

The Edith M Ellis 1985 Charitable Trust

War Resisters' International

#1CFRTVWVZP submitted on 14 January 2022

1.1 Please summarise what you are seeking from us

War Resisters' International (WRI) is a global pacifist network, made up of nearly 100 organisations in 40 countries, taking action against war and its causes. We seek funds to sustain our collaboration with nonviolent activists in West Papua, identifying weapons, military equipment and training provided by governments to the Indonesian state and used to oppress communities and nonviolent movements in West Papua. To do this we will recruit and train a new volunteer research network.

1.2 Tell us more about your project, the impact it will have on those it aims to help, and why you consider the proposed approach to be innovative

West Papua is a province of Indonesia whose indigenous population has long sought independence. Indonesian rule followed decolonisation by the Dutch, and a referendum widely considered a sham. The nonviolent movement in West Papua has faced sustained violence from the Indonesian police and military forces, who are armed and trained by governments across the world.

In 2019 and 2020 we were granted seed money by the Network for Social Change and Lush Charity Pot to do work on the human rights situation in West Papua, and the countries and companies supplying weapons, equipment and training. These resources allowed us to concentrate on building relationships, do extensive research on the situation in West Papua, and begin work on a new website collating information, with a particular focus on the companies and government bodies supplying weapons and training to the police and military units accused of taking part in human rights abuses in West Papua.

We have worked closely with colleagues in Australia, Germany, South Korea, New Zealand and elsewhere on this project. We are planning our new website to go live by May 2022, under the banner of the Make West Papua Safe campaign. Make West Papua Safe is currently primarily based in Australia but has strong networks elsewhere, and works closely with human rights defenders in West Papua. WRI has committed to supporting the campaign, by collaborating on specific projects. You can find more information about Make West Papua Safe on their website here: <http://www.makewestpapasafe.org>.

The website will act as a database, illustrating the way international arms companies, alongside state agencies, support the Indonesian security forces with weapons, equipment and training. We have identified a number of companies whose weapons have been used by police and military units based in West Papua. The website will be available for use by researchers, activists and journalists to better understand how human rights abuses are made possible by these supplies.

Our work has been thorough and detailed, and the process has also made clear that there is still extensive work to be done. For example, our limited resources have meant we have been able to make relatively little use of photos and videos published on social media by human rights defenders in West Papua. This is time-consuming work, but would allow us to add significant and important information to our database.

To allow us to further this work we will train a number of volunteers – with an initial target of eight - to significantly increase our capacity to identify the types of weapons and equipment that may be used by Indonesian security forces in West Papua. Volunteers will collaborate with WRI staff and Make West

Papua Safe organises to gather information from a range of sources, including social media, traditional media, arms export databases, freedom of information requests, and other sources, allowing us to continually expand and update the website. In particular, we hope to link more weapons and equipment being used in West Papua in specific human rights abuses. Doing so will allow campaigners, journalists, politicians and other interested parties across the world access to the information they need to advocate on behalf of Papuans.

We will also use this information and resources as we identify ways to support the Make West Papua Safe campaign more widely (for example, with sustained campaigning against specific arms companies). We have already secured a funding pledge of around £7,000 from an individual keen to support the campaigning aspects of our work, on the understanding that we match this funding from other sources, but we are still planning our strategy around this.

1.3 Which grant-giving categories does your project fulfil?

B - Peace-building and conflict resolution

1.3b Peace-building and conflict resolution

This work is being done in direct collaboration with peace activists around the world, in pursuit of aims that would make peace-building and conflict resolution possible. The ongoing violence and oppression in West Papua make a peaceful resolution to the conflict impossible.

1.4 Which country is the project based in?

United Kingdom (GB)

1.5 Will the project continue after initial funding has ended?

Yes

1.5b Please give details of how you plan to continue after initial funding has ended

While our specific plans for our work on West Papua currently last for 2022, we will continue to seek further funds from other sources in the hope of sustaining this work.

1.6 How will the project be monitored and evaluated?

The project will be primarily managed by a WRI staff member, who report on a regular basis to our executive committee, and the wider WRI Council, who provide oversight, evaluation and strategic direction to staff. We will evaluate training sessions with volunteers after the sessions have been run, and we will dedicate time with our partners to evaluate the wider impact of the project.

2.1 Expenditure

EXPENDITURE ITEM	AMOUNT	NOTES
WRI direct staff costs	£2,700	(3 days per month, one year)
Training and resources in weapons identification and research for volunteers (delivered by external trainer)	£1,500	(delivered by external trainer)
Website maintenance	£200	Server costs etc
TOTALS	£4,400	

2.2 Income

INCOME SOURCE	TARGET AMOUNT	AMOUNT RAISED	NOTES
Edith M Ellis Charitable Trust	£4,400	£0	
	£0	£0	

TOTALS	£4,400	£0	
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2.3 What is the total amount (in £ sterling) your organisation is requesting from The Edith M Ellis Trust?

£4,400

2.4 Has your organisation made an application to The Edith M Ellis Trust before?

Yes

2.4b Please provide the date of the previous application

We applied in June 2018 to support our Empowering Nonviolence website

2.4c Was this previous application successful?

Yes

2.4d How much did you receive?

£1,500

2.4e When did you receive the grant?

Nov 2018

2.5 Please state your organisation's annual turnover (in £ sterling)

£100,000

2.6 Do you wish to upload your audited accounts or financial statement?

No

2.7 Please tell us where payment should be made if your application is successful

War Resisters International

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3.1 Your name

Andrew Metheven

3.2 Your contact telephone number

07722 999015

3.3 Your position within the organisation

Nonviolence Programme coordinator

3.4 Your email address

andrew@wri-irg.org

3.5 Organisation name

War Resisters' International

3.6 Please state the status of your organisation

Unincorporated Organisation (NGO)

3.7 Please summarise what your organisation does

I am writing from War Resisters' International (WRI), a global network of pacifist and antimilitarist organisations. Our network is made up of nearly 100 organisations in 40 countries, and we support each other with active solidarity as we take action against war and its causes. The network supports a

small office in London, which runs programmes on projects around conscientious objection, youth militarisation, nonviolence, and war profiteering.

3.8 UK correspondence address for organisation

War Resisters' International,
5 Caledonian Road,
London,
N1 9DX

3.9 UK telephone number

020 7278 4040

3.10 UK charity number (if applicable)

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3.11 Year established

1921

3.12 Website (if applicable)

<http://www.wri-irg.org>

3.13 Social media accounts (if applicable)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/War-Resisters-International/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/warresistersint>

4.1 How did you hear about The Edith M Ellis Trust?

Previous application to The Edith M Ellis Trust