**COVID-19 Solidarity Programme**

**Georgia**

**Call for Proposals – Round 2**

Contents

[**1.** **Background** 3](#_Toc45889854)

[**2.** **Objectives of the Call** 4](#_Toc45889855)

[**3.** **Eligibility** 5](#_Toc45889856)

[**4.** **Application Process** 6](#_Toc45889857)

[**5.** **Proposal selection process** 6](#_Toc45889858)

# **Background**

People in Need (PIN) has launched the regional “COVID-19 Solidarity Programme 2020-2022” with the financial support of the European Union. This project will support civil society organisations (CSOs) to respond to the immediate and longer term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in Eastern Partnership countries. PIN leads a consortium, together with the Netherlands Helsinki Committee and AFEW International, which will enhance the capacities of CSOs to effectively respond to short- and medium-term needs and influence longer-term policy reforms that support vulnerable groups and those disproportionately affected by the pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted social and economic systems across the world, and magnified existing vulnerabilities and inequalities. The prompt implementation of mitigation measures has been highly effective in reducing the public health impacts of the crisis in Georgia. However, many households have experienced a loss of income, the closure of childcare or services for elderly people, disruption to education, or challenges in accessing social services when they are needed most.

Prior to the pandemic, rural communities in Georgia faced challenges in accessing quality or specialist social and health services. Education, childcare, and services for elderly people are also less developed in remote and rural areas. COVID-19 has magnified these gaps and challenges, and highlighted areas where the post-pandemic recovery should support longer term resilience.

Rural households are often reliant on agriculture, tourism, or remittances for their livelihood. Large and small scale entrepreneurs in both sectors have been negatively impacted by COVID-19, with disrupted access to inputs, markets and clients. In addition, informal and formal employment opportunities have decreased, particularly in service and social sectors that are key employers of women. The closure of education and social facilities has also restricted the ability of carers to engage in income generating activities outside the home.

PIN recognises the crucial role local CSOs play in service delivery, community mobilisation, awareness raising, policy engagement and advocacy for the protection of human rights and civic freedoms, both now and in the post-pandemic environment. Therefore, in this phase of the project, PIN will launch two calls for proposals and disburse grants to CSOs that both address the immediate COVID-related health and socio-economic needs of vulnerable groups, and enable them to continue supporting their usual constituents.

# **Objectives of the Call**

The aim of the People in Need COVID-19 Solidarity Grants Programme is to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 and contribute to the longer term socio-economic resilience of vulnerable groups in Georgia. Throughout the programme, PIN will work with CSOs that support vulnerable rural households, including elderly people, the extremely poor, internally displaced persons, youth, and persons with disabilities.

**Target groups**  
Rural and remote communities experience specific vulnerabilities. Proposed projects should demonstrate an understanding of the challenges faced by rural communities. In addition, in this round of grants we will prioritise proposals that directly address the intersecting needs of one of the following groups:

* Persons with disabilities
* Ethnic minorities
* Youth
* Elderly people

**Successful proposals have to address immediate needs and gaps emerged by COVID-19 in one of the following sectors:**

* **Social Services –** This might include the provision of home-based social or therapeutic services; support to young people leaving care during the pandemic period, etc.
* **Social Protection** – For example, addressing the impacts of gender-based violence.
* **Education** – This can include mentoring support to young people at risk of falling behind; measures that widen inclusion, etc.
* **Economic recovery –** in case of trainings it should be directly linked to income generation, job opportunity (not hypothetical);

**Target regions**   
Proposed projects should target to people belonging to vulnerable groups, in rural and/or high mountainous communities of Georgia.

# **Eligibility**

The call for proposals is open to **non-profit-making** civil society organisations with the status of a **legal person**, established and **registered at least for two years in** **Georgia** from one of the following: non-governmental organisations, organisations representing national and/or ethnic minorities, civil rights organisations and organisations combating discrimination, women's and youth organisations, teaching and research (not for research purposes) organisations.

Applications submitted directly by public administration institutions, State institutions, State agencies, local authorities, regional authorities, political parties or organisations affiliated with political parties are **not** eligible for this call.

**Grant amount and duration:**

PIN will support individual grants:

* Maximum value of grant **140,000 GEL**.
* Minimum value of grant **70 000 GEL.**
* Proposed project duration should not exceed 12 months.

**While budgeting the project please consider your previous budget management experience!**

During this grant call PIN plans to disburse the grants with total sum of 700,000 GEL.

**Ineligible costs:**

The budget must be in line with the activities described in the application form. The following activities and expenditures are not eligible under this call:

* Purchase of land or property
* Political or religious activities
* Environmentally harmful projects
* Retrospective activities (costs related to activities implemented prior to signing the grant agreement)
* Re-granting

# **Application Process**

Applicants must submit the following :

* Annex 1 – Application Form
* Annex 2 – Budget
* Registration certificate of the organisation
* Statute of the organisation
* Evidence of track record of the projects implemented in your priority field during past two years;
* CVs of the project team;

Applications can be submitted in English or Georgian. All submitted applications must be signed by the head of the applicant organisation, scanned and sent electronically.

The application package should be submitted to: [geo.covid@peopleinneed.cz](mailto:geo.covid@peopleinneed.cz)

Deadline for submission of full applications is **25 October 2020**. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

**Additional information**

Potential applicants are invited to join an online information and Q&A session via the jitsti meet platform on **15 October 2020** at **15:00.**

<https://meet.jit.si/SecondRoundGrantcompetition>

You may also submit your proposal related questions until **20 October** **2020** via email: [geo.covid@peopleinneed.cz](mailto:geo.covid@peopleinneed.cz) Questions will be responded to within 2 working days.

# **Proposal selection process**

Proposals will be evaluated in a two stage process. Submitted proposals that score 70 points or above according to the selection criteria below, will be evaluated by a Grant Selection Committee (GSC) comprised of internal and external stakeholders. Organisations which reach the second stage will be invited to present their project idea to the GSC.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Proposal Selection Criteria** | **Maximum score** |
| 1 | Relevance of the project idea to the needs emerged by COVID-19 | **25** |
| 2 | Strong analysis of the needs of the target group/s | **20** |
| 3 | Relevance of activities address to identified needs | **20** |
| 4 | Cost-effective and realistic budget | **10** |
| 5 | Analysis of risks and mitigation measures | **10** |
| 6 | Proven experience and expertise in similar projects | **10** |
| 7 | Innovation of the activities proposed | **5** |
| **Total:** | | **100** |

Shortlisted applicants will be contacted no later than **6 November** via email, interviews will be conducted on **9 – 13 November.**

The final decision will be announced **16-20 November 2020** via email.

Any concerns or feedback related to the proposal selection process can be submitted to the PIN Georgia office at #16 G. Kikodze str. 0105, Tbilisi, Georgia or via e-mail: [feedback.georgia@peopleinneed.cz](mailto:feedback.georgia@peopleinneed.cz)

Application and guideline