

Goethe-Institut Project Space (GPS)

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: What kind of projects are supported as part of GPS?

GPS is envisioned as a non-commercial, artist-centered free platform, designed to support artists and their projects, as well as the many structures that exist. The GPS programme will support work realised all over South Africa ranging from workshops to exhibitions, events and performances; including visual art, literature, film, music, dance and theatre projects of all descriptions.

Q2: What kind of space am I expected to find?

The idea of a multi-disciplinary roving project space such as GPS is that the platforms and festivals that currently exist, and need partnerships of this nature in order to continue their work, are supported. The definition of 'space' is however a broad one, and could include conventional ones such as theatres, museums, community halls, as well as other kinds, such as public space, and even work based online. In short, any kind of space in which a project can take place will be looked at.

Q3: What kind of space will most likely be considered?

All spaces, conventional or not, will be equally considered. It is important that the artist is thoughtful in their decision, and can convince the jury (in their application) of the appropriateness of the space for the project. The relationship between a representative of the space, and the project coordinator/artist, submitting the project, must be made clear. They need to jointly enter into an agreement as a part of the application.

Q4: What will the role of the partner institution, or space be?

Partnership is at the core of the GPS project. Proposals will be looked at not only in terms of the work itself, but also the space for which it is intended: considering the appropriateness and track record of the proposed partner. Therefore, the role of the partner is to provide a space in which the project can be realised, and to support the artist and their production, ideally with expertise and infrastructure.

Q5: What details should be confirmed in the letter of commitment?

The letter of commitment should state clearly that the representative of the space is aware of the proposal, and will provide the project with the support it needs to be realised, should the application be accepted. The GPS grant supports both the hosting space and the project itself.

Q6: How much of the budget is allocated to the space, and how much to the artist or project?

This is to be negotiated between the hosting space and the project itself. The Goethe-Institut will be making payment directly to the project artist or coordinator, who submitted the proposal.

Q7: Can additional funding be requested?

The Goethe-Institut offers financial support for chosen projects to the maximum amount of R70 000. Should the budget exceed this amount, the artist/project team should seek further support - information of which should be included in the budget plan of the application form. No additional funding will be made available.

Q8: What is a financial cover plan?

It is a full budget of the project showing where additional funding support if the project exceeds GPS grant.

Q9: If an artist who lives outside of South Africa's proposal is selected, is their travel costs supported?

The Goethe-Institut will support up to half of their economy flight ticket cost in order for the artist to be present to realise the project. The rest of their travel costs will need to be raised by other means. This only applies to the applicant who is essential in producing the project, and not to cast members, or artists included in group exhibition proposals.

Q10: What kind of marketing is expected? How does the Goethe-Institut support PR?

How and where the artist chooses to advertise their project is entirely up to them. It is important for the artist to consider who their audience is, and the best way to reach them. The Goethe-Institut will publish details of the project on their website, in their programme brochure, and send information via their newsletter and social media channels.

The Goethe-Institut needs to approve all promotional material, including press releases and invitations related to the project before anything goes to print, or is electronically or otherwise distributed.

It is important that the artist submits high resolution images for print, text about the project with dates and venue 3 months before the realisation of their project in order for the Goethe-Institut to support PR with all their channels.

Q11: Can I show the same work after the GPS supported project has taken place?

There are no restrictions in showing the work again in other contexts. The Goethe-Institut and the GPS project must however be acknowledged in all subsequent showings of the work, and mentioned in all related press.

Q12: How is copyright and ownership dealt with?

Work produced is the property of the artist, and the copyright remains theirs, with the understanding that the Goethe-Institut may use images, text or audio-visual material as part of their public relations.

Q13: Should the application form be filled and submitted by partner, or by the artists?

The artists will be responsible for completing and submitting the application. The applicant/s could be an individual, organization or a collective.

Q14: How many applications can I hand in?

Only one project proposal per artist will be considered by the jury. If an artist is a confirmed collaborator on another application, they cannot apply on their own.

Q15: When can I expect feedback on my project?

Once the Goethe-Institut received your application, we will send a confirmation of receipt via email. We will communicate the results of the jury session by end of November 2022. No further correspondence or discussion will be entered into once the decision has been communicated.

Q16: Why was my/our project not selected?

The jury select the project according to how feasible the project will be and if the application meet the criteria; based of how concise the summary, description and objective are; a realistic timeline and budget to realise the project; commitment and professional background of collaborators and partners; nature of topic or theme of a project; a space and project that has a connection to community and audience where the project will take place ; and most important the artist value or quality of the project.

Please refer to the checklist to make sure only the relevant documents are submitted.