# Call for project proposals on endangered languages 2026

Gesellschaft für bedrohte Sprachen e.V.

The German Association for Endangered Languages (Gesellschaft für bedrohte Sprachen – GBS) offers funding opportunities for the documentation and maintenance of endangered languages and dialects (see GBS charter, §2). This includes, e.g., the publication of material that has already been collected, the collection of data locally, or data collection using digital channels. It is also possible to apply for additional funding as part of a larger project if the use of the additional funding is specified in detail. Individuals and organizations may apply for funding of **up to 1,800 €**.

Applications for funding should include a detailed project description of up to six pages covering the following:

- Degree of endangerment of the language (or variety) under consideration.
- Deliverables (e.g., educational reading materials, video films, word lists, text collections).
- Time schedule.
- Budget details – provide full details about how the funding will be used, including an itemized list of expenses and the total budget in Euros. The GBS cannot process applications without this information.
- Previous relevant work by the applicant(s).
- Related projects – if there are other, related projects (past or ongoing) about the language, please specify how yours is related to these and how it complements these.
- Collaboration with the language community.
- Practical matters (feasibility of the project under local conditions, e.g., regarding transport, contact with the language community, and the like).
- Archiving and possible publication of materials compiled in the course of the project, detailing in particular their accessibility to the language community and other interested parties.

Please note the following:

- If you apply for additional funding within a larger project, GBS funding is to be used for a clearly defined subproject, which ideally produces a specific result (e.g., a dictionary as part of a larger field work project).
- Letters of recommendation by the language community or by persons who are familiar with research in the area can be attached to the application, but are not required.
- If you apply for printing cost subsidies, a(n electronic) copy of the complete manuscript must be presented to the GBS before release of funds.
- GBS funding is primarily provided to projects that have little chance of obtaining funding from other sources. We assume that recipients of large research grants can obtain additional funding from their institutions for projects within the financial scope of GBS-funded projects. We also assume that members of universities can use their universities' equipment for a GBS-funded project.
- If you apply for equipment, please specify how the equipment will be used after the project has ended.
- The GBS expects a short report (maximum 2 pages) upon a project's completion for publication on our website. The GBS reserves the right to use text passages from the application or final report for the website. A brief description written explicitly for the website can be attached to the final report.
- If the funding is not used within two years after approval, it expires.
- Non-members can apply.

The following criteria will be used to evaluate project proposals:

- Relevance and urgency of the project with respect to the GBS' goals and guidelines.
- Coherence and consistency of the proposal with respect to time schedule and budget.
- Feasibility under local conditions and cooperation with language community.
- Clear plan for disseminating the project results and, where applicable, for archiving the collected data.
- Impossibility to obtain funding from other institutions.

The deadline for applications is **October 1, 2026**. We invite applications by mail or, preferably, in one single pdf document as an email attachment. In case of email submission, kindly specify in the subject line "GBS application 2026: [short project title or language name]". Please send your application to:

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Translation from German. In the event of inconsistencies between the German and English versions, only the German version shall apply.