

# CIVICUS SOLIDARITY FUND (CSF)

## GLOSSARY

These are our definitions of some key words, expressions and terms that we use in the CSF and that you will find in our information and application forms. If you come across other words, terms or expressions that you find confusing and should be added to this glossary, please contact us at [solidarityfund@civicus.org](mailto:solidarityfund@civicus.org).

Basic service provision or service delivery: work related to providing basic services that meet the essential needs of the population. Basic services include education, health, nutrition, housing and sanitation, among others. The provision of basic services is considered a core function of governments but civil society groups and organisations also play a key role in supporting this function.

Constituent-led group or organisation: groups or organizations whose governance and team composition reflect the same target population(s) it seeks to serve or represent. For example, an organisation working to increase youth participation in civil society is constituent-led if its leaders and members are young people; and organisation promoting women's rights is constituent-led if its leaders and members are women.

Core funding: funding that allows you or your organisation to cover basic "core" costs of your individual advocacy work or your organisation's work, which are not directly linked to the implementation of specific projects. This can include salary for personnel, office rent, equipment, etc.

Decision-making body: those authorised or required to make a decision.

Early stage social advocates: individuals or groups that are initiating their work of influencing public attitudes, policies and laws to contribute to a more just, inclusive and sustainable world.

Financial struggle: A situation in which civil society organisations, groups and individuals are unable to access enough resources to cover their operating expenses. The CSF supports applicants at serious risk of closing due to the lack of resources and those facing financial struggles related to governments banning civil society from mobilising and receiving funds, and to donor restrictions.

Formal and non-formal civil society formations: any legally registered (formal) and unregistered (non-formal) civil society formation, including organisations, networks, coalitions, movements and early-stage social advocates and social entrepreneurs who are contributing to transformational impact in the communities served.

Grantmaking: the process of awarding grants.

In-kind support: non-financial contributions that provide resources like goods and services.

Project-based funding: funding to support specific activities related to a specific project.

Resources: anything from money to knowledge tools that are necessary for the effective and sustainable implementation/development of an initiative.

Social entrepreneurs: individuals or groups that develop and implement solutions blending “for-profit” performance with positive impact for a community or group.

Small organisations: For the purpose of the CSF, the Member Advisory Group considers as small organisations those formal and non-formal civil society formations that have an annual organisational budget of less than US\$30.000 and in which the majority of the leadership roles are unpaid.

Unrestricted funding: funding that was not designated to a particular purpose and therefore can be used for any purpose related to your work, including core costs or any project activity.