



Sustainable, Impactful and Inclusive Civil Society

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Background

The “Sustainable, Impactful and Inclusive Civil Society” (SIICS) Project is implemented with the support of the European Union by the Democracy Development Foundation, People in Need (PIN), and Boon Cultural-Scientific Foundation. The project aims to strengthen the role of civil society in Armenia as a resilient, independent, and trusted actor in democratic governance, policy engagement, and community empowerment.

Project Components

Under SIICS, People in Need will implement two main components:

1. Financial Support to Third Parties (FSTP)

This component will support CSOs across all 10 regions of Armenia in implementing mission-aligned projects combined with operational funding and strategic investments, thereby contributing to their long-term institutional sustainability.

2. Capacity Development

Throughout the 2.5-year programme, CSOs will participate in an integrated capacity development process. At the start of the programme, sub-grantees will conduct a self-assessment using the participatory Organizational Capacity Assessment Tool (OCAT). Based on the results, each CSO will develop a Capacity Development Action Plan, which will guide tailored support throughout the programme. Activities will include peer-learning, exchange visits, joint initiatives, and scenario-planning workshops. A final OCAT assessment will measure progress at the end of the programme.

Financial Support to Third Parties – Scheme 1

The sub-grants will be provided through two schemes.

Scheme 1

Under this scheme, each selected CSO will be eligible to receive **8,500,000–15,000,000 AMD** financial support to implement a project that contributes to the organization’s mission, while simultaneously strengthening its internal capacities. A total of **20 organizations** will be supported under Scheme 1.

Note: Only organizations selected under Scheme 1 will be eligible to participate in Scheme 2. Detailed information will be provided later through a closed call. At this stage, only applications for Scheme 1 will be accepted.

Scheme 2

CSOs selected under Scheme 1 will have the opportunity to apply for additional funding by participating in an **innovative TV show**. The project partner, **Boon TV**, will produce a Shark Tank–inspired program in which participating CSOs will publicly present their stories, missions, and project ideas to a jury and the audience. Based on the voting results, winning CSOs will receive financial support for the implementation of their proposed projects. The show aims to increase the visibility of CSO work, ensure transparency, and highlight key community challenges.

Under Scheme 2, financial support will be provided to **8 CSOs**, with a total budget of **87,000,000 AMD**.

Eligibility Criteria for Scheme 1

Eligible applicants are CSOs that:

- Are legally registered in Armenia
- Operate in communities **outside Yerevan**
- Were registered **between 6 months and 5 years ago**

Important: *Selected CSOs are expected to actively participate in all mandatory capacity development activities throughout the project timeline (See Project Components section above.)*

Eligible Activities

Projects may include both **community-focused activities** and **organizational capacity development** actions.

Examples of community-focused activities:

- **Human Rights:** Awareness campaigns, protection actions, capacity building of rights holders or duty bearers.
- **Vulnerable Groups:** Support and empowerment initiatives, including access to services, legal aid, education, or social inclusion.

- **Policy Dialogue (regional and national):** Evidence-based consultations, stakeholder engagement, initiatives informing public policy or local governance.
- **Democratic Values:** Civic education, transparency and accountability actions, participatory processes, citizen engagement.
- **Pre-election Processes:** Non-partisan voter education, civic engagement, and election monitoring. *(Activities must not support or oppose any political party or candidate.)*

Examples of internal capacity development activities:

- Development or improvement of internal policies, procedures, and systems
- Implementation of strategic organizational priorities
- Development of new approaches, tools, or fundraising strategies
- Strengthening digital or physical security
- Purchase of essential equipment required for organizational improvement
- Other justified actions contributing to strategic or operational enhancement

Project Duration

Projects must be **18–30 months** in duration.

Contract signature with selected CSOs is expected by March 2026.

Co-funding Note

The grant may be used as co-funding for an ongoing project if the proposed and ongoing activities are directly linked. Needs must be clearly justified, consistent with donor requirements, and all funding sources must be fully disclosed.

Selection Criteria

Applicants will be selected based on the following criteria:

Criteria	Maximum score
Alignment with Organization’s Mission and EU Priorities: Activities support the organization’s mission and are relevant to EU priority sectors (gender, anti-corruption, environment/green economy, marginalized groups).	25
Clarity and Feasibility: Methodology is well-defined, realistic, and includes accessibility, equity, and inclusion considerations	20
Value for Money: Budget is cost-efficient, realistic, and demonstrates a strong link between costs and expected results.	15

Understanding of Local Context: The project demonstrates a strong analysis of local needs and root causes.	15
Impact and Sustainability: The Project demonstrates measurable results and contributes to long-term benefits.	15
Organizational Capacity: The applicant has adequate human resources and a record of past community or civil initiatives showing capability.	10

Application package

Applications must include:

- Completed **Application Form**
- Completed **Budget Form**
- Completed **Gantt Chart**
- Organization registration certificate
- Organization charter
- Signed Declaration of Commitment
- Examples of previous experience (max. 2 pages)
- Strategic Plan (if applicable)

All documents must be submitted in a single email in PDF or Word format, signed. Applications may be submitted in Armenian or English to: grantsarmenia@peopleinneed.net

Deadline: February 8.

Late submissions will not be considered.

Information Session: January 23 at 11:00 AM via Teams

Information Session Link: [ԿԱՆՔ ծրագիր – Մասնակցության հայտ - Տեղեկատվական հանդիպում | Meeting-Join | Microsoft Teams](#)

Any suggestion, inquiry, or complaint related to the evaluation of applications or any PIN projects may be submitted to: crm.armenia@peopleinneed.net, Phone: +374 93 68 88 70

Contact for Clarifications

For questions about the application or guidance on the call, please contact: avetik.pepanyan@peopleinneed.net