



**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS TO  
THE NEPAL ONE WELFARE FUND**

Nepal One Welfare Fund Launch Date: 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Concept Note Submission Deadline: 4<sup>th</sup> June 2023

## I. Context / background

The Donkey Sanctuary is the leading global expert and charity supporting donkeys and mules worldwide, operating as an international non-governmental organisation. The Donkey Sanctuary is working for a world where every donkey and mules has a good quality of life. We will achieve this by transforming the quality of life for donkeys, mules, and people through greater understanding, collaboration and support.

A key aspect of The Donkey Sanctuary's international strategy is to transform the lives of working donkeys and mules in need across the world. Donkeys and mules operate in rural and urban settings in agriculture, industry and undertaking other community and household activities.

The Donkey Sanctuary works through partner organisations to deliver interventions that address the welfare needs of working donkeys and mules and support the communities that rely on them to create sustainable changes to welfare and livelihoods. Currently we have active interventions in Latin America, South Asia, West Africa, Southern Africa, and East Africa.

In Nepal, The Donkey Sanctuary has operations since 2009 responding to the needs of working equines. Over the years, our programme of work has evolved to include human welfare issues related to equine owners, equines in transport, pack animals. The Donkey Sanctuary believe that welfare changes for working equines are interdependent on that of human-labour and the environment, and have therefore developed this new funding opportunity to drive momentum behind a 'One Welfare' approach to working in Nepal.

## II. Nepal One Welfare Fund (NOWF): Objective, Scope and Eligibility

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Nepal One Welfare Fund is to support consortia-led projects that work to address welfare challenges for all three target areas: animal welfare, human development and environmental conservation.

**Scope:** The Nepal One Welfare Fund is being launched for consortia-led projects to be implemented in Nepal.

Selected consortia will then join efforts with The Donkey Sanctuary to co-design and implement a 24-month One Welfare project in Nepal.

The Donkey Sanctuary is seeking technically sound project concepts that can explain and demonstrate how the different members of a consortium will contribute to deliver a One Welfare Approach.

While the ultimate impact The Donkey Sanctuary seeks is for better lives for donkeys and mules, it recognises that this can only be achieved through creating change in and through the people and systems which have responsibility for donkeys and mules, and the power to improve their lives. Thus, The Donkey Sanctuary's International Theory of Change has four interlinked and interdependent elements:

- Creating human behaviour change among owners and communities who are responsible for donkeys and mules at a local level, and who depend on them for their livelihood.
- Improving working practices through engaging with technical service providers at local level.
- Working with donkey and mule healthcare providers to increase the quality and accessibility of healthcare services for donkeys and mules.
- Providing a voice on behalf of donkeys and mules so they are increasingly protected in policy, practice, and law.

We believe that sustainable change for donkeys and mules can only be achieved when all these elements are considered and properly addressed; however, the focus on one or more elements in a specific project is dependent on the identified needs. Therefore, the consortia-led projects should incorporate one or more elements of our Theory of Change, with the One Welfare approach.

**Eligibility:** This Call is opened to applicants who meet all the following criteria.

- New and existing partner organisations to The Donkey Sanctuary are welcome to apply.
- Submission of concept note are done by the lead agent of a consortium, in representation of all members of a consortium.
- The project is based in Nepal
- The project demonstrates a positive impact on the welfare needs of working donkeys and/or mules, the people who rely on them, and the environment.
- All members of a consortium have previously delivered impactful work in the proposed context (with evidence if requested).
- The total grant requested from The Donkey Sanctuary for the project is no more than £150,000.
- All members of a consortium have a formally constituted governance structure in place.
- All members of a consortium have a designated ordinary business bank account.
- All members of a consortium can legally operate in Nepal.
- The consortium is willing to co-design a project to deliver the One Welfare approach, that aligns with one or more elements of The Donkey Sanctuary International Theory of Change.

### III. Available Financing

Available resources in the Nepal One Welfare Fund for the 2023 Call for Applications are £150,000 over 24 months. These funds are expected to be allocated to one or more successful consortia proposals.

### IV. Application Details

Once you have reviewed and confirmed that your organisation, or all members of the consortium you are part of, qualify for the Nepal One Welfare Fund, the application process has two separate semi-independent stages:

**Stage 1 – Register your interest:** This stage is **not mandatory**. It is designed **only** for those organisations that **are not yet part of a consortium**, but have the experience and expertise to deliver one or two elements of the One Welfare approach, and would like support to be put in contact with other organisations to explore the possibility of forming a consortium.

If you have formed a consortium already, you do not need to register your interest, and are welcome to proceed straight to Stage 2.

**Stage 2 – Concept Note:** The Donkey Sanctuary is looking to fund a consortia-led project to deliver the One Welfare approach in Nepal. At this stage we are requesting a concept note to explain the viability of the consortia and how you intend to structure your programme of work.

Interested consortia are welcome to fill in the online application form. (See Submission Guidance document). Both successful and unsuccessful candidates will be informed of the results by 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

Successful applications will be invited to co-design a 24-month project that delivers a One Welfare approach in Nepal.

### V. Submission and Review Process

The *Register your interest* is an optional stage. There are no repercussions for organisations who jump this stage and apply directly as part of a consortium. However, if you wish to be put in contact with organisations who may also register their interest, please complete the online form [NOWF Registration | The Donkey Sanctuary](#) by the 23rd April 2023.

**Submission of Concept Note** should be done by completing the online form: [NOWF Concept Note | The Donkey Sanctuary](#)

Submissions are required to be in English.

Submissions must be done by the lead agent, in representation of all the members of a consortium.

Submissions must be received by: **23:59 of the 4<sup>th</sup> June** (British Summer Time)

No exceptions will be made on the deadline.

Applicants are encouraged to submit a few days earlier than the deadline in case there are technical problems in the submission process. Applicants will receive an acknowledgement email upon confirmation of receipt.

**Review Process:**

**Stage 1:** Following the deadline for register interest. All profiles will be reviewed by a team of relevant stakeholders, and applicants will be contacted by the 5<sup>th</sup> May with updates and next steps.

Please note that while The Donkey Sanctuary is trying to facilitate a space for interested organisations to meet and form a consortium to apply to the NOWF, we cannot guarantee this will happen. While The Donkey Sanctuary will endeavour to assist with the process, it will be the responsibility of the participating organisations to form the consortium.

Due to the unpredictability in how many organisations register their interest, and the nature of the relationships involved, there is no guarantee you will be able to form a consortium.

**Stage 2:** Approved concept note applicants will be contacted via email, receive a feedback sheet with comments on the concept note and an invite to an online clarification meeting.

Following agreement between The Donkey Sanctuary and the lead agent (in representation of all members of the consortium selected), the co-design phase will start.

Prior the release of funds and contract sign-off, The Donkey Sanctuary will carry out a due diligence check.

**Preparation and partner onboarding (for successful applicants of Stage 2):**

Following approval of a grant by the International Programmes and Partnerships Director, a grant agreement will be signed by The Donkey Sanctuary and the lead agent of the successful consortia. Subsequently, a partner onboarding process will take place, funds will be release and implementation should start following the agreed workplan.

## VI. Requirements and Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be reviewed by a team of relevant internal staff members, with additional external support where required. The following will be used to assess applications at each stage:

Overall, applicants in *Stage 1* will:

- Meet the relevant eligibility criteria for a single organisation (Section II – Eligibility)
- Be able to contribute to the design and delivery of at least one element of the One Welfare approach.

Overall, successful concept notes in *Stage 2* will:

- Meet the eligibility criteria (Section II – Eligibility)
- Be able to demonstrate how the different members of the consortium will contribute to deliver a One Welfare approach.
- Be able to demonstrate how the lead agent will manage and ensure the delivery of a high-quality project, in line with the implementation plan co-developed with The Donkey Sanctuary.
- Present a clear vision of what mutually beneficial outcomes, within the One Welfare Approach, they are seeking to achieve.
- Demonstrate that the consortium has the capacity to implement a high-quality project that delivers a One Welfare approach.