



wales arts international  
celfyddydau rhyngwladol cymru

# International Opportunity Fund

## Guidelines

January 2021



Yn dyfarnu arian / Awarding funds from  
**Y LOTERI GENEDLAETHOL**  
**THE NATIONAL LOTTERY®**





The International Opportunities Fund guidelines are available in large print and Easy Read. We'll provide information in braille, audio and British Sign Language, and try to provide information in languages other than Welsh or English, on request.

If you have any **access** needs and are thinking about making an application, we can help to make sure that you're supported during the application process. For example, you might have a condition which makes it difficult for you to articulate your project ideas in your application form. Please contact us at [info@wai.org.uk](mailto:info@wai.org.uk) to discuss how we can help.

Arts Council of Wales operates an equal opportunities policy.

### **What to do if you're not able to accept money from the National Lottery**

If you're unable for any reason to accept Lottery funding, please upload a letter with your online application explaining why this is the case. If your application is successful, we'll try and fund your project from money that we receive from other sources.

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The International Opportunities Fund (IOF) and our pilot fund Connect: International Networks and Market Development have been paused since March 2020.

In response to the changing environment globally and to the many discussions we've listened to and participated in, we will be reviewing both funds with the intention of opening a rescoped International Opportunities Fund in April 2021.

In advance of this, we are re-opening a smaller scale International Opportunities Fund on **27 January 2021** for internationally connected activity. Please read the edited guidelines and **note the single deadline of Thursday 18 February 2021** for this period.

## Purpose of the fund

- To support the development of ideas, collaborations and networks between Wales' creative professionals and arts organisations and international partners.
- To share experiences and skills through the arts within a global context.
- To raise the profile of Wales and its connections through the arts globally.

In view of current international travel restrictions and uncertainties, the fund will primarily support the development of projects using digital platforms and tools. Physical travel can be included alongside digital activity but there must be contingency plans in place should this not be possible. We will support each successful applicant to review and further develop their project plan and budget breakdown following the award, and to develop a contingency plan if necessary.

## Who can apply?

Arts organisations and individual creative professionals based in Wales.

Applications are welcomed from informal or formal artist collectives and from arts organisations supporting a number of individual creative professionals from Wales through the project. We will need one Wales based partner to be the named applicant who will take financial and reporting responsibility should an award be made.

See help notes for detailed information on eligibility criteria and required bank information.

## How much is available?

The total budget available for the fund is £50,000.

The maximum level of support per award is £5,000.

We expect all partners and participants to be paid fairly for their involvement in the project. For those Wales participants not in receipt of a salary or a salary for work linked to this project, fees relating to their involvement can be included within the budget.

## Fund priorities

For this round of the fund (deadline Thursday 18 February 2021), we will prioritise our investment in activity that contributes to the following outcomes, in line with our International Strategy, Wales Arts: A Bridge to the World:

- development and testing of new ideas and ways of working in collaboration with an international partner(s), with a view to longer term partnerships
- laying the foundations with international partners for the creation and presentation of future artistic work that is global in outlook
- shared learning, connections and experience
- increased participation in international networks, both formal and informal

We are looking to support a balance between creative professionals and arts organisations. We will prioritise support to those not in receipt of regular Arts Council Wales funding.

### What we can't support:

- Activity that does not include an international partner.  
An international partner can be:
  - a collaborator in the creative process
  - the organisers of a network or event, where the activity proposed is attending a network or event
- Activity that is solely reliant on physical travel and where a digital alternative is not possible
- Study or formal training
- Participation in or attendance at competitive events
- Activity that has already taken place

## When to apply:

There will be one deadline for this fund:

Thursday 18 February 2021

Applications will open on 27 January 2021

## What happens next?

You will receive a decision by no later than Friday 26 February 2021.

If your application is successful, we will support you to review and further develop their project plan and budget breakdown following the award, and to develop a contingency plan, if necessary.

We will also ask you to answer some questions about the project 30 days after the end date. This can be submitted as text, video or audio.

We will also ask you to send some updated information one year on from the date of the visit.

Your feedback and experiences will be essential as we develop our approach to future support.

## The application process

Before preparing an application, feel free to contact the Wales Arts International team to discuss any ideas or questions, or to discuss access support costs for you or anyone directly involved in developing and delivering your project. We are here to support you through the process.

You will need to complete and submit the following documents by email:

1. Cover sheet which can be downloaded from [wai.org.uk/funding](http://wai.org.uk/funding)

This will give us the basic information about you and your project.

2. Your answers to the questions listed below. This will help us understand your project and to help us assess applications.

You can upload your answers as one document or as a series of documents. Just make sure that you have given us all the information we need.

### Questions:

- What you will be doing and why it is important to your practice?
- What do you hope to achieve or learn from working with your international partner(s) or from participating in the selected international event or network?
- If you will be supporting a group of Wales based individual creative practitioners, how will you select the participants and how do you plan to support them?
- If you are including travel within your plans, what is the rationale for travelling and what will you do should travel be not possible?

### 3. A budget which shows

#### a. all the costs of your project.

The costs may include:

- Artist fees
- Membership and/or registration costs
- Materials
- Travel costs
- Translation

And

#### b. the income for the project, either as cash or in-kind support.

Make sure that you include the requested amount from IOF in your income and that your income and expenditure balance.

We have not set a maximum percentage of support through this fund. However, we expect to see some income in your budget. This might be from the international partner or your own funds or through other awards or reductions in membership or registration fees.

### 4. A short letter or email from your international partners that notes their commitment to working with you and a link to information about them.

If you are applying for support to participate in an event or network, a link to the relevant website is sufficient instead.

### 5. A link to online information about your work or a CV.

If you need access support, please contact the Wales Arts International team who can help you through the process.

## Contact us



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