Who can apply for the Fund's assistance:

Beneficiaries of the Fund include anyone in the news-reporting business who finds themselves in financial straits as a result of work-related reasons such as:

- forced exile due to threats at home;
- litigation needing help with legal fees;
- medical expenses for injured journalists and:
- travel costs to cover journeys to safety.

Countries of Past Beneficiaries

The IFJ Safety Find has helped journalists and media personnel from many countries including: Albania, Algeria, Angola,

Bangladesh, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Croatia, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Lesotho, Liberia, Kenya, Mongolia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Romania, Russia, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, Venezuela, Vietnam, Yugoslavia (Kosovo and Serbia) and Zimbabwe.

Conditions for Humanitarian Assistance

In order to receive financial assistance, the applicant(s) have to meet the following conditions:

 a genuine need for legal, medical, security and living expenses;

- emergency situation related to the practice of journalism:
- lack of alternative source of income to help meet needs:
- The claim has to be supported, to the extent possible, by IFJ affiliates familiar with the case.

HOW TO APPLY

The request for assistance has to be submitted, with supporting evidence, either to the IFJ regional offices in the applicant's region, or directly to the IFJ Human Rights and Communications Officer in Brussels

The application is assessed and a proposal is submitted to the IFJ General Secretary who can:

- approve the request and allocate, ex officio, the grant to be given (for any amount up to 1000 EUR).
- seek approval of the Safety Board (for amounts over 1000 EUR).
- decline the request on valid reasons.

Upon the request's approval, the Human Rights Officer informs the applicant and/ or, when applicable, the affiliate of the decision and agrees with them the most efficient means of sending the funds to the beneficiary.

The beneficiary is also requested to complete, sign and return the IFJ receipt form which is sent with the notification of the funds' transfer.

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Get to know about the IFJ Safety Fund, a model of solidarity pioneered by journalists.

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 sagaga@ifj.org or log on to our website
 www.ifj.org
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- National IFJ Affiliate

The IFJ is a member of the Journalists in Distress Network, a group of press freedom and freedom of expression organizations which run programmes of humanitarian assistance to journalists and writers. The JID network includes:

Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ)

www.cpj.org

Reporters without Borders (RSF)

www.rsf.org

The Rory Peck Trust www.rorypecktrust.org

Canadian Journalists for Free Expression www.cjfe.org

International PEN

www.international pen.org.uk

World Association on Newspapers www.wan-press.org

Front Line

www.frontlinedefenders.org

International Media Support (IMS)

www.i-m-s.dk

International Press Institute (IPI)

www.freemedia.at

Journalists Helping Journalists www.journalistenhelfen



Photo © REUTERS/Siphiwe Sibeko (SOUTH AFRICA)

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ABOUT THE IFJ SAFETY FUND

Media people involved in newsgathering including editors, reporters. translators, camera operators and drivers all over the world face the risk of violence in their day-to-day work. As guardians of the public interest, journalists and the people who work with them are not trouble makers, nor are they seeking to be heroes. Their job is to follow a story, get the facts and accurately report what is happening.

The IFJ Safety Fund, established in January 1992, provides a lifeline to colleagues around the world who experience violence, threats and injury as a result of the work they do, ensuring help is at hand when most needed.

The IFJ Safety Fund is unique. It is the only journalists' global assistance fund, financed mainly by donations from individual journalists and journalists' organisations. It receives no funding from governments or corporate sponsors.

The IFJ Safety Fund is funded by journalists for journalists and their families.

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