

1.0 BACKGROUND

Yayasan Hasanah's ("Hasanah") vision is to drive large-scale social impact for a more inclusive and progressive Malaysia. This is achieved through a grants program focused on five key impact areas: Education, Community Development, Environment, Arts and Public Spaces, and Knowledge. These areas align with Hasanah's long-term commitment to nation-building and are grounded in the core values of Accountability, Respect, Trust, and Innovation.

Hasanah operates through a network of local champions, including civil society organizations, social enterprises, government agencies, and communities, to ensure cohesive, impactful initiatives. The local ecosystem approach strengthens community ownership, leadership, and relevance of solutions. Hasanah's initiatives have catalysed transformative social impact, with a focus on sustainable, long-term outcomes.

Arts for All Seasons (ArtsFAS) is a grant programme by Yayasan Hasanah that supports initiatives focused on Malaysia's arts, heritage, and cultural traditions.

At Yayasan Hasanah, we recognise that **heritage arts form an important part of Malaysia's national identity**. These include traditional crafts, performing arts, oral traditions, visual arts, culinary traditions, and other heritage arts and cultural knowledge that have been passed down through generations and continue to shape Malaysia's cultural landscape.

Originally launched during the COVID-19 pandemic to support artists and cultural practitioners during a challenging period, ArtsFAS has since evolved into a programme that strengthens Malaysia's **arts and heritage ecosystem**.

Through ArtsFAS, Yayasan Hasanah supports projects that:

- Preserve and document heritage arts
- Transfer artistic skills and cultural knowledge to the next generation
- Strengthen communities and practitioners working in heritage arts
- Create opportunities for Malaysian cultural practitioners to share their work with the public

ArtsFAS welcomes applications from **Malaysian artists, artisans, cultural practitioners, and organisations** committed to sustaining Malaysia's heritage arts for future generations.

1.1 PRIORITIES WITHIN HASANAH'S IMPACT AREAS

As part of our refreshed strategy and Theory of Change for 2026 - 2030, we have refocused the priorities to drive deeper interventions in each of our Impact Areas. As such, proposals that align to these sets of priorities will see a greater chance of success, therefore, we encourage you to read the details to ensure relevance of your proposal to what we are seeking for in this 2026 grant cycle.

To guide your application, we have included below the objective as well as the scope of projects that we may support for Arts and Public Spaces pillar under this year's grant cycle.

ARTS & PUBLIC SPACES

Objective 2:

Creating platform for creative economy through Arts for All Seasons (ArtsFAS)

Types of projects supported under this objective:

- **Knowledge & Skills Transmission:** Projects that support the **transfer of artistic skills and cultural knowledge** from experienced practitioners to new learners or younger generations.
- **Community-Led Heritage Projects:** Projects where **local communities actively lead and participate in preserving and strengthening their cultural traditions.**
- **Documentation & Cultural Knowledge Preservation:** Projects that **record, archive, or share heritage knowledge and cultural practices** for future learning and reference.
- **Cultural Leadership & Capacity Building:** Projects that strengthen **leadership, coordination, and organisational capacity within the heritage arts sector.**
- **Cultural Showcases & Public Platforms:** Projects that provide **opportunities for Malaysian artists, artisans, and cultural practitioners to share their work and cultural knowledge with the public.**

Location:

Nationwide, priority consideration is given to identified heritage districts, including Terengganu, Kelantan, Perlis, Perak, Kedah, and Sabah.

1.2 GUIDING RULES

The following section sets out the criteria for the submission, selection and implementation of the initiatives supported by Hasanah:

1.2.1. Eligible Applicant

NO	SUBJECT	REQUIREMENTS
1	Applicant interested in applying must satisfy all the following criteria (a)-(d):	<p>a. Legal Registration The applicant must be a registered entity under one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Registrar of Societies Act 1966 ii. Companies Act 2016 and Business Act 1956 (Sole Proprietorship, Partnership, Limited Liability Partnership (LLP), Private Limited Company (Sdn Bhd, Berhad)) iii. Social Enterprises with Ministry of Entrepreneurship and Cooperatives Development (MECD) iv. Trustees (Incorporation) Act 1952 v. Trade Licensing Ordinance (Sabah) vi. Profession and Trade Licensing Ordinance (Sarawak) <p>b. Minimum Operational History Officially registered and active for at least One (1) year prior to applying for Hasanah’s grant award. If the organisation was previously operating under a different name, the applicant must provide supporting documentation to verify the organisation continuity. The latest financial statement is also required as part of the application.</p> <p>c. Project Readiness Able to demonstrate organisational capacity, operational structure, and readiness to immediately implement the proposed project upon grant approval.</p>
2	Additional Applicant Guideline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Multiple Applications: An organisation may participate as a co-applicant in other applications while submitting its own. ii. Eligibility of Social Enterprises: Social enterprises defined as registered organisations or companies whose primary mission is to advance a social cause while maintaining a sustainable revenue stream are eligible to apply.

NO	SUBJECT	REQUIREMENTS
		<p>iii. Public Institutions & Consultancies: Public institutions and consultancy firms may apply, but only as co-applicants, partnering with a civil society organisation (CSO) that will act as the core applicant.</p> <p>iv. Repeat Applications: Organisations that have previously received Hasanah grants may reapply, provided that the proposed initiative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Introduces new elements or expanded outcomes beyond previously funded projects; or b) Represents a scalable continuation of a successfully completed project, with a clear strategy for expansion or deeper impact. c) The ArtsFAS project is limited to supporting Malaysian artists only. d) Each applicant can submit only one (1) application per calendar year. If the application is unsuccessful, they may submit a new application after the result of the first application has been released.

1.2.2 Eligible Projects

ArtsFAS supports projects that contribute to the development and sustainability of Malaysia’s arts, heritage, and cultural ecosystem, in one or more of the following areas:

Type of Programme	Objective
<p>Knowledge & Skills Transmission</p>	<p>Projects that support the transfer of artistic skills and cultural knowledge from experienced practitioners to new learners or younger generations.</p> <p>Examples of Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master–apprentice mentorship programmes • Heritage dance or music training • Traditional craft skill development programmes • Artisan-led structured workshops <p>What We Expect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear learning outcomes • Structured teaching or mentorship • Evidence of participants developing new skills <p>Not Prioritised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-off workshops/ performance without structured learning • Demonstrations without knowledge transfer
<p>Community-Led Heritage Projects</p>	<p>Projects where local communities actively lead and participate in preserving and strengthening their cultural traditions.</p> <p>Examples of Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revitalisation of traditional crafts or performing arts within communities • Community-run cultural spaces or village cultural hubs • Local cultural gatherings that share heritage knowledge <p>What We Expect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active involvement of community members in planning and implementation • Strong cultural relevance to the local community • Potential for continuity beyond the grant period <p>Not Prioritised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-off festivals without community participation • Cultural events without involvement of local practitioners

<p>Documentation & Cultural Knowledge Preservation</p>	<p>Projects that record, archive, or share heritage knowledge and cultural practices for future learning and reference.</p> <p>Examples of Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage documentation projects • Textile or craft knowledge archives • Cultural video documentation • Publications or educational resources <p>What We Expect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear outputs such as publications, digital archives, videos, or toolkits • Knowledge that is accessible to practitioners, students, or the public <p>Not Prioritised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documentation without public dissemination • Personal portfolios or promotional materials
<p>Cultural Leadership & Capacity Building</p>	<p>Projects that strengthen leadership, coordination, and organisational capacity within the heritage arts sector.</p> <p>Examples of Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training programmes for cultural organisers or heritage leaders • Networks or collectives of artisans and cultural practitioners • Cultural mapping initiatives • Programmes connecting practitioners with communities <p>What We Expect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration with practitioners or cultural groups • Development of leadership or organisational capacity • Strengthening of cultural networks or ecosystems <p>Not Prioritised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolated events without long-term sector development
<p>Cultural Showcases & Public Platforms</p>	<p>Projects that provide opportunities for Malaysian artists, artisans, and cultural practitioners to share their work and cultural knowledge with the public.</p> <p>Examples of Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural festivals featuring heritage practitioners • Artisan showcases or craft platforms • Programmes introducing emerging practitioners to wider audiences

	<p>What We Expect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meaningful visibility for cultural practitioners• Public engagement with heritage arts• Curated programmes highlighting Malaysian cultural traditions <p>Not Prioritised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commercial events without cultural development focus• Events where practitioners are only performers
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Examples of previously supported projects are available on the ArtsFAS website and the eligibility of the project as per table: -

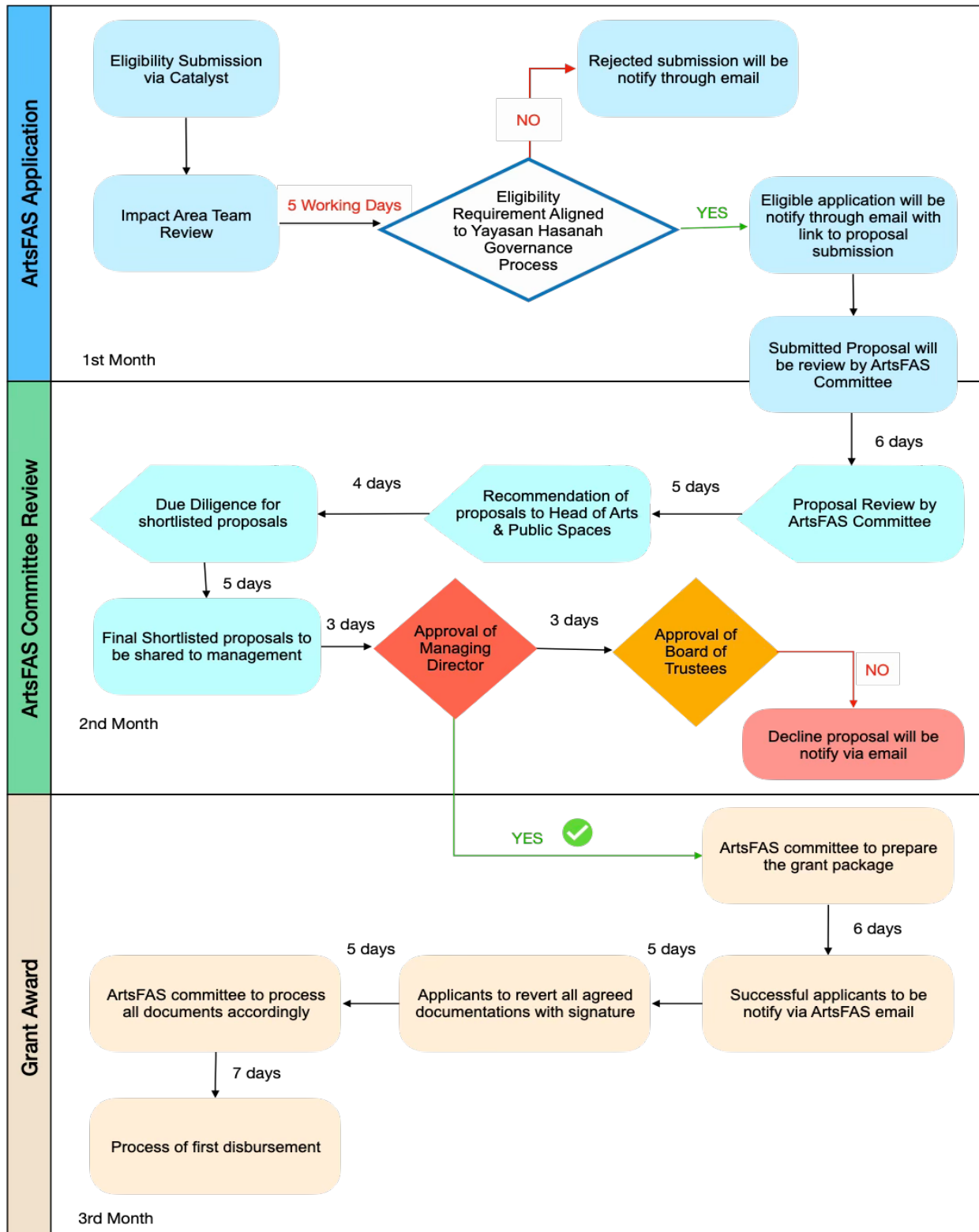
No	Descriptions	Requirements
1.	Project Eligibility Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Audience Engagement: Projects should actively engage the public, either through participation, interaction, or experiential learning. b. Community Involvement & Outreach: Initiatives that involve local communities, foster collaboration, and extend reach to underserved groups are highly encouraged. c. Cultural and Economic Impact: Projects should contribute to the preservation, promotion, and evolution of Malaysia’s cultural identity, while creating meaningful livelihood opportunities and strengthening the creative economy. d. Sustainability: Projects that show potential for long-term impact, continuity beyond the grant period, or capacity-building for future initiatives are preferred. e. Educational Component: Projects that include a knowledge-sharing or skills transfer element, where practitioners showcase their skills and craft to the public, are encouraged. f. Diversity Representation: Projects that reflect Malaysia’s multicultural diversity and promote inclusivity are highly valued. g. Innovation and Sustainability of Heritage: Projects that contribute to the continued practice, transmission, and long-term sustainability of heritage are encouraged, including through innovative approaches that strengthen relevance in contemporary contexts.
2.	Non-Eligible Initiatives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Direct donations or grants to individuals. b. Sponsorships for individual participation in courses, workshops, seminars, or conferences. c. Initiatives unrelated to Hasanah’s Impact Areas (e.g. general healthcare projects). d. Politically affiliated projects or campaigns. e. Initiatives centred primarily on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Construction or commercial property acquisition/renovation. ii. Equipment purchases for commercial purposes. iii. Charitable donations or profit-driven ventures. iv. Projects already funded by a Hasanah grant prior to the signing of a new contract. v. Faith-based activities.
3.	Non-Eligible Costs:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Customs duties, import taxes, or related charges.

<p>Hasanah will only fund eligible, reasonable, and cost-effective expenses. The following costs are not eligible:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Land or building purchases, or leases. c. Fines, penalties, or legal expenses. d. Bank charges, guarantee fees, and similar financial costs. e. Currency exchange losses or conversion fees. f. Contributions in kind. g. Depreciation costs. h. Debts and debt servicing. i. Provisions for future losses or liabilities. j. Loans or credits to third parties. k. Salary costs for personnel of national or public administrations. l. Participation of international artists or international logistical arrangements
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1.2 HOW TO APPLY

For a step-by-step guide on how to apply using our online grant portal, please click on the link available on ArtsFAS Grants page at <https://artsfas.org>. The flowchart below depicts ArtsFAS grant application process.

ArtsFAS Application Process



Note: the timeline is subject to further changes and the discretion of Hasanah

No	Step	Descriptions	Requirements
1.	Step 1: Eligibility Assessment	Determine applicant eligibility via the Hasanah grant portal once the grant cycle opens.	<p>a. Copy of registration certificate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Registrar of Societies Act 1966 ii. Companies Act 2016 and Business Act 1956 (Sole Proprietorship, Partnership, Limited Liability Partnership (LLP), Private Limited Company (Sdn Bhd, Berhad)) iii. Social Enterprises with Ministry of Entrepreneurship and Cooperatives Development (MECD) iv. Trustees (Incorporation) Act 1952 v. Trade Licensing Ordinance (Sabah) vi. Profession and Trade Licensing Ordinance (Sarawak) <p>b. Minimum 1 year's registration. If previously under a different name, evidence of operations for at least 1 years required.</p> <p>c. Copy of latest 3 months bank statement.</p> <p>d. Grants Team will review eligibility and notify via email with login credentials if successful.</p>
2.	Step 2: Creating an Organisation Profile	Register an account for first time applicant on the Hasanah grant portal and create your organisation profile.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Profile includes organisation details and company profile/ portfolio with previous project information. b. Step-by-step instructions provided on the portal c. Profile can be updated anytime.

No	Step	Descriptions	Requirements
3.	Step 3: Completing the Application Form	Complete and submit the Application Form and required documents.	a. Application must be in English or Bahasa Malaysia. b. Additional required documents: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Pitch Deck ii. Budget and Implementation Plan

Applicants may request further clarification during the application process. **Questions may be sent by email to artsfas@hasanah.org.my no later than five (5) working days before the deadline.**

To ensure equal treatment of applicants, ArtsFAS committee cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of applicants or a proposal.

1.3 REVIEW AND SELECTION OF APPLICANTS

Grant applications will be reviewed by the ArtsFAS Committee and deliberated during the ArtsFAS Committee review meeting.

All applicants will be assessed on:

- Relevance and alignment of projects to Arts & Public Spaces pillar, specifically our 2026 priorities as stipulated in item 1.1
- Costs and budgets
- Delivery and implementation capacity and capability

1.4 NOTIFICATION OF HASANAH'S DECISION

Only shortlisted applications will be informed for the team to conduct Due diligence exercise. Finding from Due Diligence and recommendations will be deliberated at the ArtsFAS Committee Review Meeting. Following the decision to award a grant, applicants will be offered a contract based on ArtsFAS Grant Agreement.

1.5 FUND DISBURSEMENT

Following the decision to award a grant, applicants will be offered a contract, based on Hasanah's Grant Agreement template, which will include the partners' proposal, work plan, and reporting schedules. Hasanah's team will be in touch with you to discuss the grant disbursements according to the project timeline, expected deliverables, and tranches.

1.6 MONITORING AND REPORTING

All progress updates and final report submissions must be submitted online to a portal using the templates provided by Hasanah.

1.7 LEGAL TERMS & DISCLAIMER

Hasanah provides this Grant Guideline for informational purposes only, and the following legal provisions apply:

1.7.1 No Guarantee of Grant Award

Meeting the eligibility criteria, submitting complete documentation, or being invited to proceed to due diligence does not constitute a guarantee that a grant will be awarded. Hasanah retains full discretion in the evaluation and approval of all applications, including the right to reject any application without assigning any reason.

1.7.2 Right to Amend, Suspend, or Cancel

Hasanah reserves the right to amend, suspend, or cancel the ArtsFAS 2026 programme, in whole or in part, at any time and without prior notice. This includes changes to the eligibility requirements, scope of support, deadlines, funding availability, review process, or terms of the grant.

1.7.3 Discretion in Evaluation

All decisions made by Hasanah regarding eligibility, evaluation scores, due diligence findings, and final approvals are final and non-contestable. Hasanah shall not be held liable for any costs incurred by applicants in preparing or submitting grant applications, participating in the due diligence process, or in any other related engagement.

1.7.4 Risk and Compliance

Applicants are encouraged to conduct risk assessments as part of their proposal development. This includes identifying and mitigating operational, financial, environmental, legal, or reputational risks. Hasanah will not be liable for any losses arising from factors including but not limited to:

- i. Changes in governmental policies;
- ii. Environmental conditions;
- iii. Economic disruptions or force majeure events;
- iv. Non-compliance by grantees with legal or regulatory obligations.

1.7.5 Accuracy of Information

Applicants are responsible for ensuring the accuracy and truthfulness of all information and supporting documents submitted to Hasanah. Any misrepresentation, falsification, or withholding of material facts may result in immediate disqualification or termination of the grant agreement, if awarded.

1.7.6 Confidentiality and Intellectual Property

All application materials will be treated with confidentiality. However, by applying, applicants acknowledge and agree that Hasanah may internally share proposals with its evaluation committees, partners, and funding agencies. Intellectual property rights in all project proposals remain with the applicant, except where otherwise stipulated in a separate agreement.