Europe + Heritage Programme 2021-2024
Support Grant Scheme

Introduction

DutchCulture stimulates, informs and supports Dutch parties in the field of international cultural collaboration. In the 2021-2024 period, DutchCulture will seek to promote contacts, knowledge exchange and collaboration between the Netherlands and the rest of Europe with respect to the heritage sector. As part of this effort, DutchCulture offers a Travel Grant Scheme and a Support Grant Scheme. The Support Grant Scheme has an annual budget of €30,000 available for grants. The maximum grant available is €5,000.

DutchCulture can also offer support in other ways than just financially; please visit our website for more information.

Goal

The goal of the Support Grant Scheme is to promote the establishment of contacts with the European heritage sector and the exchange of knowledge between the Netherlands and the rest of the Europe.

This implies the following:

A. Consolidating the European network of the Dutch heritage sector.

B. Promoting knowledge exchange in a European context.

C. Introducing European elements to existing heritage-related events or meetings. For instance by inviting European speakers or a European delegation to a meeting or event. These meetings, conferences and other gatherings may be held entirely online.

D. Promoting a long-term exchange between the Netherlands and a European country or region in the field of heritage. This can consist of one or multiple meetings, conferences or symposiums devoted to a certain heritage theme or subject. The resources are also available to promote knowledge exchange regarding the challenges faced by the heritage field as a result of COVID-19. This could include exchanging knowledge and experience with respect to
making institutions COVID-proof, or challenges related to working with volunteers under pandemic conditions, and so on.

E. Projects that promote knowledge production and knowledge exchange with the rest of Europe regarding heritage. Besides events, such projects could pertain to online and offline tools.

These exchanges are expected to contribute to fresh insights, durable relations and projects in the field of heritage.

The scheme is supported by the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.

Who is eligible to apply?

The scheme is for heritage professionals and heritage organisations established in the Kingdom of the Netherlands (including the Caribbean part), or municipal heritage departments, who wish to strengthen their European network and/or to improve knowledge exchange in the field of heritage between the Netherlands and the rest of Europe. The scheme is expressly intended for heritage professionals and heritage organisations.

‘Europe’ is understood to mean the member states of the European Union, the candidate member states (Albania, Moldova, the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine) and United Kingdom, Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Switzerland.

DutchCulture encourages heritage professionals, organisations and municipalities outside the Netherlands’ western conurbation (the ‘Randstad’) and those established in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom to apply to the scheme.

What expenses are covered?

The scheme is intended for costs related to a project or activity that achieves one or more of the goals described above. The scheme principally aims to support the establishment of contacts and/or knowledge exchange with European cities, regions, organisations and individuals in the field of heritage. How the support is used is up to the applicant, but it must contribute to the goals described above.
What can the scheme not be used for?

The scheme is not open to any other art disciplines, besides the heritage sector. Only heritage organisations, heritage professionals and municipal heritage departments in the Kingdom of the Netherlands can use the scheme for travel expenses related to the Europe + Heritage Programme.

Collaboration with a country that is not part of the list above is not covered by the programme or the support scheme.

The scheme cannot be used for visits or activities that lack a clear goal or intended result. There must be a clear idea or perspective on why the applicant wishes to perform a certain activity and what this is expected to achieve.

The programme deliberately aims to support variety within the heritage disciplines. The support is not to be spent on just one particular heritage discipline. If this is the case, then DutchCulture retains the right to reject an application on this ground.

DutchCulture takes account of regional spread. If multiple applications derive from the same region, then DutchCulture retains the right to reject applications on this ground.

How are applications assessed?

DutchCulture will assess an application with regard to the following criteria:

A. The set-up of the project, activity or meeting.

B. The objectives, intended results and target groups of the project, activity or meeting.

C. The added value of the project, activity or meeting with respect to the goals described above.

D. The sustainable nature of the project, activity or meeting; whether the project, activity or meeting will result in a long-term relationship or collaboration.

E. The impact. Projects having a strong impact are prioritised.
F. Geographical spread within the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Applicants should not all derive from the same region or city. If this is the case, then other cities and regions will be prioritised.

G. European spread. The assessment takes account of how collaboration partners are distributed across European countries.

H. Spread across heritage disciplines. The assessment takes account of diversity among the heritage disciplines. If many applications from one particular type of heritage discipline are received, other heritage disciplines will be prioritised.

DutchCulture retains the right to reject an application. Applicants cannot appeal against decisions. In case of any questions, please contact heritagedesk@dutchculture.nl.

Applications

The applicant must complete the online application form for the Support Grant Scheme. The maximum grant available is €5,000. Applications to the scheme can be submitted year-round until the budget has been depleted. Applications should be submitted at least six weeks before a project is due to start.

Procedure

The application will be assessed internally by DutchCulture, with the goal of announcing the decision in writing within two weeks.

For successful applications, 80% of the requested contribution will be paid out. A final report will need to be submitted within two months after the end of the project, containing both a substantive evaluation and a financial account. The remaining 20% of the support will be paid out after the project has been concluded successfully and the final report has been approved.