



The Swedish Arts Grants Committee in collaboration with Sida is looking for a national implementing partner in Ethiopia

In 2021, the Swedish Arts Grants Committee (SAGC) in collaboration with Sida is launching a new international programme to contribute to [Agenda 2030](#) by creating synergies between art & culture and development cooperation.

SAGC is inviting national non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to submit their applications to serve as the programme implementing partner in Ethiopia. The application should include information in accordance with the below instructions.

Time schedule

Applications should be submitted no later than **30 June 2021**. SAGC plans to contact the shortlisted organisations after the assessment period, by **31 August 2021**.

Application

Application should be brief (maximum 6 pages) in English and provide a rationale for the suitability of the organisation to serve as the partner implementing organisation to SAGC as per the below set criteria. The application may include annexes pertaining to the organisation's previous programme, budget, and audit reports as well as links to online presence (website and social media).

Programme Target/Beneficiary groups

This new Swedish initiative and Whole of Government 3-year programme, aims to help build dialogue between art- and culture practitioners (primary beneficiary group) and policy makers (secondary beneficiary group) to better inform national policy and legal frameworks.

The purpose is to help improve and strengthen the conditions of the art and culture sector and its contribution to the democratic and civic space. Ultimately, the goal is to improve the public's consumption of and access to art and culture and to help elevate Ethiopian art- and culture practitioners' presence in the international scene.

Background – Design phase

During 2020/2021 (ongoing), SAGC has been carrying out a demand-based design process during which a comprehensive survey (with a high response rate) along with a series of consultation discussions (group video calls) with art- and culture practitioners in Ethiopia as well as consultation calls with the Ministry of Tourism and Culture. The purpose of the sought feedback was to gain an understanding of perspectives in Ethiopia regarding key issues, hurdles, and possible solutions to the systemic challenges that art- and culture practitioners face. The programme design is based on these findings.

National implementing partner

With the purpose of maximizing Ethiopian ownership, perspectives and modes of collaboration and dialogue, SAGC is seeking a national NGO to serve as implementation partner during years 2 and 3 of the 3-year-long programme (potentially longer).

SAGC will cover all costs related to implementation, including staffing (based on already approved Sida project budget). The first programme year will comprise of the inception



phase where planning of programme implementation, partnership developed, and necessary capacity (requisite audit systems) built as needed. During the first programme year, SAGC will hire a consultant to carry out certain activities. The consultant may or may not be affiliated with the selected partner organisation.

The selected partner organisation will help implement the programme in Ethiopia and therefore interact with both beneficiary groups and should therefore have a proven track record in policy making. It would be beneficial if the NGOs is active in the arts- and culture or has run such projects, however, this is *not* a requirement.

Methodology

The programme will organise workshops, both digital and in-location, for both beneficiary groups, meetings between the art- and culture practitioners and government representatives, study visits and international studies and during years 2 and 3 also disseminate a small number of grants and invite Ethiopian art- and culture practitioners for art residencies in Sweden.

The activities will be carried out both by SAGC and by the implementing partner through collaborative efforts. Continuous consultation and collaboration with SAGC will be necessary for *all* activities to ensure a close partnership and a systematic reporting routine. Sida will be represented in-country by the Swedish Embassies. Therefore, coordination, support, and consultation throughout the duration of the programme will also include the Swedish Embassy.

Apart from the SAGC and Sida, the Swedish Embassies (Sida in-country representation), a wide range of Swedish state and non-state actors in the arts- and culture sector and regional/international actors and experts will be participating in and contribute to the programme and its capacity building and knowledge generating/exchange components.

The partner organisation will most likely be undertaking in-country travels for outreach purposes and potential visits within the region might also take place.

Criteria

Required

- Legally registered Ethiopian non-governmental organisation.
- Applications from international NGOs based in Ethiopia will not be considered.
- Minimum two years of annual financial statements *or* annual audited accounts.
- Minimum two years of documented operations in Ethiopia.
- Have both local languages and English as working languages.
- Stated commitment to women's and girls' rights/gender equality with a track record of work on women's and girl's rights, empowerment, gender equality and gender transformative approaches.
- Stated commitment to inclusivity and diversity approach to all its work.

Beneficial

- Preference will be given to an organisation that has a proven track record in policy development collaboration with the government.



- Preference will be given to an organisation that has women represented throughout the entire organisational staffing and governance structure.
- Experience in the arts- and culture sector *or* have led or participated in art- and culture projects.
- Experience in regional projects *or* have engaged in regional collaborations.
- Experience in international projects.

SAGC's commitment

SAGC will assess the incoming applications, based on the presented instructions. At this point, SAGC will not commit to any further elaboration regarding an agreement. However, SAGC expects each potential implementing partner organisation that submits an application to possess the requisite administrative and organisational capacity.

After the assessment, SAGC will select the most relevant application and engage in strategic dialogue with the implementing organisations. Following this, SAGC will appraise the elaborated programmes. After the appraisal period, agreement will be signed, and preparation exercises may start by fall 2021.

Further questions and application?

Application and further questions may be sent to: neda.mansouri@konstnarsnamnden.se

2020 Press release: <https://www.konstnarsnamnden.se/default.aspx?id=24726>



About the Swedish Arts Grants Committee (SAGC) – Mandate and role

SAGC was established on 1 July 1976 with one single mandate – to disseminate grants and funds to artists. In 2007, SAGC mandate was expanded and today, the agency's core mandate includes the promotion of artistic development and culture, innovation in visual art, craft, design, architecture, music, dance, circus, theatre, and film. This is carried out through a wide set of approaches and tools including grants and allowances/funds (including through residencies), as well as promoting international cultural exchanges and collaborations under the Iaspis programme (for visual arts), the international dance programme as well as the international music programme. Finally, SAGC oversees, compiles, and analyses the economic and social conditions of artists and artistic creation.

As per the Swedish government policy, culture should be dynamic, challenging and an independent force in society with freedom of expression at its core, and every citizen should have the opportunity to partake in cultural life, whilst creativity, diversity and artistic quality should inform the development of a society as a whole.

The government's cultural policy goal is that creativity, diversity, and artistic quality should have a clear impact on the development of the society and generate cross-sectoral collaborations. The issue of increased and strengthened collaboration is of essence and in the case of SAGC, the agency increasingly focuses on issues of widening the scope of artists' access to the labour market both nationally and internationally; monitoring taxation and social security and safety systems; participating in efforts that promote cultural and creative businesses; as well as mapping out the consequences of increased digitalisation on individual artists work and development. In this way, collaborations oftentimes span sectors and policy areas and include collaboration with a wide set of organisations and expertise both nationally and internationally.

Since 2015, SAGC has been entrusted with the mandate to promote democracy and expression of freedom in convergence with the pursuit of creating synergies between cultural and development cooperation policies. Meanwhile, what remains key is that the inherent value of culture in development cooperation should not be compromised. This means for instance, that the distributions of grants and allowances are made without exerting any control or influence on the content and expression of art.

SAGC is also mandated to help fulfil the Swedish government's culture policy goals:

- Promote all citizens' possibility to access cultural experiences, formation and to develop their own creative forces;
- Promote artistic quality and innovation;
- Promote a vibrant cultural heritage that is preserved, utilised and evolved;
- Promote international and intercultural exchanges and collaborations;
- Pay particular attention to children and youth's right to culture.

The underlying premises to the Swedish government's support to art- and culture practitioners is partly to protect and promote the artistic freedom by supporting their



innovative and development efforts, and partly to consider their financial, copyright, and social conditions. This dual approach, which on the one hand safeguards the creative process and conditions, and on the other hand the conditions under which art and culture creators can exist and flourish, will serve as the basis for the programme's capacity building interventions.

Artistic freedom, freedom of expression and the right to cultural diversity are part and parcels of the democratic fabric of any society. Hence, cultural policies should play a more essential role in development cooperation and this programme can serve well in this purpose.

As a government agency, SAGC resides over a substantial knowledge bank of cultural policies and administrative systems as well as networks. The agency is therefore well-placed to help build capacities of individual artists as well as government entities and to help improve regulatory frameworks. This will be carried out, partially by tapping into in-house expertise, but also by relying on its network of Swedish organisations with the requisite technical skillset (taxes, IPRs etc.).

The forthcoming programme will also pave way for new avenues for Sida and the Swedish government for rapprochement and deepened collaboration and partnership with the partner countries through a 'soft' policy area. Key pillars of the programme are based on and requires close collaboration and consultations between the Swedish government and their counterparts in the partner countries. By providing support to an under prioritised sector and traditionally underfunded sector, dialogue can be improved and widened to include other areas of collaboration.



ArtNexus' National Partner Application Template (Ethiopia)

The Swedish Arts Grants Committee in collaboration (SAGC) with Sida is delighted to launch a new initiative focusing on the Arts and Cultural sector in Ethiopia. The purpose is to help improve and strengthen the conditions of the art and culture sector and its contribution to the democratic and civic space. Ultimately, the goal is to improve the public's consumption of and access to art and culture and to help elevate Ethiopian art- and culture practitioners' presence in the international scene.

This new Swedish initiative and Whole of Government 3-year programme, aims to help build dialogue between art- and culture practitioners (primary beneficiary group) and policy makers (secondary beneficiary group) to better inform national policy and legal frameworks.

SAGC is now seeking a national NGO to serve as implementation partner during years 2 and 3 of the 3-year-long programme to help maximizing Albanian ownership as well as perspectives and modes of collaboration and dialogue.

We look forward to reading about how your organisation can contribute towards realizing the programme goals! Before you start your application, make sure to review the above description and selection criteria.

Required fields: Required fields are indicated with a red asterisk*

Application and further questions may be sent to: neda.mansouri@konstnarsnamnden.se

1. Your Organisation

Organisation Name*:

Address*:

Website*:

Social media*:

Please select the area you feel best represents the focus area of your organisation's work: *

- ☐ Girls' and women's empowerment
- ☐ Environment and agriculture
- ☐ Research and Education
- ☐ Humanitarian assistance
- ☐ Democracy and human rights
- ☐ Arts and Culture
- ☐ Health
- ☐ Civil society cooperation
- ☐ Other:



Primary Contact

First Name*:

Last Name*:

Title*:

Email Address*:

Phone*:

Secondary Contact

First Name*:

Last Name*:

Title*:

Email Address*:

Phone*:

Is your organisation a legally registered Ethiopian non-governmental organisation? *

☐Yes

☐No

Has your organisation a minimum of two years of documented operations in Ethiopia? *

☐Yes

☐No

Has your organisation a minimum of two years of annual financial statements or annual audited accounts? *

☐Yes

☐No

Has your organisation both local languages and English as working languages*

☐Yes

☐No

2. GENDER AND DIVERSITY PERSPECTIVES

Please summarize your organisations commitment to women's and girls' rights/gender equality and provide a short record of your work on women's and girl's rights, empowerment, gender equality and gender transformative approaches. *



(Maximum 500 words)

Please provide a detailed description of your organisation's commitment to inclusivity and diversity approach and how it is carried out to its work. *

(Maximum 500 words)

Please provide a description of women representation on your organisation. What is the male/female staff ratio? How many women are included in the Board of Directors or in other internal governance structures? *

(Maximum 100 words)

3. POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Has your organisation a proven track record in policy development collaboration/interaction with the government? If yes, please provide a short summary/examples of its work. *

(Maximum 500 words)

4. The ARTS- AND CULTURAL SECTOR

Has your organisation any experience in the arts- and culture sector or has your organisation led or participated in art- and culture projects? If yes, please provide a short summary of its work. *

(Maximum 500 words)

5. OTHER COLLABORATIONS AND PROJECTS

Has your organisation any experience in regional projects or has engaged in regional collaborations? If yes, please provide a short summary of its work. *

(Maximum 500 words)

Has your organisation any experience in international projects? If yes, please provide a short summary of its work. *

(Maximum 500 words)



1. BUDGET

*Please note we are not requesting any budget calculations regarding the programme since these are already set. We are interested in your own budget planning procedures.

You may attach your annual budget here. Alternatively, you can submit the budget as a separate attachment to the application. *

Please explain the major cost drivers in your organisation. *

(Maximum 300 words)

Please explain any potential risk mitigating actions you take in your own budget planning. *

(Maximum 150 words)

2. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Briefly describe the monitoring and evaluation processes and/or any transparency routines in place currently in your organisation. *

(Maximum 300 words)

3. OTHER

Please check the listed items of supporting documentation you will attach with your application that are relevant to your application.

- ☐ Authenticated certificate that shows the organisation is registered in Ethiopia as a non-profit making organisation
- ☐ Annual financial statements or annual audited accounts of the past two years
- ☐ Other:

Please provide a narrative of any other issue you may want to include in your application: