

# LOCAL VOICES, INFORMED CITIZENS

## GRANT PROGRAM

Internews is launching its Grants Program “Local Voices, Informed Citizens” to provide financial support for local organizations to safely promote and distribute trusted, accurate, and relevant information and fill information gaps on the electoral process and democratic transition in Haiti.

As elections have yet to be scheduled, it is key for journalist, civil society and communicators to continue informing society with the information they need to live their lives, with the information they need to make decisions and hold power to account. Democracy relies on citizens having access to trustworthy information to participate and make their voices heard.

Internews invites media outlets, media-type organizations, associations, and civil society groups who want to deliver information on aspects around the electoral process, to apply for financial support under the “Local Voices, Informed Citizens” grant.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE GRANT

The grant seeks to:

- Increase availability and quality of electoral process and elections related reporting by promoting the production and distribution of such content.
- Meet the operational needs of applicants to maintain their work and to sustain access to information on the country’s electoral process and future elections to their audiences.
- Increase awareness of election-related topics that affect Haitian citizens daily lives.

All applications must contribute to one or more of the objectives.

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## WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH THE GRANT?

Examples of what you can do with the grant include:

- Sustaining existing operations of media and/or organizations to inform audiences and voters on the electoral process.
- Produce and distribute print, broadcast, online and multimedia content on the electoral process and elections, specifically tailored to voters and priority audiences.
- Develop special investigations on Haiti's electoral process and future elections.
- Implement mechanisms (voicemails, call-ins, chats, surveys) to understand the concerns of voters and marginalized populations relating to the electoral process and future elections and to amplify their voices.
- Develop information campaigns on social media and other platforms.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for the grant, applicants must:

- Be a media outlet, media-type organization, association, and/or civil society group[1] with a proven record of creating content using data and/or evidence, as well as content that reflects multiple perspectives of an issue, not stereotypes.
- Be based and work in Haiti or have a majority of their audience be based in Haiti (analytics could be shared).
- Have a track record of accurate, fair, and responsible quality reporting.

Additionally, while all applicants must strive to produce fact-based, trusted, accurate, and relevant content focused on the elections, we encourage all applicants to also consider:

- Relevance: Why does this story/ies (or piece/s of content) matter and to whom?

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- What does it do to provide audiences with needed information on Haiti's electoral process?
- Angle: How does the story/ies bring new insights or information on the process and on elections?
- Impact: Does the story/ies have a compelling narrative that will inform, engage, draw attention and prompt action?
- Innovative storytelling: Does the story/ies use creative approaches, multimedia, and data visualization?

## AMOUNTS

Internews will provide grants up to \$10,000.

## SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications will be evaluated by an internal panel, taking into account the profile and capacity of the applicant based on the eligibility criteria listed above and the relation between the proposed activities (including timeline and budget) and the objectives of the grant.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Prepare a content proposal, detailing pieces of content intended to produce with the grant and timeline. All content must be published by July 30th, 2022.
2. Simple budget on how funds will be spent is encouraged.
3. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until the available funds for distribution have been exhausted.
4. Submit application in French or English to [leneros@internews.org](mailto:leneros@internews.org).

## QUESTIONS?

Please email Lisi Eneros at [leneros@internews.org](mailto:leneros@internews.org)