**CALL FOR PARTICIPATION**

If you are:

* a new civil society organization (registered within the past 3 years), or
* an informal initiative group or social movement;

If you are:

* seeking to mobilize people in your community to influence real positive change,
* raising important issues that may not yet be widely understood or discussed in society and proposing solutions,
* ready to invest your time and energy in the development of your initiative, organisation or campaign,

We are looking for you!

**Who are we?**

Civil Society Actors as Drivers of Change in South Caucasus and Moldova is a regional project implemented by Czech NGO People in Need and funded by the European Union. We aim to support selected participants in developing a vision for change, planning concrete steps for how to achieve it, building capacities and accessing resources needed to go from plan to reality. We will work together with participants to design a tailored program to help their initiatives grow and achieve their goals.

With our program, you will have an opportunity to:

* develop a strategy for your initiative / organisation / campaign,
* take part in trainings, coaching, mentoring, consultations, study visits, fellowships,
* establish or improve connections with your supporters and volunteers,
* get support for research and building thematic expertise,
* get involved in policy dialogue at local, national or international level,
* network with peers and partners in Armenia and abroad,
* find out if, why and how to engage with the private sector,
* find effective, transparent and accountable ways to self-organize and manage resources,
* get access to funding opportunities for your internal development and for your campaign (flexible funding ranging from EUR 5000 to 20000 linked to your strategic plan),
* try out other fundraising options that best suit your strategy.

[People in Need](https://peopleinneed.cz/) started out in 1992 as a grassroots initiative by a group of Czech war correspondents who wanted to complement their reporting on conflicts and crises around the world with providing aid to those in need. Our co-founder and current director Simon Panek was a student activist during the Velvet Revolution, and the surge of creative energy, civic mobilization, and social responsibility during that time was the driving force behind who we are today. That’s why we are drawn to like-minded civic actors who are committed to building their communities and changing the world around them for the better.

We recognize the diversity of civil society and do not envision everyone following the same path of becoming NGOs similar to us today. On the other hand, we do believe that we have much to learn from and offer to each other.

**More about who we are looking for**

We aim to select 7 participants in Armenia in the first year of the project.

Participants can be active in areas including but not limited to:

* community participation in decision-making
* quality of public services
* climate change and environment
* gender equality
* public spaces
* labour rights and working conditions
* social inclusion, rights of marginalized groups
* other civic / social / human rights topics or mitigating the impact of COVID-19 in these areas.

We strongly encourage applications from organizations and initiative groups with core activity outside the capital city.

Applications from religious or political organizations, public authorities or related organizations are not eligible under this call, as it is intended for new civil society actors not linked to larger institutions.

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

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| --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Score (%)** |
| Primary motivation – systemic change (of policies, attitudes or behaviours) at the local or national level. | qualifying criterion - yes/no |
| Commitment to values of peace, democracy and human rights. | qualifying criterion - yes/no |
| Understanding of thematic area and of local social context. | 25 |
| Examples of previous civic or community actions (can be informal or small-scale – we are looking for groups with practical, proactive attitude and some initial understanding of challenges of working together for change, not a track record of project implementation). | 10 |
| Interest in mobilizing others to achieve concrete changes and results. Openness to broadening the range of members, partners and stakeholders engaged. | 20 |
| Ability to assess own areas of weakness and motivation to improve and to develop their capacities. | 20  |
| Readiness to commit significant time and energy to the development of initiative/organisation/campaign over the next 12 months. | 25 |

**Basic Timeline**

* Application due date**: 17:00 of June 29,2020 via e-mail: grantsarmenia@peopleinneed.cz**
* Information Session: 14:00 of June 15 via ZOOM:

Topic: CSO Development / ՔՀԿ-ի զարգացում
Time: Jun 15, 2020 14:00 Yerevan

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86033444497?pwd=L1Zod3k0RUhyQWQ5N0pzL3NydzhOUT09>

Meeting ID: 860 3344 4497
Password: 230039

Please send your questions about the call to the following address: **grantsarmenia@peopleinneed.cz by 17:00 of June 26, 2020**

* Interviews with preselected candidates: will take place on a rolling basis,
* Publication of results: two weeks after deadline on <https://armenia.peopleinneed.global/> website,

The selection process would be followed by:

* Kick-off workshop for selected participants,
* Organizational capacity assessment and strategy development,
* Capacity building and funding opportunities linked to the strategy.

If you want to participate, please fill in the below Application Form!

**APPLICATION FORM**

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|  | **I. General Information** |  |

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| --- | --- |
| Name of your initiative / organization  |  |
| Legal status (if any) |  |
| When was your initiative / organization created? (date/month/year)  |  |
| Sector of activities |  |
| Region / city / community where you work  |  |
| Budget for the last year (if any)  |  |
| Contact person |
| First name, Last name |  |
| Phone number |  |
| Email address |  |
| Organization’s Website address (if any) |  |
| Organization’s Facebook page (if any) |  |

## Applicant’s declaration

## By this I declare that

1. The information provided in the application is true and accurate.
2. I agree that the presented data can be shared with the participant selection committee within the "Civil Society Actors as Drivers of Change in South Caucasus and Moldova" project.
3. I am ready to provide additional information for the purpose of evaluating the application.

Legal representative (in case of informal groups, contact person for the purpose of this application)

Name:

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Any suggestions, questions and complaints related to the participant selection process or to projects implemented by People in Need can be submitted to PIN Armenia by phone: +37493 68 88 70 or via e-mail: crm.armenia@peopleinneed.cz

## I

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|  | **II. Detailed application** |  |

**WHAT AND WHY?**

What is your initiative / campaign / organization about? What do you do? (*max 200 words*)

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What initially inspired you to start your initiative / campaign / organization? What keeps you motivated to continue doing what you are doing? (*max 200 words*)

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**WHO WITH AND WHO FOR?**

Who are the people your initiative / organization / campaign aims to benefit and in what way?

How do you know what they need and how are they involved in your work? (*max 200 words*)

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How many people are directly involved in the functioning of your initiative / organization / campaign? What are the roles and specific skills of 2-3 key individuals? Approximately how much time do they dedicate to the initiative in a typical week or month? (*max 200 words*)

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Do you cooperate or engage with other activists, groups, organizations, public institutions or private companies in your field? Please list some examples. (*max 200 words*)

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**TALKING ABOUT THE PAST**

What do you see as your greatest achievements so far? (*max 200 words*)

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What were the main challenges along the way? What do you think helped or could help you overcome them? (*max 200 words*)

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Have you ever received any grant before?

If yes, please specify what donors you worked with, what projects you implemented, their budget, provide website/social media info if available.

If you haven’t worked with grant funding before, please let us know how to you access resources you need for your organization / initiative / campaign. (*max 200 words*)

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**TALKING ABOUT THE FUTURE**

Does your initiative / campaign / organization have a clear goal it would like to achieve or problem it would like to solve in the next 3 years? Please describe it. (*max 250 words*)

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What will you need to achieve this goal? What will be your first steps? Please include a simple budget showing what resources you need to make them. (*max 500 words*)

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Imagine that the goal has been achieved or problem solved. What concrete changes do you think you will see in your community / town / city / region/ country? (*max 250 words*)

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If you’ve achieved your goal / solved the problem, what would be next for you and your colleagues? (*max 200 words*)

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|  | **III. Something extra** |  |

Here, you can include any materials, creative works or supporting info that you think would help us understand what your organization and initiative is about, for example:

* contacts for partners and other stakeholders who know you and could recommend you,
* pictures, videos, stories, articles, quotes you think are representative of what you do,
* if you wish, you can even answer some or all of our questions by recording a video rather than writing text – choose the way that allows to you best express what you care about and expect from participation in our program.