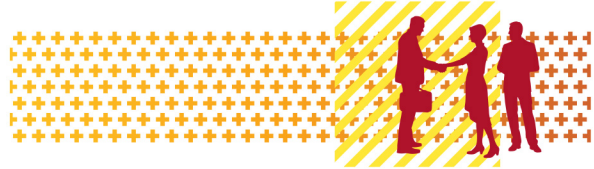




Australian Government

Community
Grants Hub
Improving your grant experience



National Action Plan to Combat Modern Slavery 2020–25 Grant Program Round 2

Feedback for applicants

The Attorney-General's Department has provided the following general feedback for applicants of the National Action Plan to Combat Modern Slavery 2020–25 Grants Program Round 2 grant opportunity.

Overview

The grant opportunity application period opened on 7 March 2023 and closed on 4 April 2023. The grant opportunity received 66 eligible applications. Following the Delegate's decision, 13 applications were selected for funding.

The Criminal Crime Prevention Program: *National Action Plan to Combat Modern Slavery 2020–25 Grants Program* (the program) provides grants to civil society, business and industry groups, and academia to deliver community-based projects to combat modern slavery in Australia and research to support evidence-based policy on modern slavery in Australia.

The program will support the implementation of Australia's *National Action Plan to Combat Modern Slavery 2020–25* ([the National Action Plan](#)) and sits within the Attorney-General's Department Portfolio's Outcome 1 (Program 1.6 Criminal Justice), which is focused on the protection of Australia's sovereignty, security and safety.

This grant opportunity aims to support and fund work to actively prevent and combat all forms of modern slavery in Australia. In Australia, modern slavery refers to a range of serious exploitative practices, including trafficking in persons, slavery, slavery-like practices (such as forced marriage, forced labour, servitude, and debt bondage), and the worst forms of child labour. While each of these practices are distinct, they all involve the manipulation of complex relationships between an offender and a victim, and undermine a victim's personal freedom and ability to make choices for themselves.

The intended outcome of the program is to support the implementation of Australia's National Action Plan to Combat Modern Slavery 2020–25. The National Action Plan, which provides the strategic framework for Australia's response to modern slavery from 2020 to 2025, is guided by 5 National Strategic Priorities:

- prevent
- disrupt, investigate and prosecute
- support and protect
- partner
- research.

Successful applications were of a high standard. All eligible applications were assessed according to the procedure detailed in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines and outlined in the selection process below.

The feedback is provided to assist grant applicants to understand what was generally considered a strong application and the content of quality responses to the assessment criteria for this grant opportunity.

Selection process

The Community Grants Hub undertook the screening for organisation eligibility and compliance against the requirements outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines. This information was provided to the Attorney-General's Department (the department) for the final decision on whether an application did not meet the eligibility and/or compliance criteria.

The department assessed and considered all eligible and compliant applications through an open competitive grant process. The Selection Advisory Panel (the Panel) considered all assessed applications. The Panel was established by the department. The Panel assessed applications and provided advice to inform the department's funding recommendations to the Delegate.

Each application was assessed on merit, based on:

- how well it met the assessment criteria
- how it compared to other applications
- whether it provided value with relevant money.

Each applicant was required to address the following assessment criteria:

Stream 1: Combating Modern Slavery – assessment criteria

Criterion 1: Preventing and combating modern slavery in Australia (40% weighted)

Criterion 2: Need within a particular cohort/vulnerable group/community/locality (30% weighted)

Criterion 3: Expertise, capability and capacity (20% weighted)

Criterion 4: Risk mitigation (10% weighted)

Stream 2: Research assessment criteria


Criterion 1: Preventing and combating modern slavery in Australia (40% weighted)

Criterion 2: Research methodology and collection of primary data (30% weighted)

Criterion 3: Expertise, capability and capacity (20% weighted)

Criterion 4: Risk mitigation (10% weighted)

Preferred applicants were identified based on the strength of their responses to the selection criterion and their demonstrated ability to meet the grant requirements outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.



Where applications did not meet the requirements outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, applicants were notified of the outcome in writing.

Selection results

There was a strong interest in the program and applications were of a high standard. Applications were assessed according to the procedure detailed in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines and outlined in the selection process above.

This feedback is provided to assist grant applicants to understand what generally comprised a strong application and the content of quality responses to the assessment criteria for this grant opportunity.

Preferred applicants provided strong responses to the selection criteria and demonstrated their ability to meet the eligibility requirements outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines. Further detail about what constituted a strong response to each criterion is provided below.

Stream 1: Combating Modern Slavery assessment criteria

Criterion 1: Preventing and combating modern slavery in Australia (40% weighted)

Describe how the proposed grant project will contribute to preventing and combating modern slavery in Australia.

When addressing the assessment criterion, strong applicants:

- described how the project would deliver one or more of the outputs listed under stream 1 in section 2.1 of these Grant Opportunity Guidelines
- outlined the project they intend to undertake and detail who would participate in, or benefit (both directly and indirectly) from the project and the evidence-base used to determine these factors
- described the delivery method of the project, identified the proposed geographical location/s for implementation, and/or for any digital components, described the intended audience and reach
- described the method of measuring the success of the project, with consideration given to changes effected in the cohort, community or group, such as the level of engagement, usage or impact
- described how they would safely manage possible reports of modern slavery or reports of other abuse received in the course of the project.



Strength	Example
<p>Strong applications were required to describe how the project would deliver one or more of the outputs listed under stream 1 in sections 2 and 2.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.</p>	<p>Strong responses clearly described:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ how benefits of the projects were clearly linked to the grant objectives and outputs of the grant opportunity.
<p>Strong applications were required to outline the project they intend to undertake and detail who would participate in, or benefit (both directly and indirectly) from the project and the evidence-base used to determine these factors.</p>	<p>Strong responses clearly described:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ who would participate in the project and how they would be involved ▪ a significant number of people who would directly or indirectly benefit from the project ▪ the significant and long term benefits of the project of the project to the intended audience.
<p>Strong applications were required to describe the delivery method of the project, identify proposed geographic locations/s for implementation and/or any digital components, describe the intended audience and reach of products.</p>	<p>Strong responses clearly described:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ specific geographic locations that would benefit from the project ▪ varied geographic locations that would benefit from the project ▪ a clear process for successful delivery, based on previous experience.
<p>Strong applications were required to describe the method of measuring success of the project, with consideration given to changes effected in the cohort, community or group, such as the level of engagement, usage or impact.</p>	<p>Strong responses clearly described:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a clear process for monitoring and evaluation to ensure successful delivery of the project ▪ a focus on building staff capability to ensure delivery of the program in the long term ▪ measures of success for evaluating effectiveness of the project.
<p>Strong applications were required to describe how possible reports of modern slavery or reports of other abuse received in the course of the project would be safely managed.</p>	<p>Strong responses clearly described:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a clear process for managing potential modern slavery reports in culturally sensitive ways ▪ methods for risk and safety assessments to ensure the safety of potential victims.



Criterion 2: Need within a particular cohort/vulnerable group/community/locality (30% weighted)

Demonstrate the need for the grant project in the particular cohort/vulnerable group/community/locality.

When addressing the criterion, strong applicants:

- described the characteristics of the particular cohort/vulnerable group/community/locality their project seeks to target. Characteristics may include the size of a community, their geographical location, ethnic, cultural or religious background, and visa subclass/citizenship status
- described and provided evidence of the issues facing the particular cohort/vulnerable group/community/locality their project seeks to target
- explained how their project is filling a gap or previously proven successful approach to engaging with the particular cohort/vulnerable group/community/locality
- outlined how their project will involve individuals, groups or communities including victims and survivors, in the design, implementation and/or evaluation of the project.

Strength	Example
Strong applications were required to describe the characteristics of the particular cohort/vulnerable group/community/locality their project seeks to target. Characteristics may include the size of a community, their geographical location, ethnic, cultural or religious background, and visa subclass/citizenship status.	Strong responses described: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ the specific target cohort and any relevant sensitivities.
Strong applications were required to describe and provide evidence of the issues facing the particular cohort/vulnerable group/community/locality their project seeks to target.	Strong responses described: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ the challenges facing the target cohort with evidence to support this, and detail of how the project will address these challenges▪ the vulnerabilities of the target cohort with evidence and how these are accommodated by the project.
Strong applications were required to describe how their project is filling a gap or previously proven successful approach to engaging with the particular cohort/vulnerable group/community/locality.	Strong responses demonstrated/described: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ project proposals which were addressing a gap▪ previous experience and success delivering similar projects.



Strength	Example
Strong applications were required to describe how their project would involve individuals, groups or communities in the design, implementation and/or evaluation of the project.	<p>Strong responses demonstrated/described:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the specific cohorts which would be directly involved in the project ▪ the specific roles that the cohorts would play in the project.

Criterion 3: Expertise, capability and capacity (20% weighted)

Demonstrate your organisation’s expertise, capability and capacity to successfully undertake the grant project on schedule and achieve value for money.

When addressing the criterion, strong applicants:

- demonstrated their organisation’s success in delivering similar projects on schedule and within budget
- outlined the relevant skills, qualifications and/or experience of project staff
- demonstrated how the project represents value for money in achieving the outcomes of the grant opportunity.

Strength	Example
Strong applications were required to demonstrate their success in delivering or ability to deliver similar projects on schedule.	<p>Strong responses described:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ past projects undertaken which were completed on schedule with evidence of success ▪ quality frameworks which ensured compliance with legislative standards in business administration and service operation.
Strong applications were required to demonstrate the relevant skills, qualifications and/or experience of project staff.	<p>Strong responses described:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ highly relevant qualifications and experiences of all staff involved with the project.
Strong applications were required to demonstrate how the project represented value for money in achieving the grant opportunity outcomes.	<p>Strong responses described:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ how the project offered maximum impact through coverage, targeted need, risk, applicant expertise and cost effectiveness and efficiency.



Criterion 4: Risk mitigation (10% weighted)

Demonstrate understanding of risk and appropriate mitigation.

When addressing the criterion, strong applicants:

- outlined the risks associated with implementing their project and explained how they would mitigate and manage the risks.

Strength	Example
Strong applications were required to outline the risks associated with implementing their project and explained how they would mitigate and manage the risks.	<p>Strong responses described:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ appropriate risks associated with the project ▪ a method for undertaking risk assessments ▪ an appropriate strategy to manage and mitigate specific risks identified.

Stream 2: Research assessment criteria

Criterion 1: Preventing and combating modern slavery in Australia (40% weighted)

Demonstrate how your research will inform evidence-based policy responses to address modern slavery in Australia.

When addressing the criterion, strong applicants:

- explained how their research would make a valuable contribution to knowledge and address policy relevant needs in the area of modern slavery in Australia
- described how the project would contribute to the key priorities listed under stream 2 in section 2.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines
- confirmed that the proposed grant project will produce the required reports and products listed under stream 2 in section 2.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

Strength	Example
Strong applications were required to describe how their research would make a valuable contribution to knowledge and address policy relevant needs in the area of modern slavery in Australia.	<p>Strong responses clearly described how the research would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ address a critical policy need supported by evidence ▪ provide a long-term benefit to knowledge.
Strong applications were required to describe how their project would contribute to the key priorities listed under stream 2 in section 2.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.	<p>Strong responses clearly described:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ how the research would contribute to, and was clearly linked to grant objectives, key priorities and outputs, with wide ranging application and benefits.



Strength	Example
Strong applications were required to describe how their proposed grant project will produce the required reports and products listed under stream 2 in section 2.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.	Strong responses clearly described: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a research plan outlining the specific stages of the research and the reports and products produced.

Criterion 2: Research methodology and collection of primary data (30% weighted)

Demonstrate how your research will be undertaken.

When addressing the criterion, strong applicants:

- explained how their research design is suited to the problem under investigation
- demonstrated their familiarity with the sources through a literature review, and reliability of data and techniques of data analysis appropriate to this project
- explained how their research will collect primary data on this project and contribute to existing data holdings
- explained how their research will engage with subject matter experts such as non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in all stages of the project
- explained how their research would take into account the lived experiences of survivors of human trafficking and modern slavery
- confirmed that the research complies with the requirements of a human research ethics committee that is registered with the National Health and Medical Research Council
- demonstrated what steps would be undertaken to protect the confidentiality of data and the privacy of subjects, consistent with the *Privacy Act 1988*.

Strength	Example
Strong applications were required to describe how their research design is suited to the problem under investigation.	Strong responses clearly explained the links between the research subject matter and : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the lack of existing data the potential benefit for practical applications.
Strong applications were required to demonstrate their familiarity with the sources through a literature review, and reliability of data and techniques of data analysis appropriate to this project.	Strong responses clearly described: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> previous successful research projects that the applicant has conducted on the subject matter an understanding of existing research on the subject matter.



Strength	Example
Strong applications were required to describe how their research will collect primary data on this project and contribute to existing data holdings.	Strong responses clearly described: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ clear, methodical and detailed research design that is appropriate and achievable▪ existing gaps in data holdings that research would address▪ the practical benefits and applications of addressing gaps in existing data holdings.
Strong applications were required to describe how their research will engage with subject matter experts such as non-governmental organisations at all stages of the project.	Strong responses clearly described: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ method of engagement with subject matter experts already advising on their project▪ consulting with experts on data disclosure.
Strong applications were required to explain how their research would take into account the lived experiences of survivors of human trafficking and modern slavery.	Strong responses clearly described: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ how the research would consider the lived experiences of the cohort.
Strong applications were required to confirm that their research complies with the requirements of a human research ethics committee that is registered with the National Health and Medical Research Council.	Strong responses clearly described: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ how their research complies with the human research ethics committee.
Strong applications were required to demonstrate what steps would be undertaken to protect the confidentiality of data and the privacy of subjects, consistent with the Privacy Act.	Strong responses clearly described: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ specific actions to address ethics, confidentiality, security and privacy considerations, such as a data management plan.

Criterion 3: Expertise, capability and capacity (20% weighted)

Demonstrate your organisation’s expertise, capability and capacity to successfully undertake the grant project on schedule and achieve value for money.

When addressing the criterion, strong applicants:

- demonstrated their organisation’s success in delivering similar projects on schedule and within budget
- outlined the relevant skills, qualifications and/or experience of project staff
- demonstrated how the project represents value for money in achieving the outcomes of the grant opportunity

- advised where support of an external agency, institution or organisation is required for the project
- where relevant, ability to work collaboratively with NGOs providing services (for example, family and domestic violence support services, youth services, employment/labour services, health/mental health services, migrant/settlement services, and emergency accommodation and housing) to those at risk or are victims and survivors of modern slavery.

Strength	Example
<p>Strong applications were required to demonstrate their organisation's success in delivering similar projects on schedule and within budget.</p>	<p>Strong responses clearly demonstrated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ past projects undertaken which were completed on schedule with evidence of success ▪ quality frameworks which ensured compliance with legislative standards in business administration and service operation.
<p>Strong applications clearly outlined the relevant skills, qualifications and/or experience of project staff.</p>	<p>Strong responses clearly described:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the highly relevant skills, qualifications and experience of all staff involved with the project.
<p>Strong applications clearly demonstrated how the project represents value for money in achieving the outcomes of the grant opportunity.</p>	<p>Strong responses clearly described:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ how the project offered maximum impact through coverage, targeted need, risk, applicant expertise, and cost effectiveness and efficiency.
<p>Strong applications were required to describe where support of an external agency, institution or organisation is required for the project.</p>	<p>Strong responses clearly described:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ existing partnerships relevant to the project, including providing evidence of support.
<p>Strong applications were required to describe where relevant, their ability to work collaboratively with NGOs providing services (for example, family and domestic violence support services, youth services, employment/labour services, health/mental health services, migrant/settlement services, and emergency accommodation and housing) to those at risk or are victims and survivors of modern slavery.</p>	<p>Strong responses demonstrated/described:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ past projects undertaken with NGOs with evidence of success ▪ the specific target cohort and any relevant sensitivities.



Criterion 4: Risk mitigation (10% weighted)

Demonstrate understanding of risk and appropriate mitigation.

When addressing the criterion, strong applicants:

- outlined the risks associated with implementing their project and explain how they would mitigate and manage the risks
- demonstrated that they are able to obtain approval of a National Health and Medical Research Council-approved institutional human research ethics committee (usually the one attached to the institution with which they are affiliated) if they are conducting research with human subjects or on ethically sensitive topics or, where applicable, of the host institution under whose auspices they propose to conduct research.

Strength	Example
Strong applications were required to demonstrate/describe/outline the risks associated with implementing their project and explain how they would mitigate and manage the risks.	Strong responses clearly described: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ appropriate risks associated with the project▪ a method for undertaking risk assessments▪ an appropriate strategy to manage and mitigate specific risks identified.
Strong applications were required to demonstrate/describe/demonstrate that they are able to obtain approval of a National Health and Medical Research Council-approved institutional human research ethics committee (usually the one attached to the institution with which they are affiliated) if they are conducting research with human subjects or on ethically sensitive topics or, where applicable, of the host institution under whose auspices they propose to conduct research.	Strong responses clearly described: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ a specific plan outlining steps to obtain ethics approval▪ evidence of ethics approval for previous similar research projects.

Individual feedback

Individual feedback will be provided for this grant opportunity and will be available upon request.

Applicants seeking individual feedback should submit requests to humantraffickingandslavery@ag.gov.au.

Requests for individual feedback will only be accepted within 30 days of receipt of the outcome of your application. Feedback will be provided within 60 days of receipt of the request.