

MEPI Leaders Grants FAQs

1. When is the deadline?

There is no deadline. All applications will be reviewed on monthly basis. However, MEPI alumni are encouraged to apply as soon as possible for the available number of awards.

2. What language can I submit my application in?

You can submit your application in English or Arabic.

3. What if I need more than \$3000 for the Professional Development Opportunity?

The \$3000 amount is the maximum that can be allocated for the Professional Development Opportunity. If the opportunity costs more, we encourage you to use other resources or self-funding to complement the professional development cost. .

4. What is required for the application process?

The requirements for the application include a completed and signed application (in English or Arabic), and a proof of opportunity legitimacy like web links or official documents.

5. What if I don't have a concrete idea or opportunity that I'm interested in?

We encourage you to check our pre-recorded webinar for further guidance and assistance to find a professional development opportunity. We also encourage you to look for available professional development opportunities worldwide. You may also take advantage of opportunities to chat with other MEPI alumni, especially in Facebook group discussions or via the MEPI LinkedIn Group to develop your idea. This exchange will also give you a chance to find further support from your fellow alumni.

6. Who do I contact if I have questions?

Please contact the MEPI Alumni Connection team at mepialumni@irex.org.

7. What am I responsible for as the MEPI Leaders Grants Awardee?

The MEPI Leaders Grants Awardee is responsible to IREX for all financial responsibilities and professional development deliverables including a completed Application as well as a signed Terms & Conditions of the Award (T&Cs), a Bank Wire Transfer Form with information from your individual bank account, and a Final Impact Report.

8. What am I allowed to spend my award funds on?

Professional Development

- Enroll in a short course or training;
- Conference or professional development event costs;
- Research costs;
- Technical equipment to enhance community or entrepreneurial work; and
- Magazine subscription related to profession or skills interests.

9. What am I not allowed to spend my award funds on?

- This is an Individual Professional Development award which should be spent only in covering a cost of an opportunity that could build the skills and career growth of Alumni.
- University and studying tuition are not covered under this award.

10. Can I use my award funds for travel?

Travel is permissible with the scope of the opportunity with respect of the local guidelines and procedures related to COVID-19 health and containment precautions. Due to the current global situation, we encourage MEPI alumni to refrain from large gatherings or travel. All alumni must show how they plan to adhere to safety precautions.

11. What are examples of projects I can create or professional development?

Professional Development fund

- Enroll in a short course or training;
- Conference or professional development event costs;
- Research costs;
- Technical equipment to enhance community or entrepreneurial work; and

- Magazine subscription related to profession or skills interests.

12. What resources do I have access to and how do I access those resources?

You have access to resources including documents and learning platforms that will help you when applying for the grant. These resources will be posted to our website for you to access at any time. You can also check our pre-recorded webinar. The MEPI Maktabat library also has several resources that might be of interest to applicants: www.maktabatmepi.org.

13. Are all MEPI alumni eligible to apply?

MEPI Alumni from Algeria, Bahrain, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and Yemen are eligible to apply. We are not able to offer MEPI Alumni Connection activities to all alumni at this time. We encourage you to look for other DOS programs that are open to your country. Materials for other opportunities [may be found here](#), and via your local U.S. embassy's website or social media platform.

14. I am an alumnus of a MEPI program, but my country is not included. Why am I not included?

We are not able to offer MEPI Alumni Connection activities to all alumni at this time.

15. I am a MEPI alum from MENA, but I am currently studying in the U.S., can I still apply for the grant?

Only MEPI alumni residing in Algeria, Bahrain, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, and Yemen are eligible to apply.

16. When will I know if my application was approved?

Approved and rejected applications are expected to be notified on a monthly basis.

17. Does my country allow individuals to receive foreign funds?

Applicants are expected to check on the regulations and procedures related to receiving foreign funding and follow local laws and regulations of countries where their planned project activities or professional development will be implemented.

For more questions and information, please contact the MEPI Alumni Connection team at mepialumni@irex.org.