

FAQ (FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS)

Please read the FAQ carefully before applying

[What is Living Arts International \(LAI\)? I would like to know more.](#)

[What is Cambodian Living Arts \(CLA\)? I would like to know more about this organization.](#)

[What is Mekong Cultural Hub \(MCH\)? I would like to know more.](#)

[Which countries and territories are eligible for the South-South Arts Fellowships?](#)

[I am a citizen of one of the eligible countries, but I live and work in the Global North. Am I eligible to apply?](#)

[I have dual nationality. Am I eligible to apply?](#)

[Are citizens of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean eligible for the 2022 Fellowship?](#)

[Are diaspora groups from the focus regions eligible for the 2022 Fellowship?](#)

[I am First Nation. I am a citizen of a country that is considered a part of the Global North but is situated in one of your focus continents/regions. I live and work in my home country. My work focuses on building transnational cultural networks within the Global South. Can I apply to this fellowship?](#)

[I am a cultural worker. I work as an arts manager. Am I eligible to apply?](#)

[I am an artist. I have an artistic/creative practice. I also lead arts projects that connect cultural workers in different parts of the Global South. Am I eligible to apply?](#)

[I do not work full time in the cultural sector. Am I eligible to apply?](#)

[I work in the heritage sector. Am I eligible to apply?](#)

[I work in a museum. Am I eligible to apply?](#)

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[We would like to apply as a collective. How will this work?](#)

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[I am a freelancer working in the cultural sector. Am I eligible to apply?](#)

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[I am affiliated with one of the organizations associated with the Fellowship Team. Am I eligible to apply?](#)

Should proposed initiatives focus on any specific artistic discipline?

I would like to propose an initiative on a topic not directly related to arts, culture or heritage. Would this be relevant?

I am interested in addressing conflict in my society through my proposed arts initiative. Would this be relevant?

What does the application process involve?

What criteria will be used to assess my application?

What will the fellows be expected to deliver during the fellowship?

What forms of support will I receive if selected for the fellowship?

Are you expecting conferences and/or panel discussions to be among the main outputs of the proposed initiatives?

Can I propose an exhibition or performance?

Will I be working alone or with the other selected fellows?

What is the working language of the Fellowship?

Can I apply in a language other than English?

I struggle with English. I am not very proficient in the language. How do I complete my application?

I would like to organise my fellowship activity in a regional language. Would that be ok?

I do not fully understand some of the terms used in the Call such as 'Global South'. Do you offer a glossary?

I have access needs. Because of this reason, I don't feel very confident to apply to the fellowship. What should I do?

Get in touch with us, if.....

For more information...

What is Living Arts International (LAI)? I would like to know more.

We, Living Arts International (LAI), are a non-profit organization which believes that the arts are at the heart of a vital society. Our vision is for a peaceful, sustainable future with living arts as a catalyst for change. At LAI, we are the organization that connects [Cambodian Living Arts \(CLA\)](#) and [Mekong Cultural Hub \(MCH\)](#), both of which have been supporting cultural workers in Cambodia, southeast Asia and beyond, since 1998 and 2018 respectively.

We at LAI, who already operate as [Cambodian Living Arts](#) and [Mekong Cultural Hub](#), are now initiating the South-South Arts Fellowships in 2022 as our pilot international program. This pilot

is a first step towards our intention to launch a longer-term transnational program that will connect cultural workers and networks in the Global South. Our pilot and future programs will champion the arts as an agent of transformation, foster global knowledge exchange and empower emerging leaders and arts organizations in the Global South. We aim to initiate policy-driven, transnational cultural actions, inspired by the resilience of arts communities operating in societies experiencing conflict as well as those in a post conflict stage of development.

What is Cambodian Living Arts (CLA)? I would like to know more about this organization.

Founded in 1998 by genocide survivor and musician Mr Arn CHORN-POND, Cambodian Living Arts (CLA) began with a focus on preserving endangered performing art forms and rituals. With the rapid development of the arts scene in Cambodia over the last 20 years, CLA has evolved its work to help talented people build and develop careers in the arts, through scholarships, fellowships, and support to troupes and individuals. Looking forward, CLA aims to promote creativity and innovation in the arts sector in Cambodia. Read more at:

<https://www.cambodianlivingarts.org/>

Read more [here](#) about some CLA projects including:

- [Arts4Peace Festival](#), which recognizes the incredible contributions by generations of people to revive, transmit and develop the arts in Cambodia in the 40 years since the fall of the Khmer Rouge.
- [Season of Cambodia](#), a major festival held in New York City in 2013 celebrating the renaissance of Cambodia since the fall of the Khmer Rouge and featuring 125 Cambodian artists (both masters and emerging artists) presenting works including ritual, music, visual art, performance, dance, shadow puppetry, and film.
- [Exchanges](#), of knowledge, practices, and experiences among artists and other cultural professionals to develop networks, skills and new inspiration, within Cambodia, around Asia and in the USA and Europe.
- [Arts for Transformation Course: The Case of Cambodia](#), open to students, working professionals (including artists), and the public, which aims to critically discuss the roles of arts and culture in transforming post-conflict Cambodia.
- [Living Arts Fellows](#), designed for people who have already been working in the arts for several years (whether as an artist, a teacher, an organizer or a researcher) and are taking an active role to create new initiatives or lead projects in their community.
- [Mobility First](#), a travel and virtual networking grant for South-South connectivity, offered in partnership with the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF).

What is Mekong Cultural Hub (MCH)? I would like to know more.

The Mekong Cultural Hub (MCH) works to empower diverse cultural practitioners to bring their visions for an inclusive, sustainable Mekong Region to life (along the Mekong River basin in Southeast Asia). Since 2018, MCH has connected more than 150 practitioners from the region

for professional exchange, co-creation and collaboration. MCH works with people whose own work is at the intersection of arts and society. MCH initiates projects and works on collaborations all around Asia. Priority countries are Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Taiwan, Thailand and Viet Nam. Read more at: <https://www.mekongculturalhub.org/>

Read more [here](#) about some MCH projects including:

- **Regional Representatives Network**, in which every two years 12 Regional Representatives are recruited from the Mekong region. Their role is to bridge connections between their communities, and to work with MCH to find ways to make more exchange, learning and collaboration happen in the region.
- **SEAA fellowship**, a joint project of MCH and British Council. Every year 10 Fellows are recruited (one each from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, Viet Nam and UK) and they take part in four stages of the program: EXCHANGE, CREATE, SHARE and REFLECT. The program supports the fellows to look at how their individual and collective leadership in arts and culture can contribute to sustainable development in South East Asia.
- **Professional Exchange**, which responds to the demand for training and professional development in the Mekong region. Through the Professional Exchange program, MCH matchmakes hosts and participants for short-term (2-3 weeks) professional exchange placements, supporting them with planning and subsidizing the costs.

Which countries and territories are eligible for the South-South Arts Fellowships?

Citizens of the following countries and territories are eligible to apply, if they are living and working in any of these focus regions: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, The Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyz Republic, Lao P.D.R., Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Samoa, São Tomé and Príncipe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Palestinian Territories, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe. These countries and territories are identified as developing economies by the [International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook Database \(October 2021\)](#).

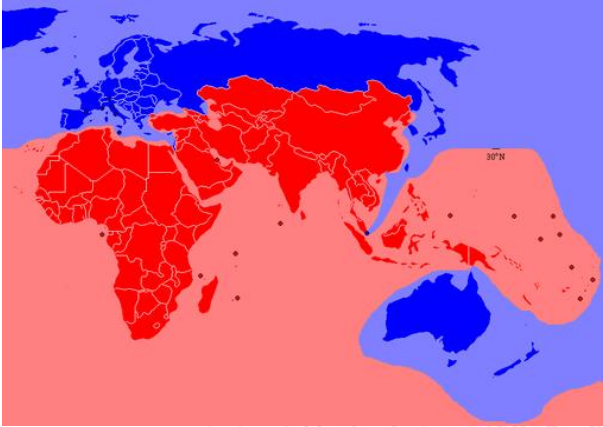


Figure 1: Regions, countries & territories marked in red on this map are eligible to apply for the Fellowship

I am a citizen of one of the eligible countries, but I live and work in the Global North. Am I eligible to apply?

Applicants are expected to be (a) citizens of any of the countries/territories listed above and (b) to be residing and working in any of these eligible countries/territories. Both conditions must be met.

However, consideration may be given to applicants (a) who are based in the Global North, owing to recent circumstances beyond their control affecting their countries/territories of origin and (b) who are actively working to build South-South connections from their present locations within the Global North. Both conditions must be met. If you are a member of such a diaspora group and have queries about your eligibility, please email us at southsouthartsfellowship@gmail.com

I have dual nationality. Am I eligible to apply?

For applicants with dual nationality: to be eligible for the Fellowship, at least one nationality should be that of the eligible countries/territories for this program.

Are citizens of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean eligible for the 2022 Fellowships?

They are not eligible for this pilot Fellowships program in 2022. We aspire to include Latin America and the Caribbean in subsequent phases of LAI's international program.

Are diaspora groups from the focus regions eligible for the 2022 Fellowship?

We aspire to include diaspora groups living in the Global North in subsequent phases of LAI's international program. However, consideration may be given to applicants (a) who are based in the Global North, owing to recent circumstances beyond their control affecting their

countries/territories of origin and (b) who are actively working to build South-South connections from their present locations within the Global North. Both conditions must be met. If you are a member of such a diaspora group and have queries about your eligibility, please email us at southsouthartsfellowship@gmail.com

I am First Nation. I am a citizen of a country that is considered a part of the Global North but is situated in one of your focus continents/regions. I live and work in my home country. My work focuses on building transnational cultural networks within the Global South. Can I apply to this Fellowship?

Yes, we welcome your application. Please contact us at southsouthartsfellowship@gmail.com if you would like to discuss further or clarify anything prior to applying.

I am a cultural worker. I work as an arts manager. Am I eligible to apply?

Yes. Cultural workers are eligible to apply. You need not be an artist/creative practitioner to apply.

We recognize that many cultural workers are unable to sustain full time work in the sector, owing to precarious employment conditions. Therefore, as a guideline, cultural workers are eligible to apply if:

- they work approximately 60% of their time in arts, culture or heritage sectors, and,
- their main focus professionally is cultural work.

Please note that you should have experience in programming/organizing/facilitating transnational initiatives and networks within the Global South, both in your own region/continent and beyond.

I am an artist. I have an artistic/creative practice. I also lead arts projects that connect cultural workers in different parts of the Global South. Am I eligible to apply?

Yes. Creative practitioners are eligible to apply.

However, please note that you should have experience in programming/organizing/facilitating transnational initiatives and networks within the Global South, both in your own region/continent and beyond. We are interested in creative practitioners who are actively involved in creating opportunities for other people and networks in the Global South, rather than those creating and touring their own work.

We recognize that many cultural workers are unable to sustain full time work in the sector, owing to precarious employment conditions. Therefore, as a guideline, artists and creative practitioners are eligible to apply if:

- they work approximately 60% of their time in the sector, and,

- their main focus professionally is cultural work.

I do not work full time in the cultural sector. Am I eligible to apply?

We recognize that many cultural workers are unable to sustain full time work in the sector, owing to precarious employment conditions. Therefore, as a guideline, cultural workers are eligible to apply if:

- they work approximately 60% of their time in arts, culture or heritage sectors, and,
- their main focus professionally is cultural work.

I work in the heritage sector. Am I eligible to apply?

Yes.

I work in a museum. Am I eligible to apply?

Yes.

I would like to apply as an individual. Is this possible?

Yes. Individuals are eligible to apply.

We would like to apply as a collective. How will this work?

Collectives are eligible to apply. All individuals in the collective should meet the nationality-related eligibility requirements for individual applicants. You will be asked to share information about your collective in the application form.

Please note that, if selected, **one collective will be awarded one Fellowship**. This means that the members of the collective will have to share the stipend among themselves as well as the grant for the first activity. So, please think carefully about these aspects before you make your application.

Your collective may have five or 10 members, for example. That is fine. But please note that only two people from the collective will be asked to make the application on behalf of the collective. You will also need to designate just one person as the main contact point from the collective for communication related to the application.

If your collective is selected for the Fellowship, we would be open to involving all members of the collective in the Fellowship activities.

I would like to co-apply with a co-lead who has been collaborating with me on the initiative we would like to propose for the Fellowship. Is this possible?

Teams/groups are eligible to apply. All individuals in the team/group should meet the nationality-related eligibility requirements for individual applicants.

You will be asked to share information about your team/group in the application form.

Please note that, if selected, **one team/group will be awarded one Fellowship**. This means that the members of the team/group will have to share the stipend among themselves as well as the grant offered for organizing the first activity.

I am a freelancer working in the cultural sector. Am I eligible to apply?

Yes. Freelancers are eligible to apply.

We also recognize that many cultural workers are unable to sustain full time work in the sector, owing to precarious employment conditions. Therefore, as a guideline, cultural workers are eligible to apply if:

- they work approximately 60% of their time in arts, culture or heritage sectors, and,
- their main focus professionally is cultural work.

I work for an arts organization. Am I eligible to apply?

Those working full or part time in arts organizations are eligible.

We recognize that many cultural workers are unable to sustain full time work in the sector, owing to precarious employment conditions. Therefore, as a guideline, cultural workers are eligible to apply if:

- they work approximately 60% of their time in arts, culture or heritage sectors, and,
- their main focus professionally is cultural work.

Those working in organizations may apply as individuals **with or without** the endorsement of their employers. You will be asked to share more in the application form.

I am affiliated with one of the organizations associated with the [Fellowship Team](#). Am I eligible to apply?

Yes, you are eligible. In this regard, should there be any potential conflict of interest regarding members of the selection committee, appropriate measures will be taken by the organizers.

Should proposed initiatives focus on any specific artistic discipline?

Proposals could focus on any artistic discipline or sector (e.g. performing arts, visual arts, literature and theatre, arts education, curation, heritage, museums).

I would like to propose an initiative on a topic not directly related to arts, culture or heritage. Would this be relevant?

No, it would not be relevant for this pilot Fellowships program in 2022. Currently, we are only seeking ideas and initiatives related to arts, culture and/or heritage. Initiatives focusing on other topics are not eligible for this Fellowship. However, please note that we are interested in ideas and initiatives that link arts, culture and heritage to conflict transformation. This is because of the roots of Living Arts International (LAI) in post-conflict recovery in Cambodia through [Cambodian Living Arts](#).

Conflict transformation, in contrast to conflict resolution, does not only seek to resolve the contradiction in a conflict setting. Conflict transformation also aims to address structural and social root causes of conflict by challenging injustices and restoring human relations. If you would like to better understand what we mean by the terms ‘conflict’, ‘post conflict’ or ‘conflict transformation’, please read our Glossary on our website: <https://www.connectingsouth.org/>

Please also note that we are seeking applications only from artists, creative practitioners and cultural workers, who:

- work approximately 60% of their time in arts, culture and/or heritage, and,
- whose main focus professionally is creative practice and/or cultural work.

I am interested in addressing conflict in my society through my proposed arts initiative. Would this be relevant?

Yes, we are interested in ideas and initiatives that link arts, culture and heritage to conflict transformation. This is because of the roots of Living Arts International (LAI) in post-conflict recovery in Cambodia through [Cambodian Living Arts](#).

Conflict transformation, in contrast to conflict resolution, does not only seek to resolve the contradiction in a conflict setting. Conflict transformation also aims to address structural and social root causes of conflict by challenging injustices and restoring human relations. If you would like to better understand what we mean by the terms ‘conflict’, ‘post conflict’ or ‘conflict transformation’, please read our Glossary on our website: <https://www.connectingsouth.org/>

We welcome initiatives that acknowledge and address conflict transformation in their own societies/contexts in and through their arts, culture and/or heritage initiatives. In speaking of ‘conflict’, we recognize, acknowledge and include the many struggles - especially prolonged struggles - for various kinds of freedoms and emancipation in the eligible countries/territories. The proposed initiative may address any of these.

What does the application process involve?

Applicants are invited to apply with an initiative that addresses a specific gap in South-South cultural exchange. We are especially interested in proposals that aim to create sustainable links where they would be most meaningful. Initiatives proposed should already be in some stage of development. Applications should be made in English; applications will be assessed on the quality of the ideas presented and not the basis of proficiency in the English language. Answers to some long-form questions may be given in audio or video format. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to a virtual interview. Please read the FAQ and Glossary carefully before applying. FAQ, Glossary and Application Form are available on our website: <https://www.connectingsouth.org/>

What criteria will be used to assess my application?

Applications will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- Which relevant gap in South-South cultural exchange the proposed initiative responds to
 - Your proposed initiative should respond to a specific gap in the existing relationships within your region or with the other focus regions
- What stage of development the proposed initiative is at
 - We are open to existing initiatives. Recognizing and understanding that South-South exchange projects are often difficult to realize, we also welcome ideas and initiatives in early or mid-stages of development. Please note that we are not interested in brand new ideas and initiatives that would be developed from scratch within the Fellowship period.
- What professional experiences makes the applicant qualified to undertake the proposed initiative
 - Please note that you should have experience in programming/organizing/facilitating transnational initiatives and networks within the Global South, both in your own region/continent and beyond.

We encourage initiatives that have the potential to continue after the Fellowship.

Please note that we are interested in initiatives that link arts, culture and heritage to conflict transformation. This is because of the roots of Living Arts International (LAI) in post-conflict recovery in Cambodia through [Cambodian Living Arts](#). Conflict transformation, in contrast to conflict resolution, does not only seek to resolve the contradiction in a conflict setting. Conflict transformation also aims to address structural and social root causes of conflict by challenging injustices and restoring human relations. If you would like to better understand what we mean by the terms 'conflict', 'post conflict' or 'conflict transformation', please read our Glossary on our website: <https://www.connectingsouth.org/>

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What will the fellows be expected to deliver during the Fellowship?

Fellows are expected to implement two activities (virtual or hybrid) during the Fellowship (i.e., between July and December 2022):

The first activity will be based on the initiative proposed in the application. This activity may be inter-regional or intra-regional in scope, i.e.,

- linking different regions within Africa (note: here, 'Africa' includes North Africa) or
- linking different regions within Asia (note: here, 'Asia' includes West Asia and Central Asia) or
- linking different regions within the Pacific or
- linking different regions of Africa, Asia and the Pacific

The second activity should be inter-regional in scope i.e.,

- Between Africa and Asia or
- Between Africa and the Pacific or
- Between Asia and the Pacific or
- Among Africa, Asia and the Pacific

For the second activity, two or more fellows will work together in collaboration. Together, they will co-curate and co-organize the second virtual activity.

Activities should enable exchange among artists, creative practitioners and/or cultural workers. At least 90% of those participating in the activities should be (a) citizens of the eligible countries/ territories and (b) living and working in the eligible countries/territories. Both conditions must be met. However, consideration may be given to applicants (a) who are based in the Global North owing to recent circumstances beyond their control, affecting their countries/territories of origin and (b) who are actively working to build South-South connections from their present locations within the Global North. Both conditions must be met. If you are a member of such a diaspora group and have queries about your eligibility, please email us at southsouthartsfellowship@gmail.com

What forms of support will I receive if selected for the Fellowship?

A stipend of USD 3000 per Fellowship awarded (this stipend is an honorarium for the fellows for their ideas and work on the Fellowship activities)

Feedback on proposals and access to new networks from three advisors to the Fellowship program: [Khadija El Bennaoui \(Morocco/UAE\)](#), [Deirdre Prins-Solani \(South Africa\)](#) and [Pooja Sood \(India\)](#)

A grant of USD 3000 per Fellowship for curating and organizing one virtual or hybrid activity to develop the proposed idea or initiative. Activities must take place between July and December 2022. Activities may be inter-regional or intra-regional in scope, i.e.,

- linking different regions within Africa (note: here, 'Africa' includes North Africa) or
- linking different regions within Asia (note: here, 'Asia' includes West Asia and Central Asia) or
- linking different regions within the Pacific or
- linking different regions of Africa, Asia and the Pacific

You will be asked to submit a budget plan for this grant in your application form.

An amount of up to USD 20,000 is available in total for curating and organizing up to three inter-continental virtual activities (also between July and December 2022). This budget is shared between all 5 Fellowships. Please note that the selected fellows will organize these activities in collaboration with one another.

Are you expecting conferences and/or panel discussions to be among the main outputs of the proposed initiatives?

While we do not exclude conferences and panel discussions, we are more interested to hear about new and alternative ways of network building that come from cultural and/or artistic practice. So, we do not expect proposals to limit themselves to conventional conference or panel discussions formats. We welcome alternative formats and methods, especially those that center the arts in their approach. We also encourage new concepts/formats for hosting and gathering, including those inspired by local cultures and customs.

Can I propose an exhibition or performance?

No, we are not looking for production, performance, touring, research or publication initiatives. This Fellowship is about network building within the Global South, rather than creation of new artworks. We are particularly interested in new and alternative ways of network building that come from cultural and/or artistic practice.

Will I be working alone or with the other selected fellows?

Fellows will be responsible for developing the first activity on their own – this activity will be based on the proposal submitted in the application. Fellows will collaborate with one or more of the other fellows to co-curate and co-organize the second virtual activity (which is expected to be inter-regional in scope).

What is the working language of the Fellowship?

The working language of the Fellowship is English. This is about communicating with the advisors/organizers during the Fellowship, if you are selected. Please note that your application will not be judged based on your proficiency in English. You are not required to organize your Fellowship activity in English – you may use any language that is best suited to your context and community. See also question on *‘I would like to organize my Fellowship activity in a regional language. Would that be ok?’*

Can I apply in a language other than English?

Applications are currently only accepted in English. However, please note that your application will not be judged based on your proficiency in English.

We fully recognize that language is a major axis of inclusion and exclusion. And we are sorry that we are unable to offer more language choices at the moment, as we are currently a small team with limited resources. We admit this is a failure on our part. We are continuing to assess how best we could approach this issue to make the application process more accessible. We will be organizing several virtual Information Sessions with simultaneous translations in some languages other than English. These sessions may be useful for you – please look out for announcements about these sessions on our website: <https://www.connectingsouth.org/> and on our social media:

 <https://www.facebook.com/connectingsoutharts>

 <https://twitter.com/ConnectingSouth>

 <https://www.instagram.com/connecting.south/>

I struggle with English. I am not very proficient in the language. How do I complete my application?

We would like to reassure you that your application will be judged on the basis of the quality of the ideas in it. It will certainly not be judged based on your proficiency in English. So, please do not worry about perfect grammar when preparing your application. There are options to submit some long-form answers in your application in writing or via video or via audio. However, if you really feel that you cannot express yourself well in English, contact us at southsouthartsfellowship@gmail.com and we can discuss how best we may be able to help you.

I would like to organize my Fellowship activity in a regional language. Would that be ok?

Yes. For the Fellowship activities, we would like to enable as many conversations as possible in multiple languages (e.g., Arabic, English, French, Portuguese or a language you feel is best suited for the proposed initiative). Selected fellows will be free to organize activities in any language that works best in their context, if they are able to make it accessible and inclusive to all participants in their Fellowship activity. To this end, the grant of USD 3000 could be used to cover interpretation costs.

I do not fully understand some of the terms used in the Call such as 'Global South'. Do you offer a glossary?

Yes, we have a Glossary that you could refer to on our website:

<https://www.connectingsouth.org/>

I have access needs. Because of this reason, I don't feel very confident to apply to the Fellowship. What should I do?

We welcome applications from candidates with access needs. We are happy to assist you in this regard. Please contact us at southsouthartsfellowship@gmail.com with your specific needs, if you wish to discuss further prior to applying. If your access needs have a cost that seem difficult to cover with the grant of USD 3000 available for your first activity, do get in touch with us and we could discuss further.

Get in touch with us, if.....

Please also get in touch with us at southsouthartsfellowship@gmail.com, if:

- You would like to co-host a virtual Information Session on the Fellowship with us to reach your arts community. We are happy to explore possibilities with regard to offering simultaneous translation at these sessions to reach wider audiences.
- You have a question or query that has not been answered in this FAQ
- You are wondering whether this program is right for you.

For more information:

Visit our website: <https://www.connectingsouth.org/>

Find the FAQ, Glossary and Application Form at: <https://www.connectingsouth.org/stories/>

Follow us:

 <https://www.facebook.com/connectingsoutharts>

 <https://twitter.com/ConnectingSouth>

 https://www.instagram.com/connecting_south/

Contact us: If you have any queries, email us at southsouthartsfellowship@gmail.com