Call for Proposals

ACCESS Change
Promoting the human rights of trans people in Latin America and the Caribbean through the implementation of the OC-24/17

Issue date: July 1st, 2024
Submission deadline: July 20th, 2024

Background
Synergía – Initiatives for Human Rights envisions a world in which all people enjoy their full range of human rights, free from violence and discrimination. To achieve this reality, the organization seeks to protect and promote the human rights of all people – especially whose rights are most frequently and egregiously violated.

Objectives
In furtherance of its vision and mission, Synergía, in partnership with the Network of Trans People in Latin America and the Caribbean (REDLACTRANS) and Asociación OTD Chile - Organizando Trans Diversidades, seeks to support initiatives in Latin American and Caribbean countries that contribute to the legal recognition of self-perceived gender identity, based on the implementation of the criteria of the Advisory Opinion OC-24/17 of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. The initiatives must consider the context of implementation of OC-24/17 in each country, with the objective of:

- Establish basic improvements in the implementation of the OC-24/17 criteria in countries where there have been limited efforts and/or where the state administration is hostile towards implementation;
- Establish full implementation of the OC-24/17 criteria in countries that have made moderate progress and/or where the state administration is neither proactive nor hostile towards implementation;
- Address gaps beyond the implementation of OC-24/17 in countries that have made significant progress and/or where the state administration supports the pursuit of its implementation.

Interventions
In order to achieve the objectives of this call, priority will be given to the initiatives that adopt interventions that have been particularly effective in advancing the implementation of the OC-24/17, such as:

1. **Documentation of human rights violations**: Training groups on documentation and/or training on how to use documentation in advocacy efforts;
2. **Litigation**: Before internal, administrative, constitutional, and/or regional or international courts;
3. **Legislative advocacy**: Developing bills on legal gender recognition or, where such laws already exist but are not fully enforced, promoting bills to review and improve existing

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1 For more information on the implementation of the OC-24/17, click [here](#).
legislation; identification and mobilization of institutional stakeholders; defining strategies and identifying other best practices to address structural inequality;
4. **Communication strategies:** General or targeted campaigns that complement litigation efforts and promote advocacy and/or documentation work;
5. **Collaboration with civil registries:** Provide training and/or awareness to public officials on respect for self-perceived gender identity and the parameters of OC-24/17.

Other types of interventions may also be considered, under solid justification and adaptation to the context of action.

See annex A for more information on the interventions, their approaches and potential outcomes considering the different national contexts.

**Award information**
Proposals may be submitted within the following restrictions:
- Maximum to be requested: 15,000 US dollars
- Maximum duration of projects: Between 6 and 12 months
- Anticipated start date: October 2024
- Eligible locations: Independent states in Latin America and the Caribbean

**Eligibility**
To be eligible for this call for proposals, applicants must satisfy the following criteria:
- Non-profit organizations, led by trans people (at least 75% of the board of directors) and working for the trans community. It is *not necessary for the organization to be formally registered.*
- Based and working in one of the eligible countries.
- Can demonstrate existence for at least two years.

**Proposal evaluation**
In addition to evaluating proposals on whether they meaningfully advance the aforementioned objectives of this call for proposals, the following will also be considered:
- **Needs:** has the proposal clearly demonstrated the gaps that exist and that will be addressed by implementing the proposed project?
- **SMART actions:** are the proposed activities Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Timely?
- **Outcomes:** has the proposal clearly demonstrated the expected results?

**How to apply**
Applications can be submitted in English, Spanish or Portuguese, through Synergía’s grantmaking portal. Please find [here](#) the guidelines for proposal submission.

**Deadline for submission**
In the first phase of the proposal selection process, you will be requested to send a statement of interest (SoI), where you can briefly present the objective(s), relevance and strategies of your project, in addition to the experience of your organization. **The deadline for submitting the SoI is July 20, 2024.**

**Orientation Webinar**
For organizations interested in participating in this call, an orientation webinar will be held, with the aim of supporting the preparation of the proposal and answering existing questions. The webinar will be held on July 10, 2024, at the following time:
• 11am (Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua)
• 12pm (Colombia, Ecuador, Jamaica, Panama, Peru)
• 1pm (Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Paraguay, Dominican Republic, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago)
• 2pm (Argentina, Brazil, Suriname, Uruguay)

If you want to join the orientation webinar, please register here.

If you have questions or need more information, please contact manuella@synergialhr.org.

***Remember that all proposals and supporting documents MUST be submitted by the deadline to be considered for support. Any late submissions may not be considered for funding***
ANNEX A

Summary table of the proposed classifications and recommendations:

The analysis considers a specific moment and can be adapted according to political changes in the region. It is important to take this information into account when assigning countries to a certain category; which is circumstantial and may vary according to updated information. However, those assignments provide appropriate examples to understand the proposed categories and strategies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If a country ...</th>
<th>Then we will support...</th>
<th>Whose actions could be...</th>
<th>With the purpose of...</th>
<th>Examples are...</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>is far from implementing OC-24/17.</td>
<td>Documentation</td>
<td>Documentation training groups.</td>
<td>Using documentation to visibilize the ways in which the lack of legal gender recognition exposes trans persons to violence</td>
<td>Venezuela</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Training groups on how to use documentation in advocacy efforts</td>
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<td>Dominican Republic</td>
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<td>is far from implementing OC-24/17.</td>
<td>Litigation</td>
<td>Litigation at the domestic level (administrative, constitutional courts)</td>
<td>Winning cases that will force governments to adopt legal gender recognition or, at least, instruct legislative bodies to adopt such laws.</td>
<td>Surinam</td>
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<td>Regional litigation</td>
<td></td>
<td>Paraguay</td>
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<td>International litigation</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nicaragua</td>
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<td>is far from implementing OC-24/17.</td>
<td>Legislative advocacy</td>
<td>Preparation of bills on legal gender recognition</td>
<td>Submitting bills to parliaments for the legal recognition of self-perceived gender identity</td>
<td>Guatemala</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Definition of strategies to advance bills</td>
<td>Working to ensure that these bills enter the legislative process</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>is far from implementing OC-24/17.</td>
<td>Legislative advocacy</td>
<td>Identifying and engaging institutional stakeholders</td>
<td>Using these bills to visibilize the need for legal gender recognition at the national and regional level.</td>
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<tr>
<td>is far from implementing OC-24/17.</td>
<td>Communication strategies</td>
<td>General communications campaign.</td>
<td>Raising general public awareness of and support for legal gender recognition; Increasing the probability of a positive outcome in the associated litigation. These can be proactive or reactive (i.e. countering anti-rights attacks such as the “Don’t mess with my children” campaign)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Targeted communications campaigns that supplement litigation efforts.</td>
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<td>is far from implementing OC-24/17.</td>
<td>Direct collaboration with civil registries</td>
<td>Providing training and/or awareness raising to public officials on the importance of respect for self-perceived gender identity and on the obligation to apply OC-24/17, including involving the PUICA</td>
<td>Identifying opportunities for progressive implementation of OC-24/17: defining administrative standards to meet at least some of the OC-24/17 criteria.</td>
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<td>If a country ...</td>
<td>Then we will support...</td>
<td>Whose actions could be...</td>
<td>With the purpose of...</td>
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<td>providing opportunities to implement aspects of OC-24/17</td>
<td>Documentation</td>
<td>Documentation training groups.</td>
<td>Visibilizing human rights violations that persist related to the OC-24/17 criteria that have not yet been met.</td>
<td>Honduras</td>
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<td>That is, States where there has been certain progress and ongoing work with allied officials and/or where judicialization could lead to greater achievements.</td>
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<td>Training groups on how to use documentation in advocacy efforts</td>
<td>Visibilizing violations that occur among groups that remain excluded from the OC-24/17 criteria that the State believes it has met.</td>
<td>El Salvador</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Litigation</td>
<td>Litigation at the domestic level (administrative, constitutional courts)</td>
<td>Winning cases that will force governments to adopt legal gender recognition (note: national victories are likely because if a State has already implemented part of OC-24/17, the environment is likely to allow for further progress).</td>
<td>Peru</td>
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<td>Legislative advocacy:</td>
<td>Develop bills on legal gender recognition or, where such laws already exist but are not fully enforced, promote bills to review and improve existing legislation.</td>
<td>Present bills to Parliament for the legal recognition of gender</td>
<td>Panama</td>
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<td>Definition of strategies to advance bills</td>
<td>Working to get these bills adopted</td>
<td>Haiti</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Identifying and engaging institutional stakeholders</td>
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<td>Antigua &amp; Barbuda</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Communication strategies</td>
<td>General communications campaigns.</td>
<td>Encouraging broad public support for legal gender recognition, sharing information on the impacts of the lack of full implementation</td>
<td>Belize</td>
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<td>Targeted communications campaigns that supplement litigation efforts.</td>
<td>Increasing the probability of a positive outcome in the associated litigation. These will probably be less proactive and more reactive (i.e. countering anti-rights attacks such as the “Don’t mess with my children” campaign)</td>
<td>Jamaica</td>
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<td>Direct collaboration with civil registries</td>
<td>Involving PUICA in the training and orientation of specific civil registries.</td>
<td>Addressing the specific challenges facing civil registries and administrative offices as they attempt to fully implement OC-24/17</td>
<td>Guyana</td>
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<td>If a country ...</td>
<td>Then we will support...</td>
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<td>Examples are...</td>
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| is close to full compliance or is fully compliant with the parameters of OC-24/17 | Documentation | Documentation training groups.  
Training groups on how to use documentation in advocacy efforts | Providing a way to continually monitor State compliance in implementing OC-24/17  
Visibilizing violations that may continue to occur even with strong OC-24/17 implementation  
Capturing unforeseen negative effects of well-intentioned measures included in OC-24/17 | Argentina  
Costa Rica  
Bolivia  
Ecuador  
Mexico  
Brazil  
Colombia |
| That is to say, States whose regulations respect or aim to respect the guidelines of OC-24/17 | Litigation | Litigation before internal, administrative, constitutional courts | Addressing anomalies when civil registries have not met their obligations  
Addressing anomalies in which civil registries have not fulfilled their obligations or the law leaves a gap for its application  
Addressing other structural gaps, as highlighted by the IA Convention on Discrimination, including affirmative action and redress. | |
| | Legislative advocacy | Promoting bills to improve existing legislation once gaps have been identified  
Identifying other best practices to address structural inequality | | |
| | Communication strategies: Targeted communications campaigns that promote advocacy work arising from documentation and/or litigation. | Catalyzing the progress in advocacy work arising from documentation  
Increasing the probability of a positive outcome in the associated litigation. | | |
| | Direct collaboration with civil registries | Providing training and/or awareness raising to public officials on the importance of the respect for self-perceived gender identity, in accordance with the parameters of OC-24/17 in all aspects of the lives of trans persons. Especially in States with federal systems. | Working with state-level registries in federal systems; identifying good practices for emerging issues, i.e. the situation of non-binary persons | |
| | Advancing the agreed advocacy objectives | Activities will vary depending on the evolution of advocacy strategies during the project. | Advancing the consideration of the “non-binary” gender category  
Establishing programs that guarantee affirmative action (i.e., programs that prioritize the allocation of benefits to trans persons given their historical marginalization)  
Establishing programs that provide reparations to trans persons | |