



FUNDING PORTAL STARTER PACK FOR IMPACT-DRIVEN ORGANISATIONS

For NGOs, solopreneurs, and social enterprises across Asia-Pacific, Hong Kong, Dubai, South Africa, the African continent, and the EU/EEA.

This starter pack gives your organisation a structured overview of reputable funding directories, grant portals, and fellowship platforms. Use it to scan for opportunities, set alerts, and plan a sustainable funding pipeline that supports programmes AND operations (including staff, contractors, and agencies).

NEW Newly added since December 2025

UPDATED Status/details have changed



Global / Multi-Region Funding Portals

These are broad international platforms with filters for region, sector, and organisation type. Use them for: global grant searches, email alerts, call-for-proposal monitoring.

Opportunity Desk

Global scholarships, fellowships, grants, training programmes, and competitions. Actively publishing multiple curated roundups per month through August 2026 – still one of the most reliably updated portals in this pack.

<https://opportunitydesk.org/>

DevelopmentAid.org

International development funding and tender database with region and sector filters, aggregating from 850+ donor sources. Confirmed active and current.

<https://www.developmentaid.org/>



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Asia-Pacific, Hong Kong & Middle East (incl. Dubai)

These portals specialise in funding across the Asia-Pacific region, cultural exchange programmes, or partnerships relevant to Hong Kong and the Middle East.

AsianNGO

Asia-Pacific-specific funding, grant calls, capacity-building resources. Confirmed active.

<https://www.asianngo.org/>

APAIE – Asia Pacific Association for International Education

Supports educational partnerships, exchange programmes, joint initiatives.

<https://www.apaie.net/>

Asian Cultural Council

Grants supporting arts, culture, research, and cultural exchange in Asia and the US.

<https://www.asianculturalcouncil.org/>

Education Out Loud (also relevant globally)

Funding for civil society working in education transparency, accountability, and advocacy.

<https://educationoutloud.org/>

Hong Kong Government Business & Startup Schemes NEW

For solopreneurs and small businesses based in Hong Kong: BUD Fund, Enterprise Support Scheme, Cyberport, and HKSTP programmes remain the most relevant active grant routes in 2026. The Technology Voucher Programme (TVP) is closed to new applications – do not build a 2026 funding plan around it.

https://www.cyberport.hk/en/about_cyberport/cyberport_creative_micro_fund



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Africa & South Africa

These platforms offer continental and regional grants, especially for civil society, education, climate, energy access, and innovation.

UNDP Regional Small Grants

Supports local NGOs across Africa, Middle East, and Asia-Pacific (varies by region).

<https://www.undp.org/>

CCAC Challenge Programme

The CCAC provides governments, implementers, and partners with grants, embedded experts, and technical assistance to deliver measurable reductions in methane, black carbon, HFCs, and tropospheric ozone.

<https://www.ccacoalition.org/content/funding-expertise>

FIFA Global Citizen Education Fund **UPDATED**

Global fund with an interest in emerging markets, education, and social impact. The 2025 and 2026 funding has been completed. A 2027 funding cycle has not been announced.

<https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/projects/fifa-global-citizen-education-fund/>

IFC Women-Led Business Grant

Global (strong Africa uptake): non-dilutive grants of \$25,000–\$750,000 for women-owned or women-led businesses, plus leadership coaching and an international founder network.

<https://www.ifc.org/en/what-we-do/products-and-services/how-to-apply-for-financing>



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Women in Tech Accelerator (Standard Chartered Foundation × Village Capital) **NEW**

Over \$600,000 in grant funding annually for women-led, tech-enabled startups across Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, and Zambia, plus the Middle East and Pakistan.

<https://www.villagecapital.org/>

Flourish Africa Grant **NEW**

Recurring annual programme (Cohort 5 running in 2026) offering grants of up to ₦3 million to Nigerian women entrepreneurs aged 18–50, combined with structured training and mentorship. Requires at least 51% female ownership.

<https://flourishafrica.com/>

Tech FoundHER Africa Challenge **NEW**

Grants of up to \$100,000 for tech-enabled, women-led startups; over 1,100 women trained in investor readiness to date. 2026 cycle: evaluation Feb–Mar, launch April.

<https://www.techinafrica.com/>

GrantsDatabase.org **UPDATED**

Grant directory for NGOs, civil society, and social impact groups.

<https://grantsdatabase.org/>



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Europe / EU / EEA

Ideal for NGOs, cultural organisations, civil society groups, and social innovators working within or partnering with Europe, including EEA-eligible entities.

Euro-Access – European Funding Database

EU funding, tenders, and calls listed in one platform.

<https://www.euro-access.eu/>

EU Funding & Tenders Portal (European Commission)

The central portal for EU grants, tenders, CSO funding, Erasmus+, Horizon Europe.

Confirmed fully active, now running the 2026–2027 Horizon Europe and Erasmus+ work programmes with hundreds of open and forthcoming call topics.

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home>

EUFundingPortal.eu

EU-Africa digital innovation, climate, and development grants (€100k–€250k), plus a dedicated small-business grants stream with awards up to €30,000. Confirmed active with rolling 2026 call listings.

<https://eufundingportal.eu/>

British Council – International Programme Funding

UPDATED

Partnerships supporting culture, green skills, education, and exchange.

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/>



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EEA and Norway Grants **UPDATED**

Provides funding for civil society, education, culture, environment, and social inclusion.

<https://eeagrants.org/en/fmo/apply-funding>

IKI Small Grants (Germany) **UPDATED**

Climate and biodiversity funding for ODA-eligible countries (except some EU states), €60,000–€200,000 per project.

<https://iki-small-grants.de/>

EUIPO SME Fund **NEW**

European Commission initiative (via EUIPO) offering vouchers to EU-based SMEs and solopreneurs to help cover the cost of protecting intellectual property (trade marks, designs, IP scans). 2026 round runs February–December.

<https://www.euipo.europa.eu/en/sme-corner/sme-fund/2026>



QUICK APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Use this checklist every time you apply for funding:

Before Applying

- ☐ Confirm eligibility, region, and thematic fit.
- ☐ Prepare updated organisational documents (mission, financials, annual report).
- ☐ Gather impact data or case studies (even small numbers count).

Budgeting

- ☐ Include operational costs openly (staff, contractors, capacity-building, communications).
- ☐ Justify agency or contractor fees as "capacity strengthening" or "strategic scaling".
- ☐ Separate programme costs from organisational-infrastructure costs, but justify both.

Narrative Framing

- ☐ Explain clearly how improving brand, communications, visibility, and donor relations strengthens mission outcomes.
- ☐ Provide evidence of why volunteers alone cannot sustain impact.
- ☐ Show long-term planning: how you'll maintain outcomes after the grant ends.

Attachments

- ☐ Theory of Change (if available)
- ☐ Monitoring & Evaluation plan
- ☐ Annual budget + project budget
- ☐ Organisational profile or one-pager
- ☐ Letters of support / endorsements