

OPEN CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Deadline for submission of EOIs: Friday, April 23, 2021 at 12 midnight

EOIs to be submitted by email to: administrator@constitutionalismfund.co.za

1. Background

The Constitutionalism Fund (CF) was established in 2015 by Open Society Foundations, Ford Foundation and Atlantic Philanthropies (now administered by Social Change Initiative - an assignee of the Atlantic Philanthropies).

2. Purpose

The purpose of the CF is to support the constitutional vision of a transformed South Africa by exploring how transformative justice and redistributive justice can be used as tools to ensure equality and dignity for all with a focus on those who are most marginalized. These tools should be committed to transformed ways of understanding, knowing and doing; be responsive and inclusive of and actively advance indigenous modes of praxis; and supportive of courageous, diverse and alternate endeavours' which have the potential to contribute to achieving social, economic and other forms of justice.

3. Objectives

3.1. Promoting and advancing constitutionalism.

The Fund aims to ensure that the Constitution translates into a living document for South Africa, utilizing it as an instrument to support the promotion and realisation of substantive human rights, namely, equality, access to the economy, racial and economic justice, gender justice, digital justice particularly for marginalised groups including those living in poverty and dismantling and transforming structures that perpetuate racialised poverty and inequality.

3.2. Advancing transformation of the field and its institutions.

Transformation of organisations, social movements, government and the media, refers to the importance of them reflecting the values of the Constitution and the demographics of the country, with a specific focus on racial and gender transformation.

3.3. Advancing sustainability of the field and its institutions.

The Constitutionalism Fund recognises that sustainability is critical to the survival of civil society actors but also notes that sustainability is more than financial sustainability and includes focusing on good governance, mobilising new resources for institutional systems, creating new channels for diverse voices, growing collaborative networks and partnerships, and building open spaces to influence transformation.

4. Eligibility

- 4.1. Civil society organizations registered in South Africa as Non-Profit Organisations, Non-Profit Companies, Non-Profit Trust and social movements and networks are eligible to apply.
- 4.2. Only one (1) Expression of Interest will be considered per organisation.

5. Priority Areas

The Covid-19 pandemic and its responses have exposed existing and historical fault-lines in South Africa such as poverty, structural inequality, racism, marginalization of the poor, weak social protection and health systems, ongoing oppression and repression particularly at the hands of state institutions as well as the shrinking of civil society spaces. These fault-lines have meant that the preventative responses to the health crisis have triggered and exacerbated multiple socio-economic crises and rights violations with a disproportionate impact on the poor and marginalized. The pandemic has also deepened the state's securitization, and the attendant threats and challenges to civil liberties requires attention.

The Constitutionalism Fund will support eligible organisations that operate in South Africa (locally); and those that operate locally with a regional and SADC reach, which seek to:

- 5.1. Engage in activities that seek to promote and advance constitutionalism.
- 5.2. Promote and protect human & socio-economic rights during and post Covid-19.
- 5.3. Advance socio-economic justice.
- 5.4. Employ strategies that advance the systematic redistribution of power, opportunities, and access for people of all genders through the dismantling of harmful structures including patriarchy, homophobia and transphobia (gender justice).
- 5.5. Advance racial justice in South Africa.
- 5.6. Advocate for the freedom of expression and movement so as to advance an open society.
- 5.7. Foster holistic approaches that promote democracy, good governance and peace.
- 5.8. Promote and advance the empowerment & agency of women beyond the issue of GBV.
- 5.9. Promote effective land reform.
- 5.10. Engage in activities that promote access to digital democracy including providing alternative digital education to rural communities.

6. Process and Timing

Friday, April 23, 2021: EOs submission due date.

Monday, May 31, 2021: Successful EOs notified and full proposals requested.

The unsuccessful EOs will also be notified.

Friday, July 16, 2021: Proposal submission due date.

Friday, October 29, 2021: Successful & unsuccessful applicants notified.

Monday, Jan 03, 2022: Grant implementation starts.

7. Guidelines for the submission of Expression of Interests

EOs must not be more than 5 pages long and should include:

7.1. Contact information

- Telephone, physical, email and website addresses.
- Primary contact person: name, position, email address and mobile number.

- Secondary contact person: name, position, email address and mobile number.
- Type of organization (legal persona/ status).

7.2. Governance structure & Term of Office

7.3. Staff complement

7.4. Describe your geographic focus area/s

7.5. Summary of proposed work

- Provide a brief overview of the work you are seeking support for and the problem you are trying to address.
- Please provide a brief explanation of the relevance of the proposed work to the priority areas and the objectives of the Constitutionalism Fund (see Sections 3 and 5) in this call for EOIs.
- The summary should include the following information in any order of your preference:
 - *Organizational background and mission statement.*
 - *What is the organization's principal area/s of work?*
 - *What constitutionally related impacts does your organisation aim to make in South Africa and / or in the region?*
 - *What are your main activities / interventions for achieving the anticipated outputs?*
 - *Describe what partnerships and networks exist to achieve your work.*
 - *How are the proposed initiatives different/unique from others addressing the same issues?*
 - *What are the most significant recent achievements of your organisation and how did you measure the impact?*
 - *What are the timelines (duration of the proposed interventions and/or activities)?*

7.6. List the other funders of your organization in the past 2-3 years including the value of the support.

7.7. What was your income and expenditure in last financial year?

7.8. What is the total requested funding in US\$?