

1.0 BACKGROUND

Yayasan Hasanah's ("Hasanah") vision is to catalyze social impact at scale for a more inclusive and progressive Malaysia. We do this through our grants programme in five impact areas, which are Education, Community Development, Environment, Arts and Public Spaces, and Knowledge. These impact areas are anchored on Hasanah's core foundation of long-term nation building; and built on Hasanah's commitment to stakeholders in upholding the values of empowerment, trust, integrity, *inclusivity, connectedness, and authenticity*.

Hasanah works through an ecosystem of champions that includes civil society partner organisations, social enterprises, government and regulatory agencies, and the community, where we strive to ensure cohesive, holistic and impactful initiatives on the ground. Our champion-ecosystem is intentionally local. This is part of our strategy to sustain and strengthen the local community's capacity, ownership and leadership, and to ensure solutions are customised and relevant to local needs.

We emphasise an operational model of equal partnership. Our role is to complement and support the passion and goal of our partners that are aligned to our own Theory of Change, and build our collective capacities to strategise, lead, and open doors to policymaking in our respective areas of work.

Hasanah has supported interventions that are not only transformative and catalytic, but also interventions which have had meaningful social impact on both the nation and the communities it serves. Achieving significant and multi-faceted social impact, however, requires a longer time horizon.

In 2026, Hasanah continues its commitment to expanding the reach and impact of its grants through its grant platform, with the aim of supporting communities in need across the country. In this regard, the social sector comprising social enterprises, non-governmental organisations, and civil society organisations (SEs/NGOs/CSOs) are well positioned to implement initiatives and programmes that deliver direct and meaningful impact to the Rakyat.

We welcome proposals that are clearly aligned with Hasanah's mandate and support any of Hasanah's five Impact Areas. Other considerations include scalability, replicability and deepening of the project, opportunities to advocate for policy change for the better, how its impact can transform or catalyze further progress in the affected issue or area, as well as the sustainability of the project. All projects for this grant cycle will be reviewed based on our priority areas and our ten-year Theory of Change 2020-2030 aspirations. We encourage you to read this properly to ensure the relevance of your proposal's submission.

Hasanah’s work in our Impact Areas are aligned to 15 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These are:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| SDG 1: Poverty Alleviation | SDG 6: Clean Water & Sanitation | SDG 12: Responsible Consumption & Production |
| SDG 2: Zero Hunger | SDG 7: Affordable & Clean Energy | SDG 13: Climate Action |
| SDG 3: Good Health & Well Being | SDG 8: Decent Work & Economic Growth | SDG 14: Life Below Water |
| SDG 4: Quality Education | SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities | SDG 15: Life On Land |
| SDG 5: Gender Equality | SDG 11: Sustainable Cities & Communities | SDG 16: Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions |

1.1 PRIORITIES WITHIN HASANAH’S IMPACT AREAS

As part of our refreshed strategy and Theory of Change for 2020-2030, we have refocused the priorities to drive deeper interventions in each of our Impact Areas. As such, proposals that align to these sets of priorities will see a greater chance of success; therefore, we encourage you to read the details to ensure relevance of your proposal to what we are seeking for in this 2026 grant cycle.

Overview by each Impact Areas

| | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p>Education</p> | <p>Community Development</p> | <p>Environment</p> | <p>Arts & Public Spaces</p> |
| <p>Developing talents through scholarships and learning provisions, and enhancing school leadership</p> | <p>Enhancing community empowerment and well-being through livelihood programs and multidimensional interventions</p> | <p>Demonstrating a sustainable development model for a state for learning, adoption and advocacy nationwide</p> | <p>demonstrating conservation of heritage textiles as a viable creative economic model</p> |
| <p>Raising awareness and promoting psychological health and well-being in schools, and providing access to services and interventions</p> | <p>Creating self-organizing local leaders to ensure sustainable progress within the community</p> | <p>Advocating a clear responsible plastics agenda with active programme and policy interventions across the value chain</p> | <p>Creating platforms for creative economy through Arts for All Seasons (ArtsFAS)</p> |
| <p> Knowledge To advance Malaysia’s social sector through justice-driven thought leadership, and evidence-based research and interventions</p> | | | |

To guide your application, we have included below the objective as well as the scope of projects that we may support for each Impact Area under this year’s grant cycle.

EDUCATION

Objective 1:

Enhancing School Leadership and Learning Equity

Types of Projects supported under this objective:

- Programmes and initiatives that enhance teaching effectiveness, build school leadership capacity, and improve learning processes, thereby fostering greater student engagement and mitigating learning loss across early childhood, primary, and secondary education levels.
- Programmes that deliver structured remedial learning support, leading to measurable improvements in students' academic performance.

Location:

Nationwide implementation, with priority given to underserved contexts such as urban poor communities, including education interventions in Program Perumahan Rakyat (PPRs) and low-cost housing areas.

** Proposals that demonstrate strong partnerships with schools, local education authorities, and community stakeholders, supported by robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks, will be prioritised.*

Objective 2:

Raising Awareness and Promoting Psychological Health and Well-Being in Schools

Types of projects supported under this objective:

- Programmes that deliver psychosocial and mental health initiatives within public education systems, raise awareness, promote psychological well-being, and improve access to support services. These programmes should engage school leaders, teachers, counsellors, students, and/or parents across early childhood, primary, and secondary levels.
- Programmes that adopt and implement evidence-based models to strengthen mental health literacy, reduce stigma, and promote early identification and support such as Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), Empowerment of Pembimbing Rakan Sebaya (PRS), Equipping teachers with Psychological First Aid (PFA), Social Emotional Learning (SEL), and other equivalent models.

Location:

Nationwide.

** Proposals that demonstrate strong partnerships with schools, local education authorities, and community stakeholders, supported by robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks, will be prioritised.*

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Objective 1:

Enhancing community empowerment through sustainable livelihoods, well-being programmes, and multidimensional interventions under Yayasan Hasanah's Community-Based Approach model.

Types of projects supported under this objective:

Focus 1: Income and Well-being

- Programmes that address poverty alleviation, unemployment, and limited economic opportunities by strengthening the capacity of B40 communities to generate income and secure sustainable livelihoods within targeted rural or urban areas. This includes initiatives that enhance entrepreneurial capabilities across sectors, as well as skills development that leads to increased income or stable employment.
- Programmes that demonstrate improved well-being and sustained impact within targeted urban or rural communities, particularly in mental health, health, nutrition for the first 1,000 days, and childcare, delivered through strong multi-stakeholder partnerships.
- Programmes that address the livelihood and well-being needs of older persons, aligned with Malaysia's transition to an ageing nation, implemented at the community level through new initiatives or by partnering with and adding value to existing government programmes to pilot and test community-based care models.

Focus 2: Community Leadership

- Programmes that build the capacity of B40 communities by equipping them with leadership and practical skills in project management, stakeholder engagement, community mapping, and impact assessment. These capabilities enable communities to become self-sufficient, self-organise, and take on leadership roles in sustaining community-led initiatives that improve livelihoods and well-being over the long term.

*Note: Proposals for projects under Community Development must address either:
i) Focus 1 or ii) Focus 1 & Focus 2.*

Location:

Priority districts characterised by high poverty levels and/or an existing Yayasan Hasanah CBA community footprint.

Objective 2:

Enhancing youth employability and enabling sustained livelihoods through targeted TVET and skill-based interventions that address employment gaps for underserved youths.

Types of projects supported under this objective:

- Programmes that deliver industry-aligned TVET and skill-based programmes, including Train & Place models, aimed at enhancing technical competencies, improving job readiness, and securing meaningful job placements. These initiatives prioritise sustainable income generation, long-term employment outcomes, and alignment with labour market demand.

Location: Nationwide.

ENVIRONMENT

Objective 1:

Demonstrating long-term ecological and community resilience in Malaysia's landscape and seascape through sustainable development to ensure pro-environmental behaviour or community empowerment, biodiversity conservation and ecosystem protection or restoration, sustainable financing, strengthened policies and climate change adaptation and mitigation nationwide.

Types of projects supported under this objective:

- Programmes that are targeted towards co-management and/or restoration of ecosystems through nature-based solutions with local communities that lead toward conservation and protection of natural ecosystems and building resilience against climate change.
- Programmes involving sustainable alternative financing mechanisms for long-term biodiversity and ecosystems conservation.
- Programmes that support a strong and green economy, responsible and empowered communities, well-conserved natural heritage and resilience to climate change and disasters.
- Programmes that involve capacity building or strengthening collaborative partnership among communities, civil societies, and State/Federal agencies for conservation

Location:

Nationwide with priority sites in Perak.

Objective 2:

Demonstrate responsible waste management across Malaysia through grassroots community activations and policy advocacy, contributing to the nation's climate change mitigation goals.

Types of projects supported under this objective:

- Programmes that engage and initiate responsible waste management including reduction, segregation, recycling and upcycling that are beneficial to local community and the environment, particularly plastic waste.
- Programmes that foster collaboration with relevant stakeholders leading towards improved policies and legislation to support responsible waste management. Programmes that inculcate awareness and knowledge on waste management, with sustainable practices among youths and communities.
- Programmes that address the upstream sector of consumption value chain, particularly towards responsible and sustainable production.

Location:

Nationwide.

ARTS & PUBLIC SPACES

Objective 1:

Advancing Malaysia’s living heritage and providing the structural support needed for future generations.

Types of projects supported under this objective:

- Programmes that strengthen the preservation and safeguarding of Malaysian heritage practices (e.g. textiles, wood carving, silversmithing, boat craftsmanship) creative learning through programme-based learning approach, including apprenticeships and intergenerational knowledge transfer.
- Programmes that advance excellence in craftsmanship while driving innovation within heritage practices.
- Programmes that strengthen artisan ecosystems through capacity development, entrepreneurship support, and coordinated market access at local and regional levels.
- Programme that documents and preserves narratives of heritage practices.
- Programmes that develop district-level living heritage ecosystems, ensuring heritage practices are actively sustained, transmitted, and economically viable within communities.

Location:

Nationwide with priority consideration given to identified heritage districts, including Terengganu, Kelantan, Perlis, Perak, Kedah, and Sabah.

1.2 GUIDING RULES

The following section sets out the criteria for the submission, selection and implementation of the initiatives supported by Hasanah:

1.2.1 Eligible Applicant

| NO | SUBJECT | REQUIREMENTS |
|----|---|---|
| 1 | Applicant interested in applying must satisfy all the following criteria (a) - (d): | <p>a. Legal registration</p> <p>The applicant must be a registered entity under one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Registrar of Societies Act 1966 ii. Companies Act 1965 (Sole Proprietorship, Partnership, Limited Liability Partnership (LLP), Private Limited Company (Sdn Bhd)) iii. Trustees (Incorporation) Act 1952 iv. Trade Licensing Ordinance (Sabah) v. Profession and Trade Licensing Ordinance (Sarawak) vi. Cooperative Act 1993 |

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|---|--------------------------------|---|
| | | <p>b. Minimum Operational History</p> <p>Must have been formed and officially registered for at least two (2) years prior to applying. If the organisation operated under a different name previously, it must submit supporting documentation demonstrating continuous operations for two or more years.</p> <p>c. Financial Documentation</p> <p>The organisation must be able to provide one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Audited financial statements for two (2) consecutive years within the past three (3) years, or ii. Copies of annual report submissions to the Registrar of Societies for two (2) consecutive years, or iii. Copies of two (2) year's income tax submissions to the Inland Revenue Board (IRB/LHDN) <p>d. Project Readiness</p> <p>Able to demonstrate organisational capacity, operational structure, and readiness to immediately implement the proposed project upon grant approval.</p> |
| 2 | Additional Applicant Guideline | <p>i. Multiple Applications</p> <p>An organisation may participate as a co-applicant in other applications while submitting its own.</p> <p>ii. Eligibility of Social Enterprises</p> <p>Social enterprises defined as registered organisations or companies whose primary mission is to advance a social cause while maintaining a sustainable revenue stream are eligible to apply.</p> <p>iii. Public Institutions & Consultancies</p> <p>Public institutions and consultancy firms may apply, but only as co-applicants, partnering with a civil society organisation (CSO) that will act as the core applicant.</p> <p>iv. Repeat Applications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The proposed initiative is different from previously funded projects, or b) It represents a clear, scalable continuation of a successfully completed earlier project, with a defined strategy for expansion or deeper impact. |

1.2.2 Eligible Projects

Types of activities which we may support under this Grant Cycle:



Inclusivity

- Activities that target and address the needs of the bottom 50% of underserved, vulnerable and marginalised communities in Malaysia
- Activities that promote social inclusivity, economic empowerment and building of human capital; and are able to restart or generate new economic activities to sustain the community
- Activities with innovative solutions to existing social issues



Service delivery

- Educational and training activities relevant to Hasanah's Impact Areas
- Provision of multidimensional social services, including counselling services (mental wellbeing and psychosocial support to vulnerable communities etc.) and protection of vulnerable women and children



Advocacy and policy

- Preparation and presentation of policy analyses and reports relevant to Hasanah's Impact Areas
- Advocacy initiatives focusing on issues relevant to Hasanah's Impact Areas
- Local campaigns, education of citizens and promotion of principles of transparency, good governance, citizens' participation in decision-making processes relevant to Hasanah's Impact Areas



Capacity building

- In-house mentorship, training, pilot projects, aimed at strengthening the capacities of, civil society organisations ("CSOs") and communities, relevant to issues or problems at the local and national level in Hasanah's Impact Areas



Partnership development

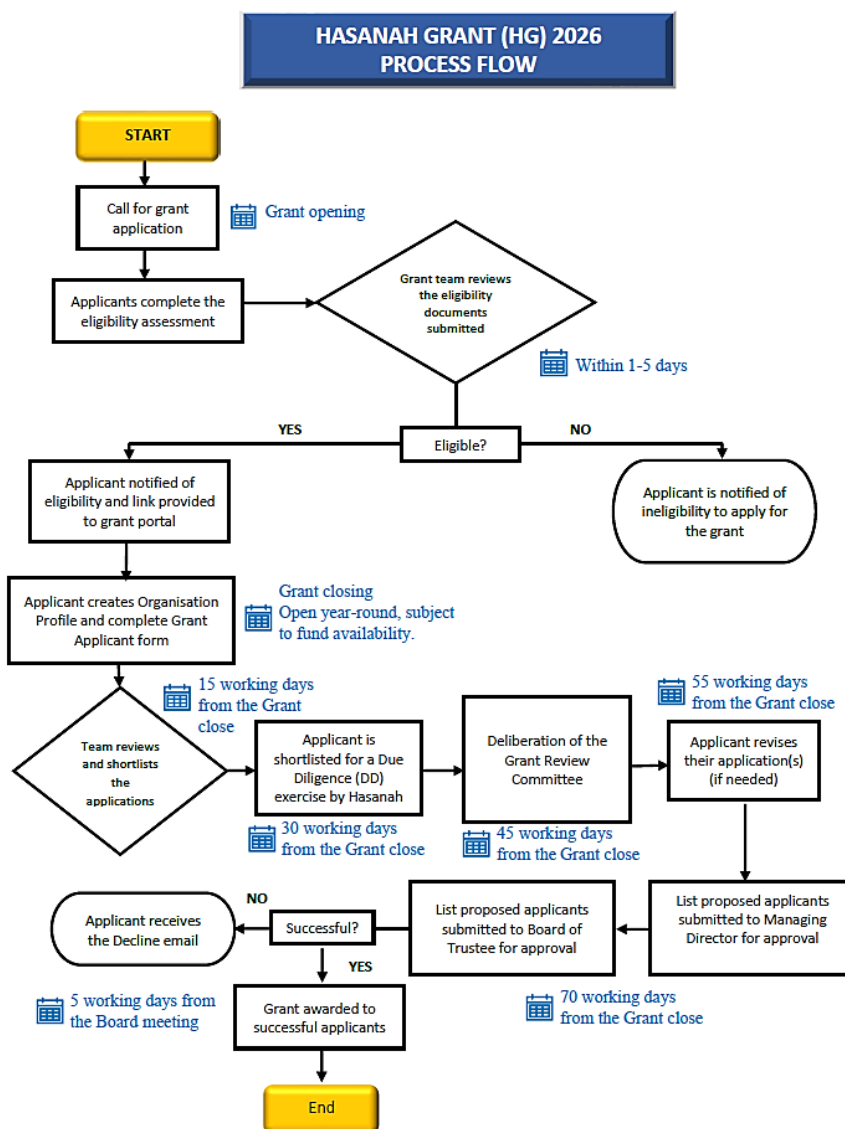
- Identifying and establishing active cooperation with relevant CSO networks, coalitions, think-tanks and individual organisations specialised in issues relevant to Hasanah's Impact Areas
- Networking and partnership building for the purpose of achieving a joint social and entrepreneurial activity

Examples of previously supported projects are available on the Hasanah website and the eligibility of the project as per table:

| NO | DESCRIPTION | REQUIREMENTS |
|----|--|--|
| 1 | Project Eligibility Criteria | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Must align with one or more of Hasanah’s Impact Areas or a specified Hasanah project. b. Should clearly demonstrate the ability to deliver: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Measurable outputs (short-term results) ii) Outcomes (mid-term results) iii) Social impact (long-term benefits) c. Must show potential to become a sustained community resource beyond project completion d. Should have the capacity for scalability and replication across various regions and beneficiary groups in Malaysia. e. Should be catalytic in nature, driving multi-dimensional, positive change for communities. |
| 2 | Non-Eligible Initiatives: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Direct donations or grants to individuals b. Sponsorships for individual participation in courses, workshops, seminars, or conferences. c. Initiatives unrelated to Hasanah’s Impact Areas (e.g. general healthcare projects). d. Politically affiliated projects or campaigns. e. Initiatives centered primarily on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Construction or commercial property acquisition/renovation. ii) Equipment purchases for commercial purposes. iii) Charitable donations or profit-driven ventures. iv) Projects already funded by a Hasanah grant prior to the signing of a new contract. v) Faith-based activities. |
| 3 | Non-Eligible Costs: Hasanah will only fund eligible, reasonable, and cost-effective expenses. The following costs are not eligible: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Customs duties, import taxes, or related charges. b. Land or building purchases, or leases. c. Fines, penalties, or legal expenses. d. Bank charges, guarantee fees, and similar financial costs. e. Currency exchange losses or conversion fees. f. Contributions in kind. g. Depreciation costs. h. Debts and debt servicing. i. Provisions for future losses or liabilities. j. Loans or credits to third parties. k. Salary costs for personnel of national or public administrations. |

1.3 HOW TO APPLY

Applicants may submit proposals through Hasanah’s online grant portal via the link available on the Grants page of the Hasanah website. For a step-by-step guide on how to apply using our online grant portal, please click on the link available on the Grants page of the Hasanah website. Applicants are required to submit their eligibility documentation and application at least 16 weeks prior to the project’s implementation to ensure a fair and equitable review process. The flowchart below depicts Hasanah’s grant application process. Proposals are accepted on an ongoing basis commencing **12 May 2026 and will remain open year-round, subject to the availability of funds**, through our Hasanah online portal at www.yayasanhasanah.org. Hasanah reserves the right to close or suspend submissions at its discretion.



Note: the timeline is subject to further changes and the discretion of Hasanah

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| NO | STEP | DESCRIPTION | REQUIREMENTS |
|----|--|--|---|
| 1 | Step 1: Eligibility Assessment | Determine applicant eligibility via the Hasanah grant portal once the grant cycle opens. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Registered with ROS, ROC, Trustees (Incorporation) Act 1952, Trade Licensing Ordinance (Sabah), Profession and Trade Licensing Ordinance (Sarawak) or Cooperative Act 1993. b. Minimum 2 years registration. If previously under a different name, evidence of operations for at least 2 years required. c. Audited financial statements for 2 consecutive years (past 3 years), or 2 years annual report submissions to ROS, or 2 years income tax submissions to IRB/LHDN. d. Have a copy of registration certificate and latest audited accounts ready. e. Grants Team will review eligibility and notify via email with login credentials if successful. |
| 2 | Step 2: Creating an Organisation Profile | Register an account on the Hasanah grant portal and create your organisation profile. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Profile includes organisation details and previous project information. b. Step-by-step instructions provided on the portal c. Profile can be updated anytime. |
| 3 | Step 3: Completing the Application Form | Complete and submit the Application Form and required documents. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Application must be in English or Bahasa Malaysia. Required documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation Plan • Budget Breakdown • Organisational Structure Optional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Optional) Balance Sheet & Income/Expenses Statement (≤ 3 months old) • (Optional) Current operating budget breakdown • (Optional) Latest publications, news articles, or relevant materials. b. Multiple applications allowed per grant cycle. |

Applicants may request further clarification during the application process. **Questions may be sent by email to grant.application@hasanah.org.my no later than five working days before the deadline.**

To ensure equal treatment of applicants, Hasanah cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of applicants or the applications. For a step-by-step guide on how to apply using our online grant portal,

please click on the link available on the “Hasanah Grant 2026” page on the Hasanah website.

1.4 NOTIFICATION OF HASANAH’S DECISION

Only shortlisted applications will be notified and invited for the team to conduct Due diligence stage. Findings from Due Diligence and recommendations will be evaluated and deliberated at the Grant Committee Review Meeting. Applicants who are shortlisted at the Grant Committee Review Meeting may be requested to revise their application as deemed necessary, prior to being recommended for final approval. Following the decision to award a grant, successful applicants will be offered a grant, subject to the execution of Hasanah’s Grant Agreement.

1.5 FUND DISBURSEMENT

Following approval, successful applicants will enter into a formal Grant Agreement, which will incorporate the approved proposal work plan and reporting schedules.

Grant disbursements will be made in tranches, aligned with the project timeline, deliverables, and agreed milestones. Hasanah’s team will engage with the grantee to facilitate implementation and ensure clarity on expectations.

All disbursement processes are subject to Hasanah’s financial controls, legal review, and compliance requirements.

1.6 LEGAL TERMS & DISCLAIMER

Hasanah provides this Grant Guideline for informational purposes only, and the following legal provisions apply:

1.6.1 No Guarantee of Grant Award

Meeting the eligibility criteria, submitting complete documentation, or being invited to proceed to due diligence does not constitute a guarantee of funding. Hasanah retains full discretion in the evaluation and approval of all applications, including the right to reject any application without assigning any reasons.

1.6.2 Right to Amend, Suspend or Cancel

Hasanah reserves the right to amend, suspend, or cancel the Hasanah Grant 2026 programme, in whole or in part, at any time and without prior notice. This includes changes to the eligibility requirements, scope of support, deadlines, funding availability, review process, or terms of the grant.

1.6.3 Discretion in Evaluation

All funding and selection decisions made by Hasanah regarding eligibility, evaluation scores,

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due diligence findings and final approvals are final. Hasanah does not enter correspondence or provide further justification regarding the merits of individual decisions.

1.6.4 Risk and Compliance

Applicants are responsible for identifying and managing risks associated with their projects, including operational, financial, environmental, legal, or reputational risks. Hasanah will not be liable for any losses arising from, including but not limited to:

- i. Changes in governmental policies;
- ii. Environmental or external conditions;
- iii. Economic disruptions or force majeure events;
- iv. Non-compliance with applicable laws or regulations by the applicant or grantee.

All applications and funded projects are subject to Hasanah’s risk management, legal, and compliance review processes, which may include independent verification where necessary.

1.6.5 Conflict of Interest

All applications submitted are subject to Hasanah’s Conflict of Interest Policy. All individuals involved in the assessment, review, and approval of applications, including members of the review committee, are required to declare any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest. Appropriate measures will be taken to ensure that such conflicts do not influence the evaluation process, including recusal from deliberations where necessary.

1.6.6 Accuracy of Information

Applicants must ensure that all information submitted is accurate, complete, and not misleading, any misrepresentation, falsification, or omission of material information may result in disqualification or termination of the grant, if awarded.

1.6.7 Confidentiality and Intellectual Property

All application materials will be treated with confidentiality. However, by submitting an application, applicants acknowledge and agree that Hasanah may internally share proposals with its evaluation committees, partners, and funding agencies.

Intellectual property rights in proposals remain with the applicant unless otherwise agreed in a separate Grant Agreement. All intellectual property rights owned by the applicant prior to the date of the Grant Agreement (“Pre-existing IP”) shall remain the property of the applicant. Upon award and execution of the Grant Agreement, all intellectual property rights in the deliverables, outputs, and materials created under the funded project (“Foreground IP”) shall belong to Hasanah for the benefit of society and public interest.

The applicant shall ensure that Hasanah has the necessary rights to use, reproduce, adapt, and share such deliverables for reporting, communication, knowledge-sharing, and other non-commercial purposes, in accordance with the terms of the Grant Agreement.

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1.6.8 Personal Data Protection Notice

By submitting an application, applicants acknowledge and consent to the collection, use, processing and disclosure of their personal data by Hasanah for purposes related to the evaluation and administration of the programme. All personal data will be managed in accordance with applicable data protection laws and Hasanah's Privacy Policy.