

Applying to the Mack Ness Fund 2024-2025

The Mack Ness Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater MetroWest NJ (JCF) is a philanthropic fund that is helping to advance the Israel's Negev region. Annually, the Mack Ness Fund awards grants, to NGO's and Amutot that support strategic efforts and projects that increase and strengthen the region's population, advance communities and innovation, and spur economic growth.

Grant Period: July 1, 2024- June 30, 2025

The grant duration is one year. However, the Mack Ness Fund will consider funding for a second or third year, depending upon performance and growth potential.

Timeline for the Mack Ness Fund- 2024-2025 Grant Process- Both Tracks – Update

Prospective grantee meeting: **October 8, 2023** at 9:30 register [here](#)

The grant period: July 1, 2024 -June 30, 2025

Letter of Intent (LOI) Application Deadline: October 19, 2023, at 24:00!

Responses to LOI: November 20, 2023, via email

Full Application Deadline: December 10, 2023, at 24:00!

Site visits for finalists: March 3-7, 2024

Grant award announcement: on or before May 15, 2024.

Requirements for Applying

All organizations applying for funding **must have** registered Amuta status in Israel and must have Nihul Takin status with the Registrar of NGOs (Rasham HaAmutot).

For the Mack Ness Fund Grants 2024-2025, there are two tracks:

Track 1- General Grant Cycle for NGO's and Amutot

Track 2 - Strategic collaborative projects for NGO'S, Amutot, AND involvement of municipalities.

Track 1 General Grant Cycle: for NGO'S and "Amutot"Only

Priorities

The Mack Ness Fund Track 1- seeks proposals from Negev-based non-profit institutions with a clear vision for promoting economic development and a targeted, clear approach that will grow and enhance the quality of life of the region's population.

- We encourage applications from start-up, new organizations or returning projects that have been successful with a prior grant and are expanding significantly.
- We seek **pilot programs and expansion projects** that are innovative, likely to be impactful, replicable and scalable.
- The application should specify need/issues that are a part of a complex ecosystem related to growth and sustainability of the broad Negev region and/or local municipalities,
 - goals and how these are related to economic development,
 - strategies and methodologies to be employed,
 - short term changes and vision of long-term impact of the project on the broad Negev region and/or local municipalities,
 - target population that will benefit, and
 - partners to be associated with the initiative.
- Priority will be given to proposals that describe
 - A strong leader/lead individuals who have vision, track-record of success, and ability to complete the work in a timely fashion.
 - Committed partner organizations. There should be a clear plan, commitments, and intended benefits to the partners.
 - Leveraging funding from different funding sources, public and private is important to the reviewers.
- **For this track**, involvement of municipal leaders, quasi- governmental or governmental bodies, and other key leaders in the community is encouraged but not required.
- While the Fund permits submissions for a second or third year to expand these efforts, the applicants will need to demonstrate their plan for sustainability of the program when Mack Ness funding ends.

Letter of Intent- due

A first step in applying, is to submit a brief Letter of Intent, describing your proposed project, by-----
---, to odelia@jfedgmw.org.il. Your letter should include all the following information, **in no more than two pages**:

- Title: Track 1, and Name of program for which you are requesting support
- Contact person and information
- Organization name and address,
- What is the parent organization's annual budget:
- Amuta Number: Amutah status in Israel:

- Year established and current mission: Note the year established and summarize your organization's mission (2-3 sentences)
- Phase of project (select one and describe): start up, scaling up, continuing to expand with new partners or enhancements, working toward sustainability, other.
- Needs. Specify 2-3 distinctive, salient needs and/or issues that you plan to address.
- Project Description.
 - o List and describe three key goals and activities associated with your project, and how your project will meet these needs/issues.
 - o Tell how and when you will achieve your goals, and ways that your proposed project is unique, innovative, interesting, meaningful and timely.
 - o Describe the long-term vision of your proposed initiative.
 - o Indicate measurable results at specific points in time and ways that you will monitor and measure results. How do you intend to iterate improvements?
 - o Geographic focus: Which cities/towns/regional councils will be targeted?
 - o Describe target audiences and number of projected beneficiaries/programs.
 - o Describe any foreseeable challenges.
- Partnership: List and describe organizations and/or municipalities that have agreed to partner with your organization/you on this project? Describe their roles and responsibilities.
- Outreach and promotion: How will the project be marketed to both prospective participants and the communities? How will results be shared, how often, and to whom?
- Budget and Funding Request (please list in \$US):
 - o Overall (full) budget,
 - o Intended specific request from the Mack Ness Fund.
 - o Amount the parent organization contribute.
 - o Other funding will be used -note if confirmed or pending.

Track 2 Strategic Grant Cycle for Municipalities and Amotot

Priorities

The Mack Ness Fund Track 2- Track 2 is a more strategic track than Track 1. It is intended to support Amutot working collaboratively with their municipalities with initiatives and programs that will meet local strategic economic issues/needs and will spur significant cultural, economic and population growth. The goals and aims of this project must coincide with newly produced municipal strategic/Master plans, recent research studies and/or seek to augment municipal resources and/or lead to or support an application for government tenders.

Amutot/NGO's and municipalities are expected to create one or more new or expanded strong partnerships, with agreements as to participants' efforts, to achieve the proposed project plans and achieve the desired impacts on a targeted area/issue of the economic development ecosystem in the

Negev. The funding aims to impact a large portion of the population, or region, and be critically needed now. Clear commitment by leaders of the partner organizations and ways of leveraging Ness grant funding from the Amuta/NGO, municipality and other associations will be key in the selection of grant recipients in Tract 2.

Letter of Intent- due OCT 19, 2023

Please submit a **3-page** letter of intent by October 19 ,2023, to <mailto:odelia@jfedgmw.org.il> Your letter should include all the following information:

- Title: Track 2, and Name of program for which you are requesting support
- Contact person and information
- Organization name and address,
- Name and address of the relevant municipality (or regional council).
- Amuta status of organization in Israel renewal date: (for the main amuta, that the funding will be awarded)
- Year established and current mission: Note the year established and summarize your organization's mission (2-3 sentences)
- Phase (select one and describe): start up, scaling up, continuing to expand, working toward sustainability,
- What are the distinctive needs and/or issues that your program plans to address, and why is it unique, innovative, meaningful, and groundbreaking? How it is relevant and important to the municipality's strategic plan I the next 5 or 10 years?
- Project
 - o Articulate a Strategic Vision for your project, the strategic plan or study that this addresses,
 - o Description of target audiences and number of projected beneficiaries/program.
 - o Geographic focus: Which cities/towns/regional councils will be targeted? One- two focused and critical issues to address, three specific goals of changes to be made or opportunities to pursue with anticipated results, and activities that will occur to pursue these goals.
 - o Indicate an ecosystem associated with this project related to economic development,
 - o Please provide two-three measurable indicators that will be used in the evaluation process for each goal and who will be responsible.
 - o Describe the current demand for this project and marketing to ensure success of this program and awareness of the program in the community.
 - o How will results be shared, how often, and to whom? Do you anticipate
 - o Describe relevance of the project's outcomes to Ness mission.
- Timeline: What is the timeline for this program and when do you anticipate key goals will be achieved?
- Partnership:

- Describe the role of the municipality and other organizations in developing the proposal, fulfilling the goals of the grant, management, oversight and promotion?
 - Who are the key individuals- list by name and title -
- What challenges do you foresee?
- Budget and Funding Request (please list in \$US):
 - Overall (full) budget,
 - Intended specific request from the Mack Ness Fund,
 - Amount the parent organization contribute,
 - Other funding will be used -note if confirmed or pending.

GOOD LUCK!