



THE TFAF GRANT PROGRAM

One of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement Facility's (TFAF) primary functions is helping developing and least developed country Members to gain access to implementation assistance. The TFAF offers project preparation and project implementation grants for WTO Members that are unable to find the assistance to implement a provision(s) of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) for a notified Category C commitment through other channels

Here's how TFAF Grants can help with implementation of the TFA:



TFAF Grants provide developing and LDC WTO Members an additional avenue of support to implement TFA provisions when they have been unable to access assistance elsewhere



The first step in the process is to complete a simple Expression of Interest form that requires a basic description of the Member's needs. The TFAF team will submit this form to development partners and ask if they can provide the necessary assistance. If not, the Member can request a project preparation grant



Project Preparation Grants (PPGs), up to a maximum value of \$30,000 can cover the costs of hiring experts to help design and apply for larger-scale TFA implementation projects



Project Implementation Grants (PGs), up to a maximum value of \$200,000 can cover the costs of hiring experts to design the necessary new procedures and draft new laws to implement TFA provisions



The online TFAF Grant application process has been designed to be clear and straightforward with the TFAF Secretariat team available to offer support and answer questions. PPG-funded expertise can even be used to complete the PG application process



Expressions of interest and PPG applications are processed on an ongoing basis, with PG applications reviewed quarterly by an evaluation committee. All requests are answered promptly and projects implemented swiftly

For more information (including the TFAF grant operational rules, guidelines and online application forms) please visit the website below

www.tfafacility.org/grant-program

Frequently Asked Questions

✓ Who can apply for a TFAF grant?

Any WTO Member that has ratified the TF Agreement, notified Category C commitments to the TF Committee and has already sought assistance to implement the particular TFA provision elsewhere (e.g. with bilateral donors) without success. WTO Observers can complete an Expression of Interest form if they need assistance finding a donor

✓ How do I submit an expression of interest?

By completing an easy form on the TFAFacility.org website with the following information:

- Your contact details
- The TFA provision you are seeking assistance to implement
- Brief description of your needs and current situation for the relevant provision
- Contact information of the donors you have already approached, evidence of correspondence and reason for refusal
- Brief details of the endorsement of the request by your National Trade Facilitation Committee

And that's it!

This information is then circulated to development partners. If the development partners cannot assist you to implement the relevant TFA provision, the TFAF will advise you to complete the application for a TFAF project implementation grant.

✓ How many donors must we approach and how do we prove that earlier attempts to find donor support failed?

You will need to provide us with the contact information of donors that you have approached, evidence of correspondence, and why your request was refused. As to the number you must approach there is no hard and fast rule. The key advice is to talk to the TFAF team about the situation so they can help to clarify this part of the process and facilitate discussions with donors if needed.

✓ Is there a deadline for making a grant application?

There is no deadline. You can apply when you are ready.

✓ Do I receive feedback during the process?

If needed, the TFAF will work with you to make sure that you have provided all the necessary information. We will inform you at the end of each process. And of course, applicants can ask for an update on their application at any time.

✓ How is support under the TFAF grant program different from any other?

The TFAF grants are designed to fill in the gaps when other support has been difficult or impossible to access. The application process is designed to be straightforward and assessed in a short timescale to provide a rapid response.

✓ Is there a limit to the number of times a Member can request a TFAF grant?

No, as long as all of the criteria are met, a Member may request and receive assistance to implement multiple provisions of the Agreement.

✓ Can TFAF grants be provided in conjunction with assistance from another donor?

This may be possible, to fill a gap that would otherwise prevent implementation, but would be considered on a case-by-case basis.

✓ Where can I find more information about the TFAF grant program?

The operational rules, guidelines and online application forms can all be found at <http://www.tfafacility.org/grant-program>

