



natan

**Natan 2015-2016
Request for Proposals
Economic Development in Israel Grants**

About Natan

The Natan Fund* 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 Economic Development in Israel grants focus on nonprofit organizations that support the development of revenue-generating enterprises and the creation of double and triple bottom-line financial vehicles as a new approach to sustainably achieve social impact and economic growth in Israel's social and geographic periphery.

Organizations supported through this grant program might include:

- nonprofits that develop a meaningful, scalable social business that supports their mission and financial stability;
- nonprofits that support the creation, growth, and capacity of revenue-generating social enterprises;
- platforms that take a new approach to impact investments and social businesses as a strategy to enhance social impact via business activities and financial investments.

Natan recognizes and values the many different value-added approaches to economic development. Because of Natan's venture-oriented, transformation-driven approach to philanthropy, we are principally interested in supporting organizations that focus on **high-impact, transformational initiatives** with the potential to exert an **economic multiplier effect** above and beyond the benefit provided directly to the targets of the programs themselves.

Applying for a Grant

*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.

Natan invites proposals for its 2015-16 Economic Development in Israel grants from initiatives 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 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 Jewish organizational world; thus local affiliates of national organizations and organizations with strong brands and/or long track records in the Jewish communal world 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 for the Jewish people and the State of Israel. 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 initiatives with annual operating budgets of \$1.5 million or less are eligible to apply for Natan grants. Applicants must be recognized as a tax-exempt organization under the appropriate sections of the United States or Canadian tax code or have a fiscal sponsor with such standing.

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

The grant year for Natan’s Economic Development in Israel grants is July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016. 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 Format

Please go to <https://www.grantinterface.com/natanfund/Common/LogOn.aspx> to submit a Letter of Inquiry.

Please do not send hard copies of any materials, including CDs or DVDs, unless Natan requests such materials.

Application Timeline

- 1) Proposals must be received by **Wednesday, January 7, 2015**.
- 2) Natan will choose finalists by **March 1, 2015**. 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 – March 2015.
- 3) Final decisions will be announced by **June 1, 2015**.

All questions about Natan's Economic Development in Israel grants should be directed to Jackie Fishman, Assistant Director, at jackie@natan.org.