

Call for Applications: Social Enterprise Initiative for Georgia Grants

Background

The International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL) is pleased to announce a Social Enterprise Initiative for Georgia to support reforms efforts to improve legal environment for financial sustainability of civil society and for social enterprise. The Social Enterprise Initiative for Georgia will provide one grant to support the advocacy improve legal environment for financial sustainability of civil society and for social enterprise. ICNL will issue one grant, with the total amount of no more than \$100,000. The expected duration of the activity funded by the grant shall not exceed 18 months. ICNL reserves the right to fund any or none of the applications submitted.

ICNL works with governments, civil society organizations, and the international community in more than 100 countries to improve the legal environment for civic space around the world. We believe that when people have the space to come together, positive, lasting change can be made. To achieve this vision, individuals must be able to join together, speak out and take action to make the world a better place. For over twenty-five years, ICNL has worked hand-in-hand with our partners at all levels to promote and protect an enabling legal environment for civil society. Our international staff includes experts in all aspects of the laws governing free association, assembly, and expression, spanning from the local to global contexts. We also foster a worldwide network of organizations and individuals with in-depth expertise on a diverse range of issues relevant to civil society. Learn more about our work and browse our research at www.icnl.org.

ICNL is inviting written expressions of interest from non-commercial organizations, registered as legal entities in Georgia, who would like to advance legislative reforms and eliminate other impediments in Georgia, which would result in an improved legal environment for civil society financial sustainability and for social enterprise specifically in Georgia. If successful, ICNL will support the candidate in activities dedicated to advocacy for such reforms.

The types of activities that ICNL can support include (but are not limited to):

- Drafting recommendations on changes and amendments to Georgian legislation, which would improve the legal environment for financial sustainability of civil society and for social enterprise in Georgia;

- Preparation of overviews of international practice and other educational and promotional materials on international experience with and values of social enterprise;
- Promotion of and consultations on relevant reforms with CSOs, the business community, government, and parliamentarians, with the purposes to solicit their input in designing necessary changes to legislation, informing them about ongoing reform efforts, and recruiting their support for reforms;
- Training for representatives of CSOs, the business community, government, and parliamentarians on issues relating to social enterprise;
- This list is merely illustrative and ICNL strongly encourages applicants with innovative ideas and approaches not described above to apply.

Application Instructions

To apply for a grant, applicants must submit the following items **in English**:

- Application coversheet (see below);
- Proposal (no more than five pages);
- Resumes/CVs of leading project staff;
- Background information about the applicant organization and/or educational institution (e.g. website links or informational materials);
- Copy of registration certificate confirming the status of a legal entity of the applicant.

Content of Proposal

In five pages or less, please describe your proposal for reforms efforts to improve legal environment for financial sustainability of civil society and for social enterprise in Georgia. The proposal should address the following topics:

- Understanding of what “social enterprise” is;
- Why development of social enterprise requires legal reforms in Georgia? What are the issues with the current legislation and environment which create impediments to the development of social enterprise? How will a legal framework enabling social enterprise and eliminating other impediments benefit the state and civil society?
- Applicant’s experience in participation in law reforms and/or implementation of social enterprise activities;

- Other CSOs, government bodies, and business organizations which will be engaged in the advocacy activities outlined in the application;
- Existing efforts to promote social enterprise in Georgia and plans for collaboration;
- A proposed activity plan with specific goals and a timeline for the development and promotion of adoption of changes to legislation, recognizing that grant activities must be completed no later than November 30, 2020; the forecast for adoption of the relevant legislative changes.

Please also attach a line-item budget (which does not count toward the 5-page limit for the proposal).

Eligibility Requirements

The Social Enterprise Initiative is open to any non-commercial organization, registered in Georgia.

Selection Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on the following factors:

- Compliance with eligibility requirements and application procedures;
- Demonstrated commitment of applicant to promoting reforms to improve the legal environment for financial sustainability of civil society and for social enterprise in Georgia;
- Quality of proposed project, including the innovativeness of the proposal, the proposed methodology/design, feasibility of the project (e.g. activities are targeted to achieve stated results, and anticipated results are realistic and attainable);
- Likelihood that the proposed project will advance reforms to improve the legal environment for financial sustainability of civil society and for social enterprise in Georgia;
- Sustainability of the proposed project beyond the grant period;
- Proposed budget and apparent value for money; and
- Inclusion of reasonable indicators to measure project success.

How to Apply

Interested applicants can apply by completing the application coversheet and submitting it, along with all required documents by email (see instructions below).

Terms of Reference

All grant recipients will be required to submit progress reports during the grant period and a final report on the use of funds, activities conducted, and outcomes of their projects prior to receiving their final grant disbursements. All project activities must be completed no later than November 30, 2020. **Applicants awarded a grant in the amount of \$60,000, may be subject to mandatory audit by ICNL and/ or designated entity. The terms of the audit will be included into the grant agreement between ICNL and the applicant.**

Deadline

Applications will be considered on a rolling basis until all grant funds are awarded. Applicants should submit their applications no later than May 15, 2019. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Application Coversheet: Social Enterprise Initiative for Georgia

Please complete the coversheet and submit it, along with your proposal and other application documents to Adrian Sawczyn at asawczyn@icnl.org. Please ensure that the subject of your email is "Social Enterprise Initiative for Georgia Application 2019."

Full Name:

Position:

Organization:

Mailing Address Line 1:

Mailing Address Line 2:

Mailing Address Line 3:

Country:

Email Address:

Telephone Number:

Fax Number:

Click on the boxes below to indicate that you have properly completed the application.

- I have attached a proposal that is no more than five pages in length.
- I have attached the CVs of leading project staff.
- I have attached a letter of support from a recognized educational institution.
- I have attached a line-item budget.
- I have attached the registration certificate for my non-commercial organization.