

NFOG Fund report for 2012

The NFOG Fund was established at the NFOG General Assembly at the NFOG congress in Copenhagen in June 2010 with Special Enactment to the articles of NFOG.

The purpose of the NFOG Fund is to support further development of professional skills, research, and clinical and scientific collaboration in the fields of obstetrics and gynecology. The NFOG Fund's trust fund at establishment was 2.062.867 DKK. Sixty-six (66)% of the annual surplus, if any, of NFOG is transferred to the NFOG Fund. Each year an amount not exceeding the annual interests of the trust fund plus the average transferral from NFOG in the four preceding years can be donated. The applications are evaluated by the NFOG Scientific Committee (SC) who makes a written nomination for approval by the NFOG Board. Deadlines for applications are 1. March and 1. October each year.

Previously applications in various categories have been prioritized as follows: 1 Nordic collaborative projects, 2 Nordic speakers for national annual meetings, 3 Clinical visits within the Nordic countries, 4 Nordic courses, 5 Developing country projects, 6 Clinical visits outside of the Nordic countries, 7 Courses outside of the Nordic countries. Valid applications in the lowest category have been capped at 7.000DKK.

March 2012. The budget for 2012 was estimated at 660.000 DKK. There were 16 applications and 10 were suitable for funding in total of 222.101 DKK. The main reasons for not funding applications were proposals outside of the scope of the NFOG-fund, vague or poor applications. It was hoped that a good discussion in Bergen at the next NFOG Congress would stimulate more NFOG members to apply later in the year. The SC discussed the additional changes the NFOG Board had made to the previously proposed changes to the NFOG Fund status to be presented at the next NFOG General Assembly. The SC suggested only minor further changes to be presented at the next NFOG Board meeting in Reykjavik.

October 2012. The budget available for grants was 429.402 DKK. There were 24 applications asking for about 820.000DKK and 22 were found to be suitable for funding in total of 430.535 DKK. One application was incomplete and another outside the scope of the Fund. Some of the budgets were unrealistically high and some included non-NFOG members.

The best way of announcing the Fund in each country was discussed. The chairman prepares the announcement, which is then passed to the members of the SC. The SC members will pass the announcement to the webmaster and/or editor of their national bulletin.

Number of grants in each category

Category		March	October
1-n	Clinical visits in Nordic countries	1	2
1-o	Clinical visits outside Nordic countries	1	6
2	Project developing countries	1	1
3-n	Courses in Nordic countries	1	1
3-o	Courses outside Nordic countries	3	4
4	Nordic collaborative projects	2	7
5	Society's meetings	2	1
		10	22

Further information on each grant can be found on the NFOG web page.

NFOG General Assembly at the NFOG Congress in Bergen in June, all the proposed changes to NFOG Fund status were approved. These changes were mainly made to make the rules clearer and fairer. For instance after how long training NFOG members can apply and what is defined as future activity. There will be less restrictions on grants to the Nordic national societies inviting Nordic speakers to their meetings. Furthermore certain expenses when working in the developing countries can now be funded.

Akureyri 6.4.2013

Alexander Kr Smáráson

Chairman of the NFOG Scientific Committee