Community Resource Exchange (CRE): how can communities receive financial assistance?

Application steps

1 Communities can apply for financial assistance when open calls for proposals are launched or when invited to apply by the CRE team

2 Communities fill the **application form** and send it to *cre@rightsindevelopment.org* Once received, the CRE team sends a confirmation email.

3 The CRE team of the Coalition for Human Rights in Development's Secretariat:
- **summarizes** the proposals received;
- **identifies** the eligible ones;
- **scores** the eligible proposals.

4 The Regional Grant Working Groups **review** the scoring and ranking.

5 The CRE team sends clarificatory **questions** and does the **reference check**.

6 The CRE team finalizes the **contract** and sends out the money.

7 **4-month check-in**, to discuss the proposed next steps.

8 **9-month check-in**: the community has one month to send an easy report on the project execution or present it during a call with the CRE team.

What does the CRE do?

The Community Resource Exchange works at the direction of communities and their partners, to coordinate:
- Linkages with potential collaborators
- Exchange of information and resources
- Sustained collaborations
- Cross-learning among communities
- Small grants (max US$ 5000) in limited cases

Who can apply?

Communities — impacted by projects financed by international investors and development finance institutions — or organizations working closely with communities. The proposed activities must be community-driven.

Scoring criteria

- Communities are fully involved in the design and implementation of activities; supporting organizations are accountable to them.
- The community is impacted by a project funded by a development finance institution or international investor, or interested in exploring public financial links.
- The collaboration with the CRE would strengthen the community's struggle and mitigate risks of harms and retaliations.
- Community's access to other sources of financial support.
- Community requests both linkages with collaborators and a grant.
- Community has already collaborated with us.
- Communities involve a marginalised group or constituency (e.g. women, Indigenous, youth, elderly, people with disabilities, workers, peasants, people living in poverty, migrants, etc.)
- The proposal involves a CRE priority (eg: a specific community or group we would like to build a relationship with, or from a group that is under-represented in the CRE). Priorities are determined by the grant working groups.
- Funds are predominantly for community activities/expenses.

How long does it take?

After the application deadline, the CRE team assesses proposals as soon as they can. It usually takes at least two months after the deadline to inform the community whether their application was funded.

How many proposals are accepted?

We usually have many more requests than we are able to meet, since we only have budget to fund about 32 CRE proposals for financial assistance.

For further information: rightsindevelopment.org/our-work/community-resource-exchange/