

Ethiopia Legal Empowerment Toolkit



A Checklist to Aid Civil Society's
Regulatory Literacy



About the Consortium of Ethiopian Human Rights Organizations

The Consortium of Ethiopian Human Rights Organizations (CEHRO) was registered on the 16th of March 2018 (re-registered as per Proclamation No. 1113/2019 with registration number 3932). Currently, CEHRO is comprised of 32 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). The Consortium is working to promote the protection of Human Rights by creating a common platform for CSOs to have their voices heard and to initiate evidence-based advocacy. It is also working to strengthen the capacity of existing and new Human Rights organizations. CEHRO engages in capacity building of the secretariat, its members, and key stakeholders; coordination of members' strategic engagements to amplify unified voices (policy advocacy); and advocacy for enabling civic space in Ethiopia.

CEHRO has been working in the CSO sector for the last seven years with active funds and has comprehensive governance and compliance policies along with a five-year strategic plan. Over the past seven years, CEHRO has mobilized resources, implemented more than 50 projects, and partnered with more than 30 organizations. In terms of membership and engagement for policy-level advocacy, CEHRO is a member of AU ECOSOCC 4th General Assembly, a voting member of CIVICUS, has observer status at the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights (ACHPR), is the Chairperson for the Ethiopian Civil Societies Forum (ECSF), is the Executive Committee member of the Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations Council (ECOSOC), a Board member of the Authority for civil Society Organizations (ACSO) and founding member of the Salama Hub of AFSC, as well as Vice-chairperson for the E-HORN. CEHRO is engaged in efforts that facilitate learning, consultations, collaborations, coordination, and capacity building. Regarding coverage, CEHRO and member CSOs work at the federal and regional levels.



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Introduction

The Purpose of the Toolkit

This toolkit is designed to empower civil society organizations (CSOs) in Ethiopia by providing a clear and accessible guide to the legal framework governing their operations. It serves as a resource for CSOs to better understand the key elements of relevant laws, including the 2019 CSOs Proclamation, directives issued by the Authority for Civil Society Organizations (ACSO), and applicable tax laws. By breaking down the legal provisions into practical insights, this toolkit enables CSOs to navigate legal requirements with certainty, while maximizing their impact.

Beyond understanding the regulatory requirements, this toolkit aims to enhance the legal literacy of CSOs, strengthen their ability to advocate for their rights, engage effectively with regulatory bodies, and operate in a legally secure manner. Whether an organization is newly established or already active, this toolkit equips CSOs with the necessary knowledge to sustain and expand their work within Ethiopia's evolving legal landscape.

How to Use the Toolkit

This toolkit is structured to provide CSOs with clear, practical guidance on key legal requirements governing their operations in Ethiopia. To make the most of this toolkit, follow the steps below.

1. **Use this toolkit for targeted guidance:** The toolkit includes a checklist to help you translate legal provisions into actionable steps for your CSO's day-to-day operations.
2. **Apply the insights to your organization:** Each section of the toolkit expounds on a specific legal topic, making it easy to find relevant information on registration, governance, funding, taxation, and compliance requirements. On the basis of the information, assess whether your organization meets legal requirements and identify areas that may need intervention.
3. **Refer to additional resources:** Where applicable, the toolkit provides references to official laws, directives, and government agencies for further clarification and guidance.

By following these steps, your organization can use this toolkit as a practical reference to navigate Ethiopia's legal landscape, meet regulatory requirements, and strengthen organizational capacity.

A. Scope of Application

A1 Does the CSO Proclamation Apply to Your Organization?

	The Proclamation applies if your organization:	The Proclamation does not apply if your organization is:
Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operates in two or more regional states in Ethiopia Is a foreign organization (established under foreign law) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A religious institution An Edir, Equb, or other traditional mutual support organization
No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is established in Ethiopia but works on international, regional, or sub-regional issues Operates in the City Administration of Addis Ababa or Dire Dawa Is a charitable organization established by a religious institution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An organization formed under another specific law <p><i>[CSO Proclamation, Section One, Article 3 (1)]</i>¹</p>
<p>For more details: See Pg. 15 of the accompanying Ethiopian CSO Regulatory Framework Operational Guide (referred to in this toolkit as “the Guide”).</p>		

A2 Is your organization one of the following: (1) Non-governmental organization, (2) Professional association, (3), Mass-based society, or (4) Consortium?

	Definition of “Organizations” under the Proclamation includes:
Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) Professional associations
No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mass-based societies Consortiums <p><i>[Section One Article 2 (1)]</i></p> <p>For more details: See Pg. 15 of the Guide</p>

¹ Unless otherwise indicated, Sections and Articles relate to the Proclamation on Civil Society Organizations

B. Registration/Forming a Civil Society Organization

B1 Are you forming a foreign CSO or local CSO?

Foreign CSO	<p>Foreign CSOs are defined as those which are established abroad and operate in Ethiopia through a branch office which is registered by the ACSO. [Section One, Article 2 (3)]</p> <p>Local CSOs are defined as those which are established in Ethiopian by two or more persons who are Ethiopian or foreigner who reside in Ethiopia to operate in Ethiopia or other countries. [Section One, Article 2 (2)]</p>
Local CSO	For more details: See Pg. 16 of the Guide

B2 If you are forming a foreign organization and applying for registration, have you submitted the following documents with the registration application?

Yes	<p>A foreign organization applying for registration must submit the following documents with its registration application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there is no body authorized by the organization's constitution or by-laws, or if there is no clear provision in the constitution or by-laws, the decision passed by the superior body of the organization to allow the organization to operate in Ethiopia • The original and a copy of the document showing that the organization is established under foreign law • The original and a copy of the articles of association of the organization • In accordance with article 58 (2)(c) of the Proclamation, a letter of support explaining whether the foreign organization is legally operating in the country where it is located, the contribution the organization can make if it operates in Ethiopia, and its previous history.¹ • The original and a copy of the power of attorney given by the superior body of the organization that gives the local representative full authority to lead and manage the organization established in Ethiopia, and the original and a copy of the employment contract; • If the organization is registered by a person other than the domestic representative, the original and a copy of a certified power of attorney issued by the organization's superior body • A work plan for a period of not less than two years; • If the local representative is a foreign national, a copy of his/her passport and visa or an Ethiopian identity card or a copy of the Kebele ID or passport if he/she is an Ethiopian; • The organization 's name and logo (if any)
No → NON-COMPLIANT	

(continued next page)

¹ However, if it is believed that the company was brought into the country through an agreement with the Ethiopian government, or if it is believed that there is no favorable situation for a foreign company to obtain a letter of support from an Ethiopian mission outside the country in which it is established, the applicant may provide a letter of support issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

B. Registration/Forming a Civil Society Organization (con't)

B2 (continued)

- The purpose of the organization and the field of activities it intends to engage in
- The place of work or the region where it intends to work
- The domestic address where the representative of the organization is located (within 3 months after the establishment of the organization).

[Directive on the registration and administration of Foreign organizations Directive No. 986/2024 Part Two Article 9]

B3 Which form of local CSO should you register as?

Association	<p>Association: Organization formed by five or more members, governed by a General Assembly as the supreme decision-making body. Unlike the old law's societies, an association can promote members' rights and interests, benefit the public or specific groups, or pursue any useful objective.</p> <p><i>[Section Three: Article 19 (1)]</i></p>	<p>Charitable Trust: Specific property is administered by 3-5 trustees for charitable purposes, established by donation, will, or agency order. Unlike endowments, trusts are managed by trustees and can be for a definite or indefinite period.</p> <p><i>[Section Three Article 31]</i></p>
Board-led organization	<p>Board-led organization: The Board is the ultimate decision-making body, established by two or more founders. The Board consists of 5-13 members, with a separate management team led by an executive director. Board members or their relatives cannot be part of the management team. This structure is common for think tanks and thematic CSOs.</p> <p><i>[Section Three Article 20 (1)]</i></p>	<p>Charitable committee: Composed of five or more individuals to solicit funds for charitable purposes, especially in emergencies. Requires agency approval to operate and must submit detailed accounts. Members are jointly liable for the committee's obligations and debts.</p> <p><i>[Section Three Article 48]</i></p>
Charitable endowment	<p>Charitable Endowment: Property is irrevocably designated for charitable purposes by donation, will, or agency order. It has a manager, auditor, and staff, with the Board as the supreme organ, consisting of at least three members.</p> <p><i>[Section Three Article 21 (1)]</i></p>	<p>For more details: See Pg. 17 of the Guide</p>
Charitable trust		
Charitable committee		

B. Registration/Forming a Civil Society Organization (con't)

B4 Has the Authority failed to issue your organization a certificate of registration?

- Yes Where the Authority fails to issue certificate of registration within 30 days for local organizations and 45 days for foreign organizations, the applicant may file its complaint to the Board of the Authority within 30 days from the expiry of such period. [\[Section Three Article 57 \(3\)\]](#)
The Board of the Authority shall examine the complaint and make a determination on the matter within a period of 60 (sixty) days. [\[Section Three Article 57 \(4\)\]](#)
- No An applicant dissatisfied with the decision of the Board may lodge an appeal before the Federal High Court within 30 days from receiving the Board's decision. [\[Section Three Article 57 \(6\)\]](#)
- For more details:** See Pg. 16 of the Guide

B5 Does your organization follow the principles for formation of organizations?

- Yes
- No →
NON-COMPLIANT
- Organization may be formed for a definite or an indefinite period,
 - Membership in organization is voluntary. A member may withdraw from membership at will.
 - Organization has the right to freely determine the criteria for membership.
 - Any person can become a member if they fulfill the criteria for membership set by the organization.
 - Every member has an equal vote.
 - Organization is not established for the purpose of distributing profit to members.
 - The formation and internal governance is based on democratic principles, is non-discriminatory, independent and neutral.
 - Organization is managed by persons elected by the full participation of the organs authorized by its rules.
 - Organization does not admit or dismiss members except in accordance with its rules.

C. Internal Governance

C1 Does your organization's founding document include democratic principles i.e. non-discrimination, independence, neutrality?

Yes Each member is entitled to an equal vote, ensuring democratic participation and decision-making within the organization as provided under

[Section Three Article 16]

For more details: See Pg. 19 of the Guide

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

C2 If you are a charitable endowment: do you have a management board, a manager, and an auditor?

Yes A charitable endowment has a manager, auditor, and staff, with the Board as the supreme organ, consisting of at least three members.

[Section Three Article 24]

For more details: See Pg. 21 of the Guide

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

C3 If you are a charitable trust: do you have a trustee treasurer and a trustee auditor?

Yes Unlike endowments, trusts are managed by trustees for a definite or indefinite period.

[Section Three Article 33 (1)]

For more details: See Pg. 21 of the Guide

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

C. Internal Governance (con't)

C4 If you are an association: do you have a general assembly?

Yes Associations are characterized by being membership-led, with the General Assembly as the highest authority.
(and it is optional to have an executive committee, internal auditor, and manager/director if necessary)
[Section Three Article 19 (1) and (2)]

No → **For more details:** See Pg. 21 of the Guide
NON-COMPLIANT

C5 If you are a board led CSO: do you have a manager and a board?

Yes The Board is the ultimate decision-making body, established by two or more founders. The Board consists of 5-13 members, with a separate management team led by an executive director.
[Section Three Article 20 (1) (2)]

No → **For more details:** See Pg. 21 of the Guide
NON-COMPLIANT

C6 Do your organization's Rules include all the contents required by the CSO law?

Yes All organizations must have rules containing:

- the organization's name,
- the organization's objectives,
- the organization's executive body, power and functions,
- internal governance and structure,
- meeting and decision-making procedures,
- a stipulation indicating that the organization's income and resources may not be distributed to members or employees except for payment of legally permitted service fees,
- a stipulation indicating that the organization has a separate and independent legal personality and symbol from its members,
- a stipulation indicating that Change of Members of the organization do not have effect on the existence of the organization,
- a stipulation that membership does not devolve by inheritance,

(continued next page)

C. Internal Governance (con't)

C6 (continued)

- a stipulation that the organization's accounts and financial transactions will be managed by an accepted accounting system,
- a stipulation that the supreme body of the organization will examine and approve the organizations financial and work plan and performance,
- procedure for amending the rules,
- the organization's budget year,
- the organizational body that will decide to dissolve and close the organization, and the procedures to be followed,
- a stipulation indicating that during dissolution, once the debts of the organization are paid the outstanding money and property shall be transferred to another organization named by the organization's supreme body or to another body through the agency or to the fund established under this proclamation.

[Section Three Article 60 (1) (2)]

For more details: See Pg. 22 of the Guide

D. Implementation of Activities

D1 If you are a consortium organization: does your organization refrain from engaging in activities that compete with activities of your member organizations?

Yes Consortium activities include articulating the voice of members and advocating for their rights, building the capacity of members and supporting resource mobilization, conducting research and advocacy activities in areas of member engagement, and ensuring no competition with members.

[Section Three Article 56 (3)]

No → **For more details:** See Pg. 16 of the Guide
NON-COMPLIANT

D2 If you are a foreign CSO: do you refrain from engaging in lobbying activities?

Yes Foreign CSOs are prohibited from engaging in lobbying political parties.

[Section Three Article 62 (5)]

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

D3 Are you ensuring that the information you publish/share does not amount to hate speech or disinformation?

Yes **Hate Speech:** speech that deliberately promotes hatred, discrimination or attack against a person or a discernible group of identity, based on ethnicity, religion, race, gender or disability.

Disinformation: deliberate dissemination of false information with the intent to mislead the public or cause harm.

[Hate Speech and Disinformation Prevention and Suppression Proclamation, Article 4-5)]

No → **For more details:** See Pg. 11 of the Guide
NON-COMPLIANT

E. Income-Generating Activities and Use of Profits

E1 Are you engaging in income generating activities?

Income generating activities include:

- Establishing a separate business organization (company)
- Acquiring shares in an existing company
- Conducting public collections
- Operating a business as a sole proprietorship.

[Section Three Article 64 (1)]

For more details: See Pg. 20 of the Guide

E2 If you are engaging in income-generating activities: do your bylaws authorize income-generating activities?

If the organization's bylaws authorize such activities, they may proceed accordingly.

In the absence of such provisions in the bylaws, a decision by the organization's authorized body will suffice.

[Directive to determine the conditions under which civil society organizations under which civil society which civil society organizations are engaged in Income-generating Directive No 937/2022 Part Two Article 4 (1) (2)]

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

For more details: See Pg. 20 of the Guide

E3 If you are engaging in income-generating activities: are the profits derived from your income-generating activities reinvested into your programmatic and administrative costs?

An organization can reinvest profits into the business organization if its authorized body decides this is more beneficial than putting the profits toward the charitable organization's programs or administrative costs)

[Directive 937/2022 Part Two Article 9 (2)]

For more details: See Pg. 20 of the Guide

E. Income-Generating Activities and Use of Profits (con't)

E4 If you are engaging in income-generating activities: are you refraining from distributing the profits to members or employees?

Yes CSO Proclamation and Directive 937/2022
[CSO Proclamation Part Two Article 60 (1) (d)]
For more details: See Pg. 20 of the Guide

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

E5 Does your organization refrain from distributing profits?

Yes Organizations cannot be established with the intent of distributing profits to members.
[Section Three Article 16 (6)]
For more details: See Pg. 19 of the Guide

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

E6 If you have established a business company to engage in income-generating activities: have you notified the CSO Authority of the new business entity?

Yes A CSO can independently, or through co-investment with two or more organizations establish a business in any form recognized under the Ethiopian Commercial Code. This includes Share Companies, Private Limited Companies, One Person Private Limited Companies, and Sole Proprietorships.

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

When a CSO establishes a business company, it must notify the Authority of CSOs within 15 working days of the business commencing operations. The notification should include a letter announcing the establishment, the business license, any certifications of qualification, and the Memorandum of Association and bylaws.
[Directive 937/2022 [Part Two Article 4 (3)]]
For more details: See Pg. 36 of the Guide

E. Income-Generating Activities and Use of Profits (con't)

E7 If you have purchased shares from other businesses: have you notified the CSO Authority of the purchase?

Yes If an organization purchases shares, it must inform the authority within fifteen (15) days of the purchase. The company under which the business operates must submit a separate financial statement for the business, along with the annual financial statement and performance report.

[Directive 937/2022 [Part Two Article 4 (3)]

No → **For more details:** See Pg. 37 of the Guide
NON-COMPLIANT

E8 If you are engaging in business activities: have you separated the assets and resources of the CSO and the business activities?

Yes Organization must separate assets and resources; open separate bank account and maintain distinct books of account for business activities.

[Directive 937/2022 [Part Two Article 10]

For more details: See Pg. 37 of the Guide

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

E9 Does your founding document/bylaws include a provision that explicitly states that members and employees do not have rights to the organization's resources solely by virtue of their membership or employment?

Yes CSOs are required to include in their bylaws a provision that members or employees do not have any rights to the organization's resources solely by virtue of their membership or employment.

[Article 60 (e) of the Civil Society Proclamation.]

For more details: See Pg. 19 of the Guide

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

F. Financial Management

F1 Does your organization maintain accurate financial records (i.e. a book of account that records daily receipts of funds and expenditures)?

Yes CSOs must establish robust internal financial control systems to ensure the proper management and utilization of their resources. This includes maintaining accurate financial records, conducting regular audits, and implementing measures to prevent fraud and mismanagement.

[Section Four Article 71]

No →
NON-COMPLIANT **For more details:** See Pg. 21, 30, 32 of Guide

F2 Does your organization conduct regular audits (i.e., a certified auditor examines your books of account within three months after the end of each financial year)?

Yes Regular audits must be conducted to ensure compliance with financial regulations and effective use of funds.

[Section Four Article 72 (3)]

For more details: See Pg. 21, 30, 32 of Guide

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

F3 Does your organization implement measures to prevent fraud and maladministration?

Yes CSOs must implement measures to prevent fraud and mismanagement.

Fraud: Whoever, with intent to obtain for himself or to procure for a third person an unlawful enrichment, fraudulently causes a person to act in a manner prejudicial to his rights in property, or those of a third person, whether such acts are of commission or omission, either by misleading statements, or by misrepresenting his status or situation or by concealing facts which he had a duty to reveal, or by taking advantage of the person's erroneous beliefs,

[Ethiopian Criminal Code Article 692]

For more details: See Pg. 21, 30, 32 of Guide

Maladministration: An employee who, with intent to obtain for himself or to procure for another an undue advantage, and by using his power or responsibility improperly takes or ensures for himself, by concluding a contract or by devising other means, an interest in a business or other undertaking, a sale or a purchase, or any other transaction related with his duty, or concludes a supply or contract or any other transaction at a price higher than that fixed by the competent authority, or in general, by any means, injures the public interests entrusted to his charge and which it is his duty to protect.

[Ethiopian Criminal Code Article 411]

F. Financial Management (con't)

F4 Do you limit your administrative expenses to a maximum percentage of your annual budget (i.e., 20%)?

Yes

Administrative Expenses are expenses which are not related to the project activities of an organization but are necessary to ensure the continued existence of an organization and related to administrative activities. Administrative expenses include:

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

- salaries and benefits of administrative employees;
- expenses for purchase of consumables and fixed assets;
- repair and maintenance expenses;
- office rent;
- parking fees;
- audit fees;
- advertisement expenses;
- bank service fees;
- utility fees;
- fees for fax, and internet services;
- postal and printing expenses;
- tax;
- expenses for purchase and repair of vehicles for administrative purposes; and procurement of oil and lubricants for the same;
- insurance costs, penalties and attorney fees.

[Directive on administrative expenses (No 847/2021 [Part One Article 2 (1)]

CSOs are required to limit their administrative expenses to a maximum percentage of their total annual budget, typically set at 20%. This ensures that at least 80% of the budget is directed toward programmatic activities and direct services.

[Directive on administrative expenses (No 847/2021 [Part Two Article 4 (1)]

For more details: See Pg. 18 of Guide

G. Reporting Obligations

G1 Do you submit a report to the CSO Authority on your activities, financial status, and compliance with legal requirements within three months after each financial year?

Yes Note: The annual activity report must include an annual statement of account detailing their activities, financial status, and compliance with regulations.

[Section Four Article 73]

For more details: See Pg. 21 of Guide

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

G2 Do you include a financial statement in the report that shows assets and liabilities, change in asset and cash flow statements of the organization, and explanatory notes? Is this submitted at the end of the budget year?

Yes CSOs are mandated to submit their financial statement to the authority which shows assets and liabilities; change in asset and cash flow statements of the organization with explanatory notes at the end of the budget year.

[Directive No 847/2021 [Part Two Article 9 (1)]

For more details: See Pg. 21 of Guide

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

H. Taxes and Duties

H1 Have you sought exemption from customs duties?

Yes

To utilize customs duty and tax privileges, organizations must submit a support letter from the relevant authority. Such letters can be requested for the importation or local purchase of necessary and approved goods aimed at achieving the organization's established objectives. Specific requirements for obtaining the support letter are detailed in Article 5 of the directive.

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

[Customs Duties and Tax Exemption on Goods Imported by Government Offices, Institutions of Higher Education and Charitable Organizations (Directive No. 137/2013)[Part One Article 5]

For more details: See Pg. 9 and 10 of Guide

I. Accessing Ethiopia's Civil Society Fund (Optional)

The Civil Society Fund is established to be used to encourage volunteerism and development in the sector, and provide incentives to organizations working with vulnerable groups. The income of the Civil Society Fund shall come from properties obtained from charities and societies dissolved before the enactment of the CSO Proclamation and are under the custody of the Authority, properties obtained from organizations dissolved by the decision Authority or Court, and Subsidy from the Government to the Fund.

[CSO Proclamation Section 8 Article 86]

I1 If you would like to access funds from the Civil Society Fund: are your organization's activities aligned with government strategy?

Yes The content of the application includes a project proposal, a document evidencing that the application is made by an already-existing organization and annual activity and budget reports prepared for the budget year preceding the year the application was made.

[Directive No 848/2021] [Part Three Article 12 (6) and Article 13]

For more details: See Pg. 30 of Guide

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

I2 If you have received a grant from the Civil Society Fund: have you implemented monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to assess the impact of the funded projects?

Yes Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms include setting clear performance indicators, conducting regular progress reviews and evaluations to measure outcomes against objectives.

[Directive No 848/2021]

For more details: See Pg. 30 and 31 of Guide

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

I. Accessing Ethiopia's Civil Society Fund (con't)

I3 If you are receiving a grant from the Civil Society Fund: do you have a robust financial management system?

- A robust financial management system might entail:
- Separate bank accounts for fund management.
 - Accurate bookkeeping and financial reporting practices.
 - Regular audits must be conducted to ensure compliance with financial regulations and effective use of funds.
- Yes
- No →
NON-COMPLIANT
- [(Directive No 848/2021) [Part Three Article 19 and 20]]*
- For more details:** See Pg. 30 of Guide

I4 If you have received a grant from the Civil Society Fund: have you submitted a financial and progress report annually?

- The annual activity report must include an annual statement of account.
- Yes
- [Section Four Article 73 (2)]*
- For more details:** See Pg. 31 of Guide

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

I5 Are you actively engaging regulators such as the CSO Authority to discuss regulatory changes and share insights about their monitoring processes?

- Ethiopian law encourages (but does not require) CSOs to engage with regulators. CSOs should use this provision to advocate for more consultations/discussions between the regulator and CSO (i.e., collaborative regulation of the sector).
- Yes
- [Directive No. 1002/2024]*

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

I. Accessing Ethiopia's Civil Society Fund (con't)

16 If you are a faith-based charity: are you maintaining non-partisanship and independence from any political institution?

- Yes A faith-based charity is an organization established by a religious institution that possesses legal personality. It functions as a non-governmental and non-partisan entity, independent of any political connection with any political institution, and is founded to achieve lawful objectives.
- No →
NON-COMPLIANT It applies to all religion-based charitable organizations that engage in charitable work. It also extends to foreign religious-based charitable organizations.
[Directive on faith-based charities]
For more details: See Pg. 31 of Guide

17 If you are a faith-based charity: have you registered?

- Yes Faith-based charitable organizations must apply for registration with the Authority for Civil Society Organizations within three months of their formation to operate legally
[Directive on faith-based charities, Section Two Article 9 (1)]
For more details: See Pg. 34 of Guide
- No →
NON-COMPLIANT

18 If you are a faith-based charity: are you adhering to the teachings, values, and objectives of your founding religious institution?

- Yes Directive on faith-based charities
Faith-based charities should accept members who share the faith and values of the founding religious institution. This ensures that the organization's activities align with the teachings, values, and objectives of its founding body.
[Section Four Article 13]
For more details: See Pg. 33 and 34 of Guide
- No →
NON-COMPLIANT

I. Accessing Ethiopia's Civil Society Fund (con't)

I9 Has your organization disclosed conflicts of interest to the organization or its decision making body or ACSO?

Yes Conflict of Interest (COI) is a situation where a staff, board member, ordinary member, consultant, volunteer, intern or any other person entrusted with such powers and responsibilities to work for the CSO becoming in a position to influence a decision that may result in any direct or indirect, potential or actual personal gain for him or herself, or for any other individual or organization close to that person, or an immediate family member.

No → *[Directive on Avoiding Conflict of Interest Directive No. 939/2022 Section Two Article 7 (2)]*
NON-COMPLIANT **For more details:** See Pg. 35 of Guide

I10 Does your organization have a policy to manage conflicts of interest?

Yes Examples include establishing COI review committees to evaluate disclosed conflicts; recommend appropriate actions

[Directive 939/2022 Part Three Article 13]

For more details: See Pg. 35 of Guide

No →
NON-COMPLIANT

J. Miscellaneous

J1 If (you as a CSO) are involved in media activities, have you obtained the necessary licenses and registration?

Yes CSOs involved in media activities must obtain the necessary licenses and register with the relevant authorities. (Eg: special public broadcasting service license)

[Media Proclamation No. 1238/2021 Part Four Article 4 57 (2)]

No → **For more details:** See Pg. 13 of Guide

NON-COMPLIANT



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