



Triratna Growth Fund 2015

*Encouraging the growth of the
Triratna Buddhist Community*

Dear Centre Chair, project or group leader,

Greetings from Nandavajra and the Triratna Development Team, I hope this finds you well.

I'm delighted to let you know of the Triratna Growth Fund for 2015 and you're invited to apply, or to pass this on to others who might be interested. The purpose of the Growth Fund is to encourage the growth of the Triratna Community where growth is defined as ***an increase in the numbers of people coming to us to learn basic meditation and Dharma.***

Applications are open to anyone, however we are specifically writing to people who we believe might be interested and we were thinking that you might have a project or know of initiatives around your Centre or group and Sangha that would benefit from a grant from the fund.

In 2015 we have a total of around £7000 available and we envisage this being given in relatively small amounts of up to £1000 each to Triratna projects around the world, excluding India (Karuna have a separate fund for new Dhamma projects in India). Recommendations for which projects to fund will be made by the Growth Fund Committee (Amalavajra, Nandavajra, and Munisha) with the final decisions made by the European Chairs Executive, hopefully by the summer. The money should be available for distribution soon after that.

The criteria for the Fund and more guidance on submitting applications can be found below or by contacting Nandavajra.

The closing date is 30th April 2015.

We look forwards to hearing from you. Please feel free to contact me on nandavajra@triratnadevelopment.org or 01752 895940 if you have any questions.

Yours in the Dharma,

Nandavajra, for the Growth Fund Committee
(Amalavajra, Nandavajra, and Munisha)

Criteria for application to the Growth Fund

1. Grants are to encourage growth (*defined as an increase in the numbers of people coming to us to learn basic meditation and Dharma*)
2. For the purpose of the Growth Fund, the following categories of projects will be consider:
 - a. *existing centres 'giving birth' to new groups and centres in their area*
 - b. *small centres and groups developing existing activities*
 - c. *'outlying' people starting activities where they live*
 - d. *pioneers going to brand new places*
 - e. *growth via the internet*
3. Projects worldwide will be considered with the exception of in India – this is left to the Karuna Dharma Seed Fund
4. Grants are not made to buy or rent property
5. Where an application is from an individual in relation to a Centre, the application should be submitted by the Centre
6. Applications for mindfulness-based 'therapies', prison visiting, education etc. will not be considered – the fund will prioritise 'direct' methods

Further Guidelines for applications

- We want to prioritise those activities that are most effective in doing this. bring new people into contact with the movement through Dharma and meditation teaching.
- We want to avoid supporting projects that have existing or alternative sources of funding.
- We don't envisage making grants for land purchase or construction work.
- We are particularly keen to support proposals that show good planning, local fundraising, a proven track-record and good links with other parts of the movement. We want projects to be sustainable and to have a long-term future.

How to Apply

Applications should be made by email to Nandavajra (nandavajra@triratnadevelopment.org). There is no 'application form' to complete, but applicants are asked to review and follow the guidelines below.

Application Guidelines

The guidelines specify what we need to know about the project itself and how you see it fitting the fund's aims.

Please make sure your application covers all the following areas - please also feel free to send additional information if you think it would be helpful to us. However please do remember that often "less is more" – pages and pages of minute detail about last year's accounts are not especially helpful!

Areas to cover

People

- 1 Your name and contact details
- 2 Name of your project
- 3 Who is involved?
- 4 If there are several of you, what are your links with one another?
- 5 What are your links with outside sources of support eg mentors, supporters, KMs?

Project

- 6 What do you want to do? Please give a thorough description.
- 7 What are your aims? How will you measure success? How will this project help 'grow' the Movement?
- 8 How sustainable is your project, after any funding we may be able to offer has been spent?
- 9 What are your plans for your project if the Growth Fund says no?

Money

- 10 How much are you asking for? (in UK £sterling)
- 11 Have you approached anyone else for funding? If so who, and what was the outcome?
- 12 Are you open to part-funding? If so, which part of your proposal would you prioritize?
- 13 Can you summarise the financial details of your project?
- 14 Do you expect to be asking for more next year?
- 15 Is your project registered in any formal way eg as a charity or branch of a charity? If so, who are your Trustees?
- 16 Will there be any difficulty passing the money to you?

Timetable for Decisions

The deadline for applications is 30th April. The Growth Fund Committee will make a recommendation to the ECA Executive hopefully in June. Grants should be available shortly after that.

Project reports

Projects receiving grants will be asked for a project report in 2016.