News on GRANTS

**ISTAT Foundation**

The International Society of Transport Aircraft Trading Foundation (ISTAT Foundation) seeks applications to support humanitarian causes that use aviation to help save lives, promote human welfare and alleviate suffering. Grant amount up to $10,000 USD.

**Deadline:** September 1, 2019

**Open Technology Fund (OTF)**

OTF invites applicants for its Internet Freedom Fund to support projects on open and accessible technology that promote human rights, internet freedom and aid inclusive and safe access to global communications networks for at-risk users including journalists, human rights defenders, civil society activists, and people living within repressive environments who wish to speak freely online.

**Deadline:** September 1, 2019

**Special Rapporteur on Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation**

The Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation is organizing the Third Human Rights Youth Challenge and invites youth aged between 24 and 32 years to submit 2000 words essay on “private sector participation in the water and sanitation sector: a human rights perspective”.

**Deadline:** September 2, 2019

**Ginetta Sagan Award**

Nominations are open for the Ginetta Sagan Award 2019 of up to $20,000, to recognize and assist women who are working to protect the liberty and lives of women and children in areas where there are widespread human rights violations.

**Deadline:** September 2, 2019

**Business Partnership Facility (BPF)**
Applicants are invited to apply for the BPF that provides grants of up to £200 to support and develop private sector involvement to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in developing countries.

**Deadline: September 9, 2019**

**Hilden Charitable Fund**

The Hilden Charitable Fund seeks applications to award grants of up to £5,000 for projects both in the UK and in developing countries, with an aim to address disadvantages, notably by supporting causes which are less likely to raise funds from public subscriptions.

**Deadline: September 12, 2019**

**Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI)**

SVRI and the World Bank Group (WBG) are inviting applications for innovative research and interventions or related activities that will contribute to the prevention and response of Gender Based Violence (GBV) in low and middle-income countries for grants of up to $100,000USD.

**Deadline: September 13, 2019**

**United Nations-The Nippon Foundation**

The Geneva Center for Security Policy (GCSP) and its Geopolitics and Global Futures Programme are now accepting applications for the 2019 GCSP Prize for Innovation in Global Security.

**Deadline: September 13, 2019**

**The Practice of Transparency and Accountability- Istanbul V**

Transparency and accountability are pivotal to achieving an effective civil society. Transparency refers to being honest and open; by implication, civil society organisations are expected to be clear enough for private and public scrutiny. Accountability is the ability for CSOs to willingly answer and take responsibility for their actions (decisions, activities or policies) and results. This is central to discussions relating to problems in non-profits as they are the two main pillars of good corporate governance and generally guide the way NGOs are operated, regulated or controlled.

Inline with fostering transparency and accountability, there is the need for CSOs to put in place internal self-regulatory mechanisms that serve as a check to their various activities, this is reflected in their governance strategy and structure, human resource and management, project management, monitoring, evaluation and reporting and their financial management and sustainability.

The measures include – complying with registration and reporting requirements, adopting a core vision, values and mission, electing a board to guide its mission and review its performance, publishing annual reports, documenting administrative procedure, documenting project work plans and budgets, having a monitoring and evaluation system in place, providing sound account of fund management (recording all financial transactions with relevant receipts and supporting documents); putting systems in place to prevent fraud -such as regular audits, two signatures to account; constituent/ stakeholder feedbacks; among others.

CSOs are accountable to government, donors, beneficiaries (people), partners, their mission, board, staff and their fellow CSOs. This fosters responsiveness to the needs of their communities, the people they work with and other stakeholders engaged in development. Hence, proper accountability measures facilitate increase donor and citizen support.

Through advocacy, CSOs have played a critical role in promoting transparency and accountability within the government and the general society which has yielded positive results. However, they have been encouraged to improve their transparency and accountability mechanisms especially due to the increased rate of money laundering and terrorist financing activities which CSOs can be vulnerable to. To maintain public trust, CSOs need to work on improving their level of transparency and accountability.

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