

CALL AND GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATIONS TO TRAINING PROGRAM

OUR UNION VALUES PROGRAMME EUROPE SUPPORTS!



CALL TO PARTICIPATE IN TRAINING PROGRAM

Preparation for the In Development+ grants



Ökotárs-Hungarian Environmental Partnership Foundation, together with Autonomia Foundation, Carpathian Foundation-Hungary and the Hungarian Association of Community Development (hereinafter referred to as the "Intermediary"), is hereby launching an open call for applications, in the framework of the Our Union Values programme, funded by the European Union.

ABOUT THE OUR UNION VALUES PROGRAMME

By supporting Hungarian civil society organisations, the Intermediary of the Our Union Values Programme aim to foster the emergence of cohesive communities in Hungary, where members are active, supportive and involved in shaping their own lives and the affairs of their communities.

The aim of the programme is for the winning applicants to contribute, through the implementation of their ideas, to the respect, strengthening and promotion of our common European values of human dignity, freedom, democracy and equality, including gender equality, the rule of law and human rights, including the rights of minorities.

These are the values form the basis of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, a unified framework describing the fundamental rights applicable to all in the European Union. The Charter is the compass for the Our Union Values programme, as it is often through our rights that fundamental human values can be realised. Civil society actors in Hungary can therefore apply to the calls for proposals with projects related to the fundamental rights enshrined in the Charter.

Key points of the Charter of Fundamental Rights presented in an infographic here:

<https://kozsertekeink.hu/meltosag>

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE CALL FOR APPICATION TO THE TRAINING PROGRAM

In addition to grant funding provided by the Our Union Values programme, the intermediary aims to support the preparation of applicants to enable them to submit ideas and plans in their proposals that are well suited to the objectives of the programme.

The present call therefore invites Hungarian civil society organisations (CSOs) to participate in a six-month training and development process, during which they will receive assistance in preparing for the next call for proposals of the Our Union Values Programme - "In Development+".

The training program is also open to CSOs that applied, but were not successful the Programme's previous, In Partnership and Development calls.

Selected applicants will participate in a group capacity development process, which will enable them to carry out a complex situation analysis: to map their own and their community's resources and to formulate their objectives. They will also be helped to plan and formulate their activities in terms of expected impact, so that their ideas, if implemented, will be as effective as possible in promoting our fundamental rights.

The "In Development+" call will be a renewed version of the "In Development" category of the first call for proposals of the Our Union Values Programme. As the main conditions and cornerstones of the call are not expected to change, please consult the text of the closed call for information: <https://kozosertekeink.hu/lezarult-palyazati-felhivasok>

As a reminder, in the 'In Development' call "we seek for proposals primarily from CSOs (or consortia thereof) operating outside Budapest that currently implement out or plan to carry out activities related to the general objectives above. As part of the grant, applicants had to commit to work on developing their own organisational capacity in the course of their professional work." The grants available under the "In Development+" call will be between €15-20,000, for projects expected to run for 12-18 months, starting in June 2024.

THE TRAINING PROCESS

The backbone of the training process will comprise of six training sessions, which are expected to cover the following topics:

- 1) the values of the European Union: how to reflect them in the daily work of the organisation; transparency, communication, optimising grant applications
- 2) formulating an organisational vision, resource mapping, organisational diagnosis, local embeddedness assessment, relevance
- 3) knowledge and application of community and participatory processes in everyday life, possibilities and objectives of involving target groups vs. partners (those affected by development)
- 4) organisational and community capacity, generating successful partnerships
- 5) management, finances
- 6) understanding and planning the impact chain.

In addition to training, other workshops and facilitative consultations will take place.

The methodological basis of the training program:

Community capacity is at the heart of the training and development process. This is the process of initiating the kind of change that brings people reached by the organisation or involved in its activities into the social, economic and public policy life around them, and enables them over time to act and engage in public life not only individually but increasingly also together.

This requires both the development of the skills of people and those of the organisation that reaches out to them and involves them, and the development of different capabilities (competences). It is essential that they learn how to organise themselves, how to take responsibility for their own lives and those of their communities, how to participate in debating and deciding on issues that affect them and their communities, and how to be supported by their organisations. Community capacity building is therefore a collective learning process, aimed at enabling organisations to become equally aware of and responsive to changes in their operating environment and processes within their organisation in a planned and flexible way.

This involves not only occasional, ad-hoc interventions, but also the initiation (or continuation) of processes through which the participating organisations and communities form new partnerships and develop as organisations, expanding their methodological knowledge.



The training process will take place with a maximum of 15-20 participants per session. Participants will also receive "homework" between each session. The training sessions will be mainly face-to-face and to a lesser extent online. The trainers will endeavour to schedule the face-to-face sessions at a location close to the seats of the applicant organisations and will announce them in September 2023 at the latest.

The training process is expected to start in October 2023 and end in March 2024.

The training will consist of consecutive modules, so priority will be given to applicants who commit to attend each session with 2 persons per organisation and that 1 person will participate in all session.

During the training sessions, the organisers will provide subsistence for the participants and professional and financial support for the completion of the homework, in an amount of €500 per organisation (lump-sum). This support can be used freely, but is essentially intended to enable participants to carry out their personal/organisational training tasks in a meaningful way between sessions, for example

- presenting what they have learned to the rest of the organisation
- making an organisational diagnosis
- mapping their community, their target group
- travel expenses
- research, interviews.

The grant can NOT be used to cover fees of external (professional) grant writers!

The aim of the homework is to deepen and put into practice the knowledge and skills acquired in theory.

The training is organised by the Hungarian Association of Community Development (HACD). They will issue a training certificate at the end of the whole process.

DEADLINE AND SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Applications for this training call can be made by filling in the application form on the Our Union Values Programme online platform.

The deadline for applications is **11 September 2023 at 14:00**. Candidates will be selected by 22 September.

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR APPLICANTS

A maximum of 60 organisations total will be eligible to participate in the training program. Applicants will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Are the activities planned or those carried out in the past in line with EU rights and values, and do they help strengthen and promote them? (max. 6 points)

- Is there a willingness and ambition to evaluate the organisation's activities and capacities and to make changes as a result? (max. 6 points)
- Is there an intention to improve the extent and quality of the involvement of the target group? (max. 3 points)
- To what extent does the organisation focus on developing the empowerment, general autonomy and self-reliance of the people and communities involved? (max. 3 points)
- To what extent can a change in the organisation's activities and their impact be expected by the end of the development process? (max. 6 points)

The applications forms will be scored by the staff of Hungarian Association of Community Development (HACD) the member of the Intermediary charge of capacity building and the delivery of the training process, with a minimum of 2 people per application.

On the basis of the average of the scores given by the evaluators, the decision will be taken by the Selection Committee composed of the heads of the intermediary foundations and an external expert. In order to ensure transparency, the European Commission Representation in Hungary will be invited to attend the Selection Committee meeting as an observer.

The Selection Committee will also listen to any additions, more detailed technical opinions and views of the evaluators in the context of each proposal, as appropriate.

The decision of the Selection Committee is final and there is no right of appeal. Once the decision has been taken, the intermediary will publish it on the website of the Our Union Values programme (no later than the following day) and will inform all applicants of the outcome in writing within 15 working days via the online system, using the contact address provided in the organisational details.

WHO CAN APPLY?

The training is open to Hungarian CSOs that plan to apply to the 'In Development+' call for proposals, expected to be launched in early 2024, and have identified their organisational and community capacity development needs.

Only those organisations that meet or will meet the following general eligibility criteria of the Our Union Values Programme by the beginning of 2024 at the latest (by the time of submitting their application) will be eligible to participate in the training process:

- they are not profit-making, i.e. they are not set up for personal profit (although they may have paid employees and engage in economic activities, they cannot share the results of these activities between their members and managers; their economic activities must not be primary, but must serve the mission and objectives of the organisation)
- their members have no financial interest in the results of the organisation's work or in its economic activities, and the main purpose and activities of the organisation must not be solely to represent the economic or professional interests of its members
- are voluntary in nature, formed voluntarily by groups or individuals and usually involve an element of voluntary participation in the organisation.
- act in the public arena and for the public good on concerns and issues related to the well-being of people, groups or society as a whole, but not strive to gain political power.
- have some degree of formal or institutional existence, unlike ad hoc groups, involving formal statutes or other governing documents defining their mission, objectives and scope.



- are membership-based, with transparent structures and an elected chair / board, and are accountable to their members and donors
- are independent of local, regional and national government and other public authorities (in case of foundations, the majority of the above shall not be among of its founders); of political parties and commercial organisations (these bodies must not have a majority representation among their founders and/or senior management)
- have no outstanding public debt
- respect the fundamental rights and values on which the EU is founded (and make a declaration to this effect in their application).

Based on their legal form the following types of organisations are eligible:

1. Actively operating civil organisations, associations and trade unions established under act CLXXV of 2011 on the right of association, public benefit status and the functioning and support of civil organisations (except political parties, chambers of commerce, public bodies, employers' representative organisations, insurance associations and churches)
2. Actively operating associations and foundations (excluding trusts and public foundations) established under Act V of 2013, i.e. the Hungarian Civil Code.

CONCLUSION OF THE CONTRACT AND PAYMENT OF THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Ökotárs Foundation will conclude a contract with the organisations selected for the training program, at the latest at the first face-to-face session. The financial support will be paid in one lump sum to the participating organisations by bank transfer within 8 days of the signing of the contract.

Within 30 days of the end of the training process, the participating organisations must submit a short financial report on the use of the grant, listing the items paid in a table.

WHO AND HOW WILL COORDINATE THE GRANT PROGRAMME?

The terms and procedures of the programme are governed by a contract between the European Union's European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) and Ökotárs Foundation. The programme is implemented in a consortium. The consortium is led by Ökotárs Foundation, which concludes the grant agreements and transfers the funds. The three foundations in the consortium are responsible for the application process, while the Hungarian Association of Community Development is responsible for capacity building.

During the application period, questions are welcome via the contact form on the Our Union Values website (<https://kozoserkeink.hu>) and will be answered by e-mail or telephone within three working days!