



**Natan 2017-2018  
Request for Proposals  
Economic Development in Israel Grants**

***About Natan***

The Natan Fund<sup>1</sup> inspires young philanthropists to become actively engaged in Jewish giving by funding innovative projects that are shaping the Jewish future. Natan members pool their funds and bear the risks involved with supporting new and/or undiscovered ideas. They engage in a group educational process in order to fund innovative, creative, and socially meaningful projects, and they make all of Natan's grant decisions collectively.

***Economic Development in Israel***

Natan's 2017-8 grant focus in Israel is Economic Development. Natan grants provide up to \$50,000 to Israeli organizations developing innovative approaches to achieving social impact and economic growth. Natan is particularly interested in supporting the creation and expansion of scalable social businesses - high-impact, smart initiatives with the potential to exert an economic multiplier effect on participants, geographic regions, and/or particular social issues.

Please note that while we appreciate the many different value-added approaches to economic development and social change, because of our venture-oriented approach to philanthropy, we are unlikely to support and thus discourage applications from initiatives that result in limited economic benefit, that lack models for long-term sustainability through generated income, that work with only a few participants each year, and/or that do not exhibit significant impact beyond the benefit provided directly to program participants.

***Applying for a Grant***

Natan invites letters of inquiry for its 2016-17 Economic Development in Israel grants from nonprofits and social businesses with an annual operating budget of \$1.5 million or less.

In the spirit of "venture philanthropy," Natan is especially interested in supporting startups and fledgling organizations that have not yet received significant support from

---

<sup>1</sup>The Natan Fund is named in memory of JJ Greenberg (1965-2002), a Jewish communal leader and a friend to many of Natan's founding members. "Natan" is derived from the verb "to give" in Hebrew.

major funders and that are independent from larger institutions and organizational structures. Natan seeks to catalyze and support innovation that begins on the margins of the mainstream institutional system; thus local affiliates of national organizations and organizations with strong, established brands and/or long track records are unlikely to be funded.

Natan is also seeking to support organizations that are focused as much on developing adaptable and replicable new models as they are on their own organizational needs, with the goal of generating systemic change. While Natan will support initiatives with a local focus, such initiatives should manifest a unique approach that could be replicated in other communities, a vision for broadscale change, exceptional leadership, and/or a desire to scale up beyond the local community in the near future.

*Initiatives may apply for one-year grants of up to US\$50,000, though most grant awards are in the \$25,000 - \$50,000 range. Grantees have the opportunity to apply for renewals beyond the initial year of funding, and most Natan grants are renewed for at least three years.*

### **Eligibility**

Israel-based nonprofits and social businesses with annual operating budgets of \$1.5 million or less are eligible to apply for Natan grants.

This grant program will not support scholarships or grants to individuals.

The grant year for Natan's Economic Development in Israel grants is July 15, 2017 - June 30, 2018. The first payment (for 2/3 of the total grant award) will be made upon receipt of a signed grant agreement, and the last payment (for the remaining 1/3 of the grant award) will be made upon review of a final report. Grantees will also be required to submit a mid-year report halfway through the grant year.

### **Application Timeline & How to Apply**

This year, we invite organizations to submit a brief Letter of Inquiry (LOI) to share with us your vision and strategy.

- 1) Please use this [online form](#) to complete the LOI, which must be received by **October 1, 2016**.
- 2) In order to prepare your responses, you can view a list of questions [here](#).
- 3) Selected organizations will be invited to submit full proposals. You will be notified by **November 1, 2016** of the status of your application.
- 4) Full proposals will be due by **December 1, 2016**.
- 5) Finalists will be invited to make a presentation to the Economic Development in Israel grant committee by video or in person on Natan's annual Israel Trip - **February 2017**.
- 6) Final decisions will be announced by **July 2017**.

All questions about Natan's Economic Development in Israel grants should be directed to [info@natan.org](mailto:info@natan.org).