



Financial Support to Third Parties in Kisii and Nyamira Counties: Call for Local Actors (CLA)

Publication Date: Thursday, April 18, 2024

Funder (Prime Funder): The European Union

Implementing organization: International Solidarity Foundation (ISF)

Announcement Type: Subsequent

Call Number: 002

Application submission deadline: Tuesday, May 07, 2024, 11:59 pm, East African Time

Project overview

The International Solidarity Foundation (ISF) is a Finnish development organization, founded in 1970. ISF envisions a world where women and girls are empowered to build their own future, their self-determination is fully realized, and their right to bodily integrity is respected.

ISF's 2022–2025 programme aims to strengthen the bodily integrity and livelihood resilience of women and girls in Kenya, Somaliland, and Ethiopia. The programme consists of development projects that are implemented by local partners: civil society actors such as NGOs, community-based organizations, and women's own businesses. In Kenya, ISF has operated in the Kisii and Nyamira counties since 2015 with several local CSOs and CBOs.

Since June 2023, ISF has been implementing a Grassroots Initiative project that runs a Financial Support to Third Parties (FSTP) scheme which aims to cultivate a dynamic grassroots movement against GBV, supported by tailored prevention strategies, collaborative gatherings, knowledge sharing, skill enhancement through peer learning and mentorship, and financial support for local stakeholders. The FSTP scheme is designed to run for three consecutive rounds of sub-granting (**each running for three months only**), with the first call for applications taking place in 2023 and the final call in 2025.

Having successfully completed the first 2023 round, ISF now invites eligible community-based organizations, grassroots movements, and civil society organizations to apply for the second round of funding to support activities and actions related to addressing GBV in Kisii and Nyamira counties.

Successful applicants will begin with a capacity-building period, which will involve refining proposed actions and creating detailed work plans, with an anticipated start date for implementation in August 2024.

Support offered through the call

The ISF will provide funding for groups and organizations with innovative ideas, preferably demonstrating a track record of at least 12 months of implementing similar or related activities within the following categories, focusing on addressing gender-based violence (GBV).

1. **Prevention:** efforts aim to stop or reduce the occurrence of gender-based violence by addressing root causes and societal norms contributing to such violence. For example, promoting community dialogues and empowering girls and women to make informed choices about their bodies.
2. **Response:** support to individuals who have experienced or are at risk of experiencing gender-based violence, ensuring their safety, well-being, and access to necessary services.
3. **Access to Justice:** efforts to enhance survivors' ability to seek legal remedies and protection, addressing barriers that might prevent them from doing so.

These forms may include, but are not limited to, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Intimate Partner Violence, Sexual Violence, Psychological Violence, and Child Marriage. Groups that work with vulnerable communities (the youth, persons with disabilities, the elderly, minority or marginalized groups, LGBTQI+ communities etc.) are encouraged to apply.

For this Call, the proposed action should focus on any of the categories listed above, and include any of the indicative, but not exhaustive activities listed below (applicants can also suggest other relevant activities):

- Local campaigns
- Advocacy and lobbying
- Legal protection, counselling services, and social support
- Support for people and groups that are exposed to discrimination.
- Cultural and youth events
- Visibility and communication/outreach activities
- Creation of digital solutions, mobile applications, web portals etc.
- Access to information and public debate
- Participation in the development of local policies, initiatives, and action plans
- Social entrepreneurship initiatives
- Local media reporting
- Others

ISF will award grants ranging from **KES. 500,000** to **KES. 1,000,000** to successful applicants in support of the selected activities.

All costs incurred during the implementation period relating to any of the outlined action categories and indicative activities as per the Call document guidelines are eligible.

Ineligible costs include:

- Debts and debt service charges (interest).
- Provisions for losses or potential future liabilities.



**INTERNATIONAL
SOLIDARITY
FOUNDATION**

- Actions that consist exclusively or primarily of capital expenditure and infrastructure expenditure, e.g., land, buildings, and vehicles.
- Equipment not directly utilized for the action.
- In-kind contributions (except for volunteer work)
- Salary costs of personnel.
- Bonuses included in the costs of staff.
- Negative interest charged by banks or other financial institutions.
- Actions concerned only or mainly with individual sponsorships for participation in workshops, seminars, conferences, and congresses.
- Actions concerned only or mainly with individual studies or training courses scholarships.
- Actions supporting political parties or related foundations.
- Actions concerning one-off conferences. Conferences may be funded only if they form part of a wider range of activities to be implemented in the project timeframe.

Eligibility criteria

Who can apply?

- **Civil Society Organisations (CSOs):** non-governmental, non-profit, and voluntary organizations that operate independently from the government and commercial sectors; established to address various social, cultural, environmental, and humanitarian issues.
- **Community-Based Organisations (CBOs):** entities that operate within specific geographical communities and are primarily focused on addressing those communities' unique needs and concerns.
- **Grassroots Movements** are small, locally based groups that focus on addressing specific issues or concerns within a community and emphasize the importance of community engagement, participatory decision-making, and direct action; often initiated and led by individuals or community members who are directly affected by the issues they aim to address.

To be considered for funding, groups and organizations will need to submit the following:

- **Fully completed [application form in pdf format](#)**
- **The budget proposal** using the **[budget template in Excel \(xlsx\) format](#)** (the initial activity plans and budgets are subject to review during the capacity-building period)
- Proof of registration (where applicable)
- Bank statements for at least 6 months (where applicable)
- Proof of track record, highlighting experience within the proposed focus area. This can be a reference letter from a trusted person familiar with your work (e.g., submission of the Community Activity Programs Reporting, previous project reports, county govt, chief, local religious/community leader or a funder).

Additional information on specific eligibility requirements, eligibility of costs and other clarifications are included in the **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**. Further questions regarding the call should be sent by email to: isfkenya@solidaarisuus.fi by Friday, April 26, 2024, by 5:00 pm, with the title: "ISF CALL FOR LOCAL ACTORS_QUESTIONS".



Submission of the application

Applications should be written in English and **submitted by email** to isfkenya@solidaarisuus.fi.

The subject line must include the words “**ISF Call for Local Actors – CLA 002**”, and the above-listed documents must be included as **attachments** to be considered successfully submitted.

Applications must be submitted by **Tuesday, May 07, 2024, 11:59 pm**. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

The successful applicant(s) will be notified within fifteen (15) working days following the deadline for submission of applications.

Due to the high number of anticipated applications, ISF may not provide feedback to each unsuccessful applicant.

Timeline and Duration

Call for applications released	Thursday, April 18, 2024
Deadline for questions/clarifications	Friday, April 26, 2024, by 5:00 pm
	Monday, April 29, 2024
	10:00 am -12:00 noon
Information session	Online
Deadline for applications	Tuesday, May 07, 2024, 11:59 pm
Award notification (Tentative)	Friday, May 31 2024