

# Responsible Citizen Fellowship

## Small Grant Program

©Dr. Mansee Bal Bhargava calls to facilitate (through endowments) the following **Small Grant Programs** on '**Responsible Citizen Fellowship**' (RCF) to individuals who are interested to carry out research/study (explore, describe, explain, experiment) and/or social work to address the Integrated social-ecological issues and initiatives of India. The social-ecological systems are the shared resources (such as, water, land, waste, fauna, flora, traditional knowledge, marginalised community, public utilities/amenities, etc.) that are complex in nature and difficult to manage. They are difficult to manage in this capitalistic-consumeristic society importantly since, it is difficult to put a 'price' on them as, 'how much do they value (cost and benefit) to the society.' More individuals and organisation are therefore required to engage in the conservation and management of the shared resources to make our planet a better place to live for all. Dr. Mansee Bal Bhargava believes in the conservation and management of these vulnerable shared resources and pledges to support the cause through Small Grant Programs (SGP) on the Responsible Citizen Fellowship (RCF). The RCF-SGP invites application from the individuals who believe the same and are exploring funds and resources to conduct research/study and/or social work on the integrated social-ecological issues and initiatives of India. Some of the suggested areas of study and/or social work are listed below:

1. Urban/ Rural Greening (Forestry and Farming)
2. Urban/ Rural Water (Bodies) Management, Consumption and Conservation
3. Urban/ Rural Swachhta and Sanitation
4. Urban/ Rural Child/Old/Differently/Fauna abled Environment
5. Urban/ Rural Waste Reduction, Reuse, Recycle
6. Urban/ Rural Renewable Energy in Urban Areas
7. Urban/ Rural Sociability of Public Life/Space
8. Urban/ Rural Women in Social-Ecological Sciences and Management
9. Urban/ Rural Wisdoms of tradition, common-sense and conscience

All the above can be also taken up as developing education tools to be disseminated at the academic institutions/community. However, that must be substantiated with on-ground or publishing activities. Applicants are encouraged to bring in innovative ways of social engagement for conducting study and/or social work.

**Who can apply?** The RCF-SGP is for individuals from the primary school students to the PhD and young independent scholars. Grants will be provided in the categories of Primary School, Middle-High School, Bachelor-Master, MPhil-PhD, Independent Scholar. The Bachelor-Master, MPhil-PhD applicants can use the grant fund for conducting Dissertation/Thesis.

The grant, currently focussing on Indian residents, is an equal opportunity platform. It respects all gender, caste, class, colour, religion and other diversities of the society. The special-abled applicants must inform in the 'special request' section of the application form.

**How the grant can be used?** The RCF-SGP funds will be available for only research/study and/or social work with expected production of sharable knowledge as well as measurable impacts on the society where intervention/s is/are made. The grant fund is inclusive of the field activities. *The grant fund does not include conferences and similar activities.*

**What is the grant amount?** The RCF-SGP grant will be disbursed as a monthly stipend to the winning applicants to carry out the proposed project. The candidates must prepare the project proposal accordingly. The grant fund can be availed in conjunction to other grants. Applicants are encouraged to explore other sources of grant if the proposed project exceeds the budget. Applicant must inform about the same while making an application. The RCF-SGP grant amount for different categories are:

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|    | Grant Category                | Grant Code   | Per Month Grant                          |
|----|-------------------------------|--------------|--|
| 1. | Primary School Category       | RCF-PSS-2021 | 1000 (One Thousand)                      |
| 2. | Middle-High School Category   | RCF-MHS-2021 | 3000 (Three Thousand)                    |
| 3. | Bachelor-Master Category      | RCF-BMC-2021 | 5000 (Five Thousand)                     |
| 4. | MPhil-PhD Research Category   | RCF-MPR-2021 | 8000 (Eight Thousand)                    |
| 5. | Independent Category          | RCF-IND-2021 | Based on applicant's above status        |
| 6. | *Special Application Category | RCF-SAP-2021 | Based on applicant's above status & need |

**When to apply?** The RCF-SGP will be open year-round. The grant cycle will work quarterly (3 months of the English calendar year), meaning applications submitted in one quarter will be evaluated in the next and the grant will be disbursed the further next quarter. For example, an application submitted between Jan-Mar will be evaluated in Apr-June and winning proposals will be granted funds from July-to the period of the proposed study/work. In other words, the winning applications get a grant after 3 months of the application deadline of that quarter.

**How long is the grant available?** The RCF-SGP grant can be availed from min 3-12 max months. The project proposal must be scheduled in the multiples of quarter (3) months. In special cases (of project continuation) the grant will be extended for another 3-12 months with special application made for the same prior to the completion of the grant cycle. Fresh applications can be made.

**What are the expected outputs from the Grant?** The RCF-SGP grant looks for a contribution to the society both in knowledge and physical. An RCF-Fellow is expected to engage in ground/grass root work and/or research/academic activities. The Master-MPhil-PhD Category Fellows are expected to publish paper preferably for submissions in scientific journal/s and common media sources. Other Category Fellows are expected to write a report and submit. The Primary-Middle-High School Fellows are also encouraged to write a report with guidance either from some sources if possible or from the other RCF-Fellows. The RCF-Fellows are expected to disseminate their activities as much as possible through the RCF-SGP.

**What are the grant conditions?** The RCF-SGP grant rests upon the personal endowment from Dr. Mansee Bal Bhargava. The study and/or social work carried out using the RCF-SGP grant shall remain a partnership between the grantee and the RCF-SGP fellow. The data and the document acquired and produced during the grant period shall become a joint intellectual property of the partnership.

**How the grant will be evaluated and disbursed?** The RCF-SGP grant will be evaluated and disbursed simultaneously, to ensure the work progress. The RCF-Fellows shall fill in the monthly invoice with work progress for the release of funds for the following month. The first month fund is provided upfront however, the last two months funds will be provided at the end of the project period after the submission of the paper/report. A grace period of one month can be availed to make the submission however, the fund will not be provided for that month. *The grant fund is unavailable in full in advance or at the end of the project.*

**On what grounds the grant will be discontinued?** The RCF-SGP grant will be discontinued with a prior notice if the study/work is found not moving according to as planned in the application; if the study/work is found favouring any specific cause that harms the integrity of the society; and if the study/work is found breaching any of the points of the Grant Contract (for the winning applicants).

**All Enquiries and Application request shall be directed to: [mansee.bal.bhargava@gmail.com](mailto:mansee.bal.bhargava@gmail.com)**