Information Saves Lives: Rapid Response Fund
Application Guidelines and Form

The Internews Information Saves Lives Rapid Response Fund is accepting applications from media outlets, organizations and individuals who are working to provide local language journalism and other forms of public information related to the COVID/Corona Virus pandemic and its impacts.

A: Grant Information: The grant program aims to support activities including but not limited to:

- Content designed to reach audiences in any medium: print, audio, video and on any platform: print, radio, TV, website, mobile phone, social media.
- Creation, production and dissemination of information related to the COVID/Corona Virus that will keep people safe and help them make informed decisions for themselves, their families and communities: scientific developments, symptoms and treatment, local health policies and procedures, daily useful local community news and information etc.
- Creation, production and dissemination of information related to the COVID/Corona Virus that targets and/or elevates the voices and needs of the most vulnerable and marginalized: refugees, displaced, LGBTQI, People with Disabilities, people living with HIV, victims of GBV,
- Creation, production and dissemination of journalism and reporting related to the COVID/Corona Virus that elevates the voices of citizens and holds governments and service providers accountable for their handling of the crisis: data journalism, tech reporting, economic reporting, political and policy reporting.
- Creation, production, and dissemination of reporting related to digital safety best practices, as well as digital security threats or cyberattacks that relate directly to risks being created by the COVID/Corona Virus pandemic.
- Training and mentoring of content creators and information providers
- Data science, network mapping, data visualization/localization, and other innovative initiatives that contribute to the dissemination of and safe access to quality information related to the Corona Virus pandemic.
- Fact checking initiatives, work that tracks or combats rumors and misinformation.
- Procuring supplies necessary to improve newsroom safety or to allow for remote newsroom set ups and remote coverage of COVID/Corona Virus, including phone/internet cards for staff, boom microphones, online/remote recording tools, transportation for staff who would normally take public transportation, cleaning costs for newsrooms, etc.

Grant Provisions and Limitations

How much are the grants? $500 - $5000
How long does each grant last? Grants in this round of application are one-time only and grants should be spent within 30 days.

What can the grants be spent on? You can spend the grant on whatever is most urgently needed to keep doing the kind of work that is described above and in your application brief.

Is there anything the grants are not allowed to be spent on? Internews recommends that these grants are not spent on personal protective equipment.

Must I/we submit a budget? NO

Will I/we need to submit financial reporting on how I/we spend the grant? No

Will I/we need to submit any narrative reporting on how we spent the grant?

Internews requests that within 30 days of receiving the grant that you provide a short (maximum one page) story about the work you have been able to do related to the COVID/Corona Virus as described above. Include any numbers or data on people you reached, photos, website links etc. There is no formal template for this feedback from you.

If you can show that the grant enabled you to reach audiences with this kind of work, you may be prioritized for further funding in following rounds of application, but provision of a grant under this round of funding does not guarantee further funding under future applications.

Grants will be allocated according to the following priority considerations:

- Is the work relevant to the descriptions under A: Grant Information above
- Is the applicant already doing the work described in the application?
- Can the applicant show that they are a trusted source of information in their community?
- Does the applicant reach a vulnerable, marginalized or underserved group?
- If the work is not already happening, is the applicant in a position to do the work to meet an urgent need in their community?
- Can the applicant demonstrate that they take steps to ensure the accuracy of their content?
- How does the applicant know there is a need in their community for this work? Is anyone else doing it?
- Will the grant enable the work to happen quickly? (If the work proposed is new and will cost much more than the grant will cover, like developing an app or setting up an expensive and time-consuming new project, the applicant would need to show they have additional funding.)

Please submit applications electronically to: Health-InfoSavesLives@internews.org.

Applicants will receive notification within one week of submission.
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Applicant Name/ Media Group Name:

Contact Details:

Applicant Background: Max 250 words

Whether you are an individual or an organization, please tell us about yourself, including but not limited to the following:

- Profession / business/mission/purpose
- Are you for profit, non-profit or something else?
- If non-profit, are you currently receiving any funding and from who?
- Please include no more than one link to your website or other description of your work.

Have you ever received any training or grant support from Internews? If yes, what and when? Max 100 words

Brief Description of the Corona-Related work you are doing or wish to do: Max 500 words

- What it is and how it works.
- How many people are involved in the work?
- Who is your target audience?
- What kind of information are you creating and/or disseminating?
- Are you already reaching them? If so – how do you know this?
- In what language/s?
- Does your work allow you to hear back from the people who are receiving your information? Do you receive messages, questions or feedback from your audience?
- What sources do you use most frequently to inform your content (websites? experts? local authorities? Factcheckers)
- What steps do you take to ensure your content is accurate?
- You may include a maximum of one link to additional information

How Much are You Applying For? MAX: 250 Words

You are not required to provide a detailed budget, but it would be helpful to know your most urgent financial needs that will support this work.