

USAID/PROLoG COVID-19 Response Grants Program

Amount: Min. \$500 – Max. \$5,000

Timing: Immediately through January 31, 2021

Competition type: open

Eligibility: USAID/PROLoG's current and past partner organizations (members of the Coalition for an Independent and Transparent Judiciary, Georgian Bar Association, Legal Aid Service, Georgian Association of Mediators, and universities), other CSOs, academic institutions, and unregistered citizen groups.

USAID/PROLoG is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by EWMI. USAID/PROLoG is structured around four sub-purposes:

1. Strengthen the legal framework relating to human rights and due process protections.
2. Further improve the management of essential justice system institutions, such as the High Council of Justice (HCOJ), the High School of Justice (HSOJ), the courts, the Georgian Bar Association (GBA), and Legal Aid Services (LAS).
3. Enhance the capacity of Georgian legal professionals by further strengthening legal education at the university level by providing more practical skills training, and providing more opportunities for continuing legal education (CLE) for current judges and lawyers.
4. Improve access to justice for marginalized citizens, in particular women and ethnic and sexual minorities.

USAID/PROLoG works closely with a number of Civil Society Organizations, the justice sector institutions, and universities. This work includes grants of various sizes and scope for project related activities.

In light of recent developments due to the COVID-19 pandemic, USAID/PROLoG proposes making funds available to mitigate risks and address the newly emerged and/or heightened problems. We invite USAID/PROLoG partner organizations and other CSOs, universities, and unregistered citizen groups to submit grant proposals for targeted projects and initiatives. These grants are designed to rapidly deploy resources to actively mitigate the effects of COVID-19 in Georgia, and ensure the preservation of human rights, rule of law and related citizen services, and access to quality legal education.

The grants program builds on the first round of COVID-19 Rapid Response grants awarded by USAID/PROLoG to its partner organizations in April-July, 2020. The information on the funded projects can be found at <http://ewmi-prolog.org/ka/grants/COVID19-RRG>.

Targeted goals include, but are not limited to:



- Facilitate preservation of human rights, access to justice and related services¹;
- Address challenges posed by COVID-19 to legal education in Georgia.
- Address other significant aspects of the COVID-19 crisis that correspond with PROLoG's objectives (see above) and USAID priorities.

COVID-19 Response Grants can be requested at any time before January 31, 2021. Applicants must demonstrate that the proposed intervention is critical and the target can be promptly addressed. USAID/PROLoG will process the grant applications within 2 weeks.

Applicants must submit proposals, CVs of involved personnel and/or experts, and grant budgets detailing expenses and proposed collaborative partners. Unregistered groups shall additionally submit a memorandum of understanding or other document demonstrating the participants' commitment to take part in the project and indicating a project manager.

Selection criteria:

The following general criteria will be used to assess the projects:

1. Degree of compliance with the objectives and requirements of the competition;
2. Clarity and tangibility of project deliverables;
3. Cost-effectiveness of the project;
4. Capacity to implement the project as demonstrated by: (a) the relevant qualifications of involved personnel and/or experts and (b) capacity of the responsible organization to manage finances effectively.

Rapid Response Grants program will not fund:

- Ongoing projects/activities;
- Regular office running costs (e.g. rent, utility bills, staff salaries);
- Retrospective expenses;
- Humanitarian activities.

Applications must be submitted electronically in English to info.prolog@ewmi.org. Emails must have USAID/PROLoG COVID-19 RESPONSE GRANT in the subject line. An application form can be downloaded from the USAID/PROLoG website at www.ewmi-prolog.org. Requests for additional information should be sent to Anna Jobava, Civil Society and Grants Advisor, at ajobava@ewmi.org.

¹ Please note that this call is not intended for supporting legal aid activities.