Welcome to the Keepers of the Earth Fund (KOEF) Guidelines and Grant Application. Cultural Survival awards KOEF grants to projects that empower Indigenous communities. This encompasses a wide range of projects, and we try not to place too many restrictions on the type of project we will fund.

To be eligible for a KOE grant, all applicants must:
- Be Indigenous-led or represent an Indigenous-led project;
- Be a grassroots/local organization or group;
- Have an organizational bank account or access to a fiscal sponsor.

Because of our grantmaking mission and limited grant funds, **WE DO NOT FUND:**

Projects that **do not** originate from or are not led by an Indigenous community	Event fundraising, fundraising or endowment campaigns, or deficit funding
Disaster relief	Electoral campaign activities
Missionary Projects	Conference registration fees
Fees associated with lawsuit proceedings or representation	Work being done by an individual
Documentaries and/or filmmaking	Scholarships or school application fees
Vocational education or training	General operating expenses

The KOE Fund was created to support Indigenous grassroots development and is often the first funding source for emerging Indigenous organizations and projects. We consider all applications on a case-by-case basis but prioritize small organizations with annual budgets less than US$150,000. If your organization's annual budget is $150,000 or more, please contact us to discuss your project.

Grant amounts for first-time applicants range between US$500 and US$5,000. Upon successful completion of your initial grant, you may apply for subsequent grants of up to US$10,000. Because our grantmaking is geared toward Indigenous start-up groups' projects, your second grant application is more likely to be funded if you can demonstrate that you are pursuing other sources of funding.

We will consider funding an organization a maximum of three times. We will *only* fund your organization a third time if you have secured additional sources of funding other than from Cultural Survival, or will be self-sustaining.

At Cultural Survival, we don't see ourselves as gatekeepers of funding, but as partners with our communities. We are crafting our grantmaking process to be a reciprocal dialogue with our grantees. Our grant decisions are based on whether proposed projects share our values, goals, and philosophy in supporting Indigenous Peoples.

PROJECT CRITERIA
Here are the basic questions we ask ourselves when considering a grant application:

Is the project community initiated?
It is important for Indigenous communities to be in control of their own development and, therefore, their

1

own destinies. Cultural Survival strongly prefers to fund development projects that are imagined and implemented by communities. There are exceptions where communities apply for grants through outside organizations, and in these instances we expect to see that the community itself has initiated the project, and that an existing agreement with the fiscal sponsor clearly states the community will retain responsibility for implementing and continuing to develop the project over the long term.

Is the project holistic in its approach?
In evaluating a grant application, we look for projects that incorporate social, environmental, economic, and cultural concerns equally while addressing the immediate needs of the community. It is essential that projects demonstrate an approach based on the interconnectedness of people, resources, and the environment. We fund projects that nourish all of the community's assets, including traditional knowledge, community solidarity, and cultural identity.

Is the project values based?
In essence, our grant making strategy focuses on values. The common values that we share as Indigenous Peoples include the concepts of reciprocity and sharing, respect, responsibility, and the interdependence of all life. We assess grant applications on a case-by-case basis and whether these concepts are present in the project design. We favor those that clearly incorporate these values into their work. We believe positive and lasting change can be made with these values in mind.

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

We will accept applications between September 20 and October 27, 2017.

Please use the application form and instructions on the following pages as your guide for completing the written application. You do not need to include these pages when you return your application.

Your submission should include the application and required attachments, only. Please respond to all the questions in the application, and do not include your organization's marketing materials in response to the questions.

Questions can be directed to koef@cs.org
or by phone at +1 (617) 441-5400, ext. 20 (English);
                           +1 (617) 441-5400 ext. 12 (Spanish).

We receive written funding applications in the following ways:

   1)   By Email at koef@cs.org
   2)   By fax to (617) 657-1290
   3)   Via postal service or other express delivery courier to:

        Cultural Survival
        2067 Massachusetts Avenue
        Cambridge, MA 02140 USA

You may also submit applications in the form of audio or video file:

        Audio or Video Applications (in English, Spanish, or Portuguese only)
        Cultural Survival accepts grant applications in audio or video format as an alternative to our written application. Your audio or video recording should answer all the questions listed in the written application guidelines. Please describe your community's challenges and the solutions your community is using to overcome them. Include multiple voices from members of your community.

<u>Please keep submissions to a maximum of 10 minutes.</u>

Submit your audio or video application via any of the following:

- Email your video application with the following information to koef@cs.org:
  -Your organization's name and any contact information you can provide
  -The name and location of the Indigenous organization submitting the video

- Upload your video to www.youtube.com or vimeo.com and send a link via email to koef@cs.org.

- Mail a DVD or USB copy of the video to the address listed above.

Submission materials will not be returned to you. Cultural Survival may request your permission to use your audio or video on our website, in group presentations, and other media. If you have any further questions, please contact us koef@cs.org.

Cultural Survival

1. What type of organization are you?
    _____ Non-profit, or your country's equivalent of a non-profit
    _____ Indigenous governance organization
    _____ Community-based organization
    _____ Indigenous Peoples organization
    _____ Other: Please specify _____
     Note: Government agencies and for-profit entities are not eligible for Keepers of the Earth Fund grants

2. Where is your organization based in relation to the community where the project will take place?

    _____ My organization is based in the community where the project will take place.
    _____ Less than 100 km away
    _____ More than 100 km away

3. Did the idea for your project come from an Indigenous community <u>AND</u> will the community control all major decisions about the project?

     Yes _____   No _____

4. Is your organization Indigenous-led?

     Yes _____   No _____

     If you answered *No* to questions 3 or 4, your organization does not qualify for a Keepers of the Earth grant at this time.

5. Is your organization registered to operate under the laws of your country?

     Yes _____   No _____

6. Does your organization have a bank account?

     Yes _____   No _____

7. If you answered *No* to questions #5 or #6: Does your organization have a written agreement with a fiscal sponsor (a registered organization who can receive the funds on your behalf)
     Yes _____   No _____

     If you answered *No* to question #7, your organization does not qualify for a Keepers of the Earth grant at this time.

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Organization Name:

Fiscal Sponsor Name, if applicable:

Mission of your organization:

Year Founded and by whom:

Organization Contact Name and Title:

Mailing Address:

City: State/Province/Region:

Postal Code: Country:

Phone: E-mail:

Skype name: Website URL:

How are Indigenous Peoples represented in the organization's leadership (name, title and Tribe/Village affiliation)?

Have you ever applied to Cultural Survival for grant funding?   ___ Yes ___ No

Have you ever applied to any other donor for grant funding for this project?   ___ Yes ___ No

      If no, why not?
      If yes, where did you apply for funding?

How much funding have you requested from each source?

If known, what is the status of these requests?

PROJECT INFORMATION

Which Indigenous peoples / nation/ community/ or tribe will your project serve? _____

Project Title:

Total Project Budget: $ _____   *Amount requested from Cultural Survival: $ _____
*(Show budget amounts in US Dollars - go to www.xe.com to convert your currency to US Dollars)

Expected project start date: _____   Expected project duration: _____
(Please allow 8-12 weeks for your grant request to be processed)

Cultural Survival

1. Tell us about your community.

2. What problem(s) does your community face and what solutions are working in your community.

3. Tell us about the project. What do you want to do? (Consider including your objectives and expected outcomes).

4. How did the idea for the project come from your community?

5. How will your community control all major decisions about the project?

6. How are your community's values, spirituality, beliefs and strengths demonstrated in and strengthened by the project?

7. Why is the project important to your community and how many people will benefit?

8. Describe how you will spend the funds. For example, will you have to pay anyone? If so, please tell us who you will be paying and why. Will you be purchasing supplies and/or equipment? If so, please list them.

9. What steps are you taking to make your organization's work sustainable?

Required Attachments:
A. Project budget in US Dollars, including any other sources of funding or community contribution.
B. By-laws, Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, or equivalent organizing document.
C. Government registration certificate (if applicable), and/or copy of country's tax-exemption rule or act.
D. List of Board of Directors or governing body, and key project personnel.
E. Copy of written and signed Agreement with fiscal sponsor, (if you answered NO to question 6).