

EBCC Small Grant Fund for Monitoring (SGF)

Guidelines for applicants

30 May 2025

Aims and principles of the SGF

Aims

- To support national bird monitoring activities by EBCC partner organisations, particularly in low- and middle-income countries in Europe

Activities eligible

- Start-up funding for new monitoring schemes
- Emergency funding to fill gaps in monitoring schemes
- National atlases
- Start-up funding for online tools
- Capacity-building activities (e.g. to increase the number of skilled participants)

Principles for grant selection

- Small grants are limited in time, maximum of 18 months (including reporting)
- Small grants are limited to a maximum of 10'000 Euro
- An active engagement by grant holders to search for other sources of funding to secure projects in the long term is required
- Cross-cutting projects and activities related to the main EBCC projects but also beyond (e.g. with single-species monitoring, with projects funded by other organisations) are encouraged
- The importance of a project for EBCC programmes and priorities plays a role in the selection, too

Requirements for grant seekers

- Grant seekers have to submit a short proposal indicating the following:
 - Goal
 - Activities planned, including information on relationships with other projects
 - Outputs (measurable)
 - Time schedule
 - Budget, including information on co-funding and initiatives to secure funding in the longer term
 - Contact person and organisation
- Grant holders must submit a short report at the end of the project, and if appropriate an interim report, according to an agreement that will be signed before the project starts.
- **Proposals have to be submitted via the [online form](#) by 21 July 2025.**

Procedure for application and grant selection

Administration & organisation

The EBCC board decides on grant applications. Although there is no right to receive funding, feedback on a proposal may be provided upon request. The Board can also recommend budget cuts for projects if necessary.

Criteria for selection:

1. The proposal complies with the aims of the scheme and with the eligible activities (see above)
2. The budget is justified
3. The proposal complies with the requirements (see above)
4. The applicant is able to implement the project (this could be based on previous experience with her/him, on his/her relationships with other stakeholders in a country incl. EBCC delegates)
5. Other 'bonuses': synergy with other initiatives in neighbouring countries, compliance with strategical directions of EBCC, active participation in EBCC events

Time schedule:

- Deadline for submission of applications – 21 July 2025
- Decision on projects to be funded – end of September 2025
- Signing agreements between EBCC and successful applicants – by the end of January 2026

This time schedule doesn't exclude requests for funding to be submitted at any time during the year, especially in cases when emergency funding is needed. However, ad hoc requests are at higher risk of not having enough funds immediately available.

Formal arrangements:

- There will be a written agreement between EBCC and the grant recipients, specifying formal payment instalments, deadlines, requirements for reporting and for promotion