



Call for Expression of Interest (Eoi) to Young leaders, Youth-led CSOs and Social Enterprises (SEs)

CESVI and **Al Majmoua** are calling for expressions of interest from young individuals, young social entrepreneurs and youth-led Civil Society Organizations to take part in the capacity building program of **Youth Empowerment for Social Impact (YESI)** project.

- *Are you between 18-35 years old age and based in Beirut/Mount Lebanon, Bekaa or South?*
- *Are you a leader in your community or a member of a youth-led local organization with a Social Business idea?*
- *Are you the owner of a Social Enterprise?*
- *Are you interested in developing or scaling up your innovative and social idea?*

Then you should apply to take part in the **YESI** project!

The **Youth Empowerment for Social Impact (YESI)** project, funded by the **European Union** and developed by **CESVI**, in partnership with **Al Majmoua**, aims to promote youth empowerment through inclusive, innovative and sustainable models of social entrepreneurship.

Outcome:

The objective of this initiative is to build the capacities of young leaders, youth-led CSOs and Social Enterprises through the provision of tailored trainings and capacity building activities on **social entrepreneurship**, mentoring sessions, peer-to-peer exchanges, networking events with relevant local and regional stakeholders, linkages with Al Majmoua micro-finance program and other **financing opportunities** in order to facilitate access to small loans and social finance instruments.

By applying to this Call for Expression of Interest, you will have the opportunity to gain practical skills on how to **develop, strengthen and scale up innovative social models and business ideas** with increased opportunities of access to finance.

Participating and benefiting from the YESI project is completely free of charge and participants are allowed to withdraw at any time.



Dedicated trainings will be organized in the following sectors:

Design thinking, market identification and channels, SWOT analysis, business plan development, financial management, marketing and communication, leadership and soft skills, social impact and innovation.

The trainings will be tailored to the specific needs of the participants, and they may include also the following topics:

Project Cycle Management (PCM), conflict management, internal governance, participatory learning approach, public participation, gender inclusion, advocacy, accountability as well as technical vocational courses.

Participating to the program will give you also the opportunity to be connected with relevant actors in the Social Business and representatives of the financial sector benefitting from **knowledge sharing initiatives** and **networking** events.

Youth-led Social Enterprises taking part to this Call for Expression of Interest will be also considered eligible and entitled to apply to the **Financial Sub-Granting Program** that will be launched in the framework of the project in 2021. The sub-grant will have the aim of financially supporting SEs to strengthen and scale their social business initiatives up.

Eligibility criteria:

The call is open to applicants who meet the following criteria:

- 1) a. **Young individuals** and active citizens prone to become “actors of change” within their communities.
Youth with a business idea and/or passionate to provide positive and innovative contributions to their communities.
- b. **Youth-led Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)** oriented to promote youth employment, social entrepreneurship, active citizenship and positive solutions for the community.
CSOs keen to change their non-for-profit model into social enterprises are encouraged to apply.
- c. **Youth-led Social Enterprises (SEs):** businesses oriented to produce a social impact and/or innovative solutions within the society:
 - improving living conditions of marginalized communities and in particular youth (*i.e. promoting job creation; women empowerment; creation of public and private facilities for people with disabilities; tutoring for students in need...*)



- developing innovative solutions to social, cultural and environmental problems (*i.e. access to renewable energies; waste reduction; water purification; platforms for knowledge sharing; innovative agribusiness; green local transport; cultural and artistic events...*)

- 2) The age of applicants shall range between **18 and 35 years** by the time of application.
- 3) Applicants must be located in one of the following governorates:
Beirut & Mount Lebanon; Bekaa; South
Youth-led CSOs and Youth-led SEs shall be based and operating in one of the above mentioned areas.
- 4) Female candidates are highly encouraged to apply to the Call for Expression of Interest.

Application Process:

The application process will consist of the following steps:

1. Applicants will fill an **Assessment Questionnaire** providing essential information for the preliminary evaluation step. Deadline to apply is the **31st of October 2020**. *CESVI reserves the right to ask for missing information that are relevant for the first screening process and only related to eligibility criteria. Requests for integration will be sent within the 6th of October 2020.*
2. Applicants will share a **self-introduction video** (simply shot via cell-phone, maximum 1-2 minutes), to present themselves and their project, enterprise or organization. This step is optional but encouraged.
3. Upon evaluation of the information collected from step 1 and 2 of the application process, CESVI and Al Majmoua will **short-list candidates** who will continue on in the selection process.
4. CESVI and Al Majmoua will contact the short-listed applicants, who will undergo **individual interviews**: on this occasion, CESVI and Al Majmoua will collect additional information on applicants and their projects/enterprises/organizations while candidates will have the opportunity to get clarifications on the Call, the capacity building activities foreseen by the project or the selection process.
5. A final jury will **evaluate** the youth-led CSOs/SEs based on a score matrix and **select 50 applicants** whose goals and characteristics best align with those of the



project and whose potential for achieving the goals are highest.

6. CESVI and Al Majmoua will contact successful candidates for an **induction meeting** to define the steps ahead.

Evaluation process:

Proposals which meet the eligibility requirements will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Business idea/models with:

- A potential **economic return** and **feasible implementation**;
- A **social/cultural/environmental purpose** relevant for Lebanese background in this critical period;
- Able to tackle local challenges with solutions that produce a positive **social impact** on the society.
The outcome of the business idea/model shall be double: income generation on the one hand and social return reducing inequalities, environmental/cultural degradation and improving communities wellbeing, on the other.
- **Innovative and creative solutions** and/or technologies in productive sectors, able to generate income while responding to community local needs (*i.e., but not limited to: high-tech, green and circular economy, agribusiness*)

How to apply:

In order to apply, interested candidates shall:

1. Read the Call for Expression of Interest carefully
2. Fill in the **Assessment Questionnaire** at the following link: [Annex 1 Assessment Questionnaire Eng](#) or submitting the format attached (Annex 1- Assessment Questionnaire_Eng) to this call via email to: pm.livelihood@cesvioverseas.org
The self-introduction video can be uploaded at the same link where the assessment is published, or sent by email.

If the electronic version of the questionnaire is not available to you, applicants may request a copy by contacting us via email or WhatsApp the following numbers: +96170026692, +96170718498



Questions and inquiries may be sent by e-mail or WhatsApp no later than the 15th of October 2020 at the following E-mail address and WhatsApp numbers:

pm.livelihood@cesvioverseas.org

+961 70-026692; +961 70-718498

No individual replies will be given to questions. All questions and answers will be published on the website of Daleel Madani at the following link: [YESI Call for EoI](#).

CESVI's staff will follow-up with successful applicants to schedule individual interviews and will provide a feedback to all applicants.

The deadline to apply by sending the filled in Assessment Questionnaire is: **31st of October 2020**, 5.00 pm Lebanese time. Applications received after the deadline will be not considered.