



APPLY NOW:

Civic Entrepreneurship Pitch Competition

At the CIPE Civic Engagement Hub, we're supporting the next generation of civic leaders in Ethiopia. We recognize that the future of civic leadership in Ethiopia may not look like the past, and we want to support the groups and individuals that are leading the way and continuing to be civically engaged in their communities with an eye towards impact.

To support this, the Civic Engagement Hub is hosting its inaugural "Civic Entrepreneurship Pitch Competition" a workshop and funding competition for civil society groups, social enterprises, and civic-minded individuals to strengthen their advocacy and organizational sustainability initiatives. Winners receive a small grant to implement their proposal.

This opportunity is only for individuals and organizations currently working in Ethiopia.

Who Should Apply?

The following individuals, organizations, or groups are eligible to apply for the pitch competition:

- Non-registered Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations
- Registered Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations
- Civic-minded entrepreneurs, social enterprises, startups, or businesses
- Civic-minded individuals or groups with some advocacy experience, looking to implement a specific advocacy initiative.

Focus Areas of the Grant Support:

Proposals submitted should seek to address one or more of the following areas related to advocacy OR organizational sustainability:

For the Civic Entrepreneurship Pitch Competition advocacy initiatives can include:

- Supports greater economic resilience in response to Covid-19;
- Strengthen governance and civic participation;
- Seek to constructively engage youth on activities related to civic social, economic and political development in Ethiopia;
- Support digital advocacy or improve access to information.

For the Civic Entrepreneurship Pitch Competition, organizational sustainability initiatives can include:

- Support the creation of a new, revenue generating service for the organization;
- Strengthen the membership, reach, or impact of an existing organization;
- Strengthen research, monitoring, and evaluation practices for organizations already engaged in advocacy;
- Offer a new way to support organizational sustainability

Teams and individuals developing a new venture, or an advocacy initiative are welcome to apply. All proposals must be able to be implemented in the context of the current pandemic and should consider innovative ways of implementing the activities while taking appropriate public health measures.

Grant and Application Process

5-10 shortlisted candidates will be selected to attend the workshop and work with technical experts to refine their proposals in preparation for the pitch competition. All workshop participants will be invited to present their project idea at the pitch competition. The three winning candidates from the pitch competition will receive a grant of \$ 5,000-7,000.00, with the final award based on budget. The grant will be utilized for a period of 4-6 months to implement the advocacy or organizational sustainability project with mentorship from CIPE Civic Engagement Hub.

Interested candidates are strongly encouraged to participate in the virtual training on advocacy hosted by the CIPE Civic Engagement Hub in late September, early October. This is an optional training.

Interested candidates can apply directly here: <https://bit.ly/3kEUkt5>

Applications are due no later than October 20, 2020 at 6:00 PM (EAT).

The CIPE Civic Engagement Hub currently only has capacity for 10-15 candidates for this workshop and competition, but will be hosting a second competition next year. Only applications with strong, innovative proposals, that can be reasonably implemented within the allocated timeline and budget will be shortlisted.

For more information, visit: <https://bit.ly/3hYOIYW>

Or contact: Msewasew@cipe.org or CivicEngagementHub@cipe.org.
