ii) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961, Certificate of registration under Section 12AB of the Income Tax Act, 1961
- CSR - 1 certificate
- Income Tax Returns for FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24
- Audited Financials for FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24
- CV of key personnel
- FCRA registration certificate (if registered)
- Compliance checklist
- Signed and stamped declaration form (as per format).

Individuals:

- Resume/CV of applicant with image
- PAN Card
- Aadhaar Card
- Income Tax Returns for FY 2022-23 and 2023-24
- Letters of recommendation
- Signed declaration form.

6. Can I make modifications to the application once submitted?

No changes are allowed once the application is submitted. It is recommended that the application is reviewed before submission.

7. Do I need to give an application/registration fee to apply for the THT Grants?

No fee is charged for applying for THT Grants.

8. What is the deadline for submission of application?

The THT Seed Grant is open for applications all year round.

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

Yes, a PDF is generated on submission of the application, which can be downloaded from the top right corner of the application portal.

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

Post-submission, a confirmation/acknowledgment email is sent automatically by the backend server to the registered email ID. If the email is not received within 24 hours of submission, the THT Grants team should be contacted via email at grants@thehabitatstrust.org.

11. Will I receive the THT Grant amount in cash or kind?

The grant amount is given to the grant recipients in their bank accounts after a thorough due diligence process.

12. When will the results be announced?

The process involves the executive committee reviewing and evaluating the applications by the 10th of every month. The results are then announced via email to each applicant.

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

The organisation 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).

14. Should an organisation be a registered entity having 80G or 35(1)(ii) and 12AB/Audited Accounts to apply?

Yes, the organisation must have registration under Section 12AB, 80G, or 35(1)(ii) of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

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

The new registration procedure 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.

16. What can an organisation do if their 12AB and/or 80G is under renewal?

The provisional proof of renewal is required to be provided by the applicant, and the originals must be submitted (if shortlisted) before the final round of the grant process.

17. I am a professor or research scholar from an academic institution. Can I apply for the grant?

Yes, eligibility to apply for the THT Seed Grant as an individual exists as long as an NOC from the employer is submitted.

18. I am a faculty from a Government College (Govt. Institute). Am I eligible to apply for the grant 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. Faculty can apply as individuals as long as an NOC from the employer is obtained.

19. I work for a for-profit company/enterprise; can I apply for the Seed Grant?

Yes, an application can be made.

20. Is an FCRA registration mandatory for applying in the Organisations category?

No, as it is a domestic grant, FCRA registration is not mandatory; however, if the organisation has an FCRA, it is encouraged to provide it along with the application form.

21. Is CSR – 1 certificate mandatory for applying in the Organisations category?

Yes.

22. What are the criteria for evaluation of proposed projects?

The projects are evaluated based on the applicant's background, problem statement, clarity of ideas to deliver the project, activities and methodologies, relevance, potential impact, etc.

23. Can an organisation apply for the grant if its primary objective is employment generation, education, healthcare etc.?

Holistic and innovative projects to conserve India's natural habitats and biodiversity through on-ground action and interdisciplinary research are supported by The Habitats Trust Grants. The object clause in the MoA/Trust deed of the organisation must align with the requirements of the grants.

24. Do THT Grants support projects for filming documentaries on habitats and their rare and unique wildlife?

No, the Grants do not support documentary films. It is required that proposed projects have direct conservation benefits to threatened habitats or species.

25. Can I apply for conservation of flora?

Yes.

26. What is the difference between Recommendations and References?

Recommendations are formal letters showcasing why the grant should be received by the applicant. These should be on an official letterhead or signed off by the person attesting the applicant's work. References, on the other hand, can be from anyone familiar with the applicant's work in the field and will be contacted at a later stage.

27. Do THT grants support travel to attend conferences, seminars, or expeditions?

No.

28. What does THT Grant not support?

The following activities are not supported by THT Grants:

- Farming/Agriculture
- Rural development
- Women/Child welfare
- Plantation drives
- Private Ltd companies
- Postgraduate/PhD/Postdoctoral studies
- Animal welfare/domestic animals welfare