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## CSO CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

**September 10<sup>th</sup> 2024.**

### **Background**

People in Need (PIN), established in 1992 by Czech war correspondents, has grown into one of Central Europe's largest non-profit organizations, focusing on humanitarian aid, development assistance, human rights, education, and social inclusion. Operating in over 40 countries, including Zambia since 2017, PIN supports vulnerable populations through three core programmatic pillars: Emergency Response and Recovery, Climate Resilience and Civil Society and Inclusive Governance.

The Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection (JCTR), founded in 1988 by the Jesuits, promotes justice and equality through Christian values, education, environmental care, and policy advocacy in Zambia. JCTR is known for its evidence-based advocacy and has successfully empowered communities to engage with policymakers and participate in governance processes.

Together, PIN and JCTR invite Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to participate in the Local Empowerment and Development – Civil Society LEADs project, funded by the European Commission. This 36-month initiative aims to empower and strengthen the resilience of at least 40 diverse Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) across Zambia, particularly those focusing and working with women, youth, and marginalized groups. The project will offer capacity development, financial support, and networking opportunities, enabling CSOs to navigate challenges, drive change, and serve as the voice of the populations they serve.

### **Objectives of the Call for Participation**

This call for participation aims to identify and select small formalized CSOs, grassroots organizations, mid-level and well established CSOs led by or representing women, youth, People with Disability (PWD) and other marginalized groups, who are:

- o focused on influencing social change, serve as bridges between public authorities and communities/constituents, demonstrating practical, proactive attitude and an

understanding of challenges of working together for change; interested in building networks and mobilizing others to achieve concrete changes and results and ready to commit time and energy to the development of the organization over the next **36 months (about 3 years)**.

### **Eligibility**

- Must be a registered organisation and working in any of the following target districts – Mwense, Chembe, Mansa, Kafue, Lusaka, Chongwe, Luampa, Kaoma, Nkeyema, Solwezi, Kalumbila, Choma, Mazabuka and Sinazongwe (*CSOs in areas not mentioned need not apply*)
- Must be non-partisan
- Be one of the following: Grassroot organizations, Non-profit, NGO, Faith-based organizations (FBOs), Advocacy groups, Community associations etc.
- Committed to strengthening governance and sustainable development in Zambia
- Have a proven track record of working with women, youth and marginalized groups in Zambia, with these populations’ representatives included in the organization’s leadership.
- They should be interested and willing to incorporate governance, advocacy and social accountability in their programming.
- Demonstrate a deep understanding of challenges faced by women, youth and marginalized groups in Zambia and a strong commitment to creating positive change in their communities.
- Have a reputation and strong standing in the communities they work in.

### **Activity-Forecast within the Project**

*Each of the selected CSO will:*

- Conduct a self-assessment using Organisation Capacity Assessment Tool (OCAT) and develop or review a 3-year Strategy Document and Organizational Action Plan (AP) to identify capacity development priorities, results indicators, and key milestones. (Timeline: 3 months).

- Receive tailored capacity development support, including 10-day training workshops, 10 hours of mentoring/coaching, and 10 hours of expert on-the-job consultations, to strengthen internal management systems and address specific needs (Timeline: 3 months)
- Can apply for financial support for funding of own organizational development priorities outlined in Action Plans (APs). (Timeline: 3 months)
- Receive tailored capacity development in policy engagement, evidence-based advocacy, participatory decision making and social accountability (Timeline: 2 months)
- Will have the opportunity to apply for a financial support for CSO-led joint research as well as monitoring, policy engagement and advocacy initiatives (Timeline: 5-6 months)
- Participate in peer-to-peer learning, networking and coordination activities among CSOs, CSO networks and government, private sector and media to enhance coordination (Timeline: 18 months).
- Will have the opportunity to apply for funding to support joint actions, coordination and dialogue with government, private sector and media (Timeline: 12 months).
- Participate in national level campaigns to highlight the impact of CSO engagement in governance and development (Timeline: 12 months).

**Note:** Timelines could be subject to adjustments during implementation to accommodate the evolving needs of CSOs and the country context. All program activities will take place in English.

We invite interested organizations to fill out the attached application form using this link [application link] along with a minimum of two references and a copy of organization's registration certificate. References may include partners, target groups or donors if applicable. Applications should be submitted in English

## Evaluation Process

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Criteria	Score (%)
Grassroots, small CSOs, community-based organizations, as well as mid-level and well established CSOs that are formally registered and recognized entities working in the target provinces/districts with a clear focus or interest in influencing social change through advocacy and policy dialogue and acting as intermediaries between public authorities and the community.	qualifying criterion - Yes/No
Examples of previous civic or community actions (in the past 2 years, can be small-scale in case of grassroots CSOs) demonstrating a practical, proactive attitude towards improving youth, women and marginalized group situations and an understanding of the challenges of working together for change	20
Understanding of thematic area, local context, and underlying causes of problems and clear alignment of the mission and activities that support women, youth and marginalized populations.	10
Clear motivation to build networks and collaborations with other CSO colleagues at both local and national levels, as well as other stakeholders (public authorities, private sector, media) indicating a desire for collective impact and shared learning	15
Ability to assess own areas of weakness and motivation to improve and develop their capacities as well as demonstrating potential for sustainable impact, indicating their ability to maintain and sustain their activities beyond the immediate term	15
Demonstrated commitment to transparency and accountability in their operations, including financial management and reporting, no record of fraud, illegal or unethical activity	20
Readiness to commit time and energy to the organization's development over the next 36 months (about 3 years).	20

Applications will be evaluated by an evaluation committee by **20<sup>th</sup> November 2024**. Applicants will directly be contacted for further clarification if necessary. Additional pre-selection interviews will be conducted (when relevant) and references from local actors will be checked.

The evaluation committee will also base its decisions to respect a balanced distribution in terms of the type of CSO selected and geographic area of work.

**Note:** Applications from private businesses or political organizations, public authorities or related organizations are not eligible under this call.

### **Deadline for Submission**

Please ensure that your applications (along with a copy of registration certificate and two reference contacts) are submitted by **9<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 23:59**, Applications received after the deadline will not be considered. *Apply here:* <https://ee.kobotoolbox.org/x/maP5TQp3>

Any questions or requests for clarifications should be directed to the following email address: [grace.sikanda@pinf.cz](mailto:grace.sikanda@pinf.cz) and [bernard.mwaba@jctr.org.zm](mailto:bernard.mwaba@jctr.org.zm). All answers and clarifications will be posted on PIN's social media channels by **18:00 hrs. On 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024**.

### **Information session**

An online information session regarding this call for participation will be held on **21<sup>h</sup> September 2024**.

To confirm your attendance, please send an email to the email address. The information session will be conducted via Teams or Zoom, and registered candidates will receive a link with further details regarding the session by **11<sup>th</sup> September 2024**.

## **CSO NETWORK CALL**

### **Call for Participation**

#### **Background**

People in Need (PIN) and Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection are inviting Networks of Civil Society Organizations CSO to express their interest in participating in *Local Empowerment and Development - Civil Society LEADs project*, funded by *the European*

**Commission.** The project aims to empower and increase the resilience of CSOs and contribute to strengthened governance and sustainable development in Zambia, with a focus on women, youth and marginalized groups. *The 36-month action* will target at least 40 CSOs from various parts of Zambia.

Within the project, PIN will provide capacity development and strengthening, financial support and national and regional networking facilitation and cross-learning opportunities to small formalized CSOs, grassroots organizations as well as new/emerging CSOs (created within the past 1 – 2.5 years) in Zambia PIN’s primary role is to create conditions for local CSOs to forge their own capacity development path via facilitated, participatory sessions and strengthen valuable collaborations among CSOs to drive change, navigate complexity and stay resilient.

### **Objectives of the Call for Participation**

This call for participation aims to select CSO networks that are:

- focused on sustainable development, inclusive governance, serving as bridges between public authorities and community/constituents;
- able to give examples of previous civic or community actions demonstrating practical, proactive attitude and an understanding of challenges of working together for change;
- interested in mobilizing others to achieve concrete changes and results. Openness to broadening the range of members, partners and stakeholders engaged.
- ready to commit time and energy to the development of the organization over the next 36 months (about 3 years), assess own areas of weakness and motivation to develop their capacities.
- motivated to build collaborations with CSO colleagues at local and national levels.

### **Eligibility**

- Must be non-partisan
- Be registered and or formalised in Zambia and working in Lusaka with skills and platforms to effectively advocate on behalf of their constituents and influence national level policies.

- Be a network of at least 5 CSOs that came together voluntarily to pursue shared purposes of social development or democratic governance preferably, have some member CSOs in some of these districts – Mwense, Chembe, Mansa, Kafue, Lusaka, Chongwe, Luampa, Nkeyema, Kaoma, Solwezi, Kalumbila, Choma, Mazabuka and Sinazongwe.
- Show a commitment to strengthening governance and sustainable development in Zambia.
- Have a proven track record of working on issues concerning women, youth, and marginalized groups for at least 2 years and a strong commitment to creating positive change in working with their member organisations.
- Have a strong focus and experience in governance, advocacy, and social accountability in their programming
- Have a basic organizational structure, including a clear governance framework, management systems, and financial controls
- Have a strong reputation and standing in their CSO networks and ability to mobilise CSOs.

### **Scope of Activity Forecast within the Project**

Each of the selected CSO Network will:

- Conduct a self-assessment using Network Organisational Capacity Assessment Tool (NOCAT) and develop or review a 3-year Strategy Document and Action Plan (AP) to identify capacity development priorities, results indicators, and key milestones (3 months)
- Receive tailored capacity development support, including 10-day training workshops, 10 hours of mentoring/coaching, and 10 hours of expert on-the-job consultations, to strengthen internal management systems and address specific needs (3 months)
- Have the opportunity to apply for financial support for funding of their own network development priorities outlined in Action Plans (APs) (3 months)
- Receive tailored capacity development for policy engagement, evidence-based advocacy, participatory decision making and social accountability (2 months)

- Will have the opportunity to apply for a financial support for CSO-led joint research as well as monitoring, policy engagement and advocacy initiatives (5-6 months)
- Participate in peer learning, networking and coordination activities among CSOs, CSO Networks and government, private sector and media to enhance coordination (18 months)
- Will have the opportunity to apply for funding to support joint actions, coordination and dialogue with government, private sector and media (12 months)
- Participate in national level campaigns to highlight impact of CSO networks engagement in governance and development (12 months)

**Note:** Timelines could be subject to adjustments during implementation to accommodate the evolving needs of CSO networks and the country context.

We strongly encourage interested organizations to fill out the attached application form and submit it to [application link] along with a minimum of two references and a copy of CSO network’s registration certificate. References may include partners, beneficiaries, or donors if applicable. Applications should be submitted in English.

### Evaluation Process

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria

Criteria	Score (%)
Formally registered CSO Networks (existing for at least 2 years) dedicated to influencing social change through advocacy, policy dialogue, and acting as intermediaries between public authorities and the community with a particular focus on either women, youth and/or marginalized groups	qualifying criterion - yes/no
Examples of previous activities in the past 2 years focused on sustainable development, advocacy, policy dialogue connected to issues faced by women, youth and/or marginalized groups	20
Strong understanding of their thematic area, including the political, social, economic context, as well as root causes of the issues they address	10



Clear motivation to build collaborations with other CSOs, CSO networks as well as other stakeholders (public authorities, private sector, media) at both local and national levels, indicating a desire for collective impact and shared learning	15
Ability to assess own areas of improvement and motivation to improve and develop their capacities and member engagement experience	15
Demonstrated commitment to transparency and accountability in their operations, including financial management and reporting	20
Readiness to commit time and energy to the development of the network over the next 36 months (about 3 years)	20

Applications will be evaluated by an evaluation committee by **20<sup>th</sup> October 2024**. Applicants will directly be contacted for further clarification if necessary. Additional pre-selection interviews will be conducted (when relevant) and references from local actors will be checked.

**Note:** Applications from private businesses or political organizations, public authorities or related organizations are not eligible under this call.

### **Deadline for Submission**

Please ensure that your applications (along with a copy of registration certificate and two reference contacts) are submitted by **9<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 23:59**, Applications received after the deadline will not be considered. *Apply here:* <https://ee.kobotoolbox.org/x/maP5TQp3>

Any questions or requests for clarifications should be directed to the following email address: [grace.sikanda@pinf.cz](mailto:grace.sikanda@pinf.cz) and [bernard.mwaba@jctr.org.zm](mailto:bernard.mwaba@jctr.org.zm). All answers and clarifications will be posted on JCTR and PIN's social media channels below:



## INFORMATION SESSIONS

Online information sessions regarding this call for participation will be held on the **19<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024**. To confirm your attendance, please register with the link provided, and registered candidates will receive a link with further details regarding the session by **20<sup>th</sup> September, 2024 and 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024**. *Register using the links below:*

1. Introductory Session: Call for LEADs Project Participation  
Thursday, September 19 · 10:00 – 11:00am CAT  
Google Meet Video call link: <https://calendar.app.google/3KZ3i4osCQQQXmCP7>
2. Recurring Information Session: Call for LEADs Project Participation  
Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 – 11:00am CAT  
Video call link: <https://calendar.app.google/qcDrZBkX2Aj4Luz2A> and  
<https://calendar.app.google/x8y1sQEoTw98AJxT7>

**APPLY HERE:** <https://ee.kobotoolbox.org/x/maP5TQp3>



Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection (JCTR)

JCTR Repository

<https://repository.jctr.org.zm>

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Booklet

Formation Programmes

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2024-09-10

# Call for Participation in the European Union (EU) 'Local Empowerment and Development – Civil Society' (LEADs) Project

Mwaba, Bernard

Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection

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<https://repository.jctr.org.zm/handle/20.500.14274/1844>

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