

Dear Friends,

We hope that you enjoy this edition of the Newsflash. This week we are focusing on resources that can enhance your organization's work in the areas of governance and financial management.

Sincerely,

Firelight Team

** (Call for Applications) Commonwealth Foundation's Civil Society Responsive Grants

** (Call for Applications) Meridian Institute's Fellowship Opportunity

** (Call for Applications) Nestlé Prize in Creating Shared Value

** (Resource) Managing NGOs: Practical Toolkits

** (Resource) A Budget Guide For Civil Society Organisations Working In Education

** (Resource) Systems & Policies for NGOs

** (Resource) Zimbabwe NGO Corporate Governance Manual: How to Improve Governance for NGOs in Zimbabwe

(Call for Applications) Commonwealth Foundation's Civil Society Responsive Grants

If your organization is planning a regional or international workshop or an exchange visit to another NGO or project, but you are in need of grant support, then one of the best possible options is applying for the Commonwealth Foundation's Civil Society Responsive Grants.

If your organization is planning to organize a regional or international workshop or conference, you can request support from the Commonwealth Foundation to sponsor participants. But remember that the support will be only for participants from Commonwealth developing countries.

Responsive grants are awarded on a quarterly basis. Applications should be submitted by 31 March, 30 June, 30 September, or 31 December.

For more information,
see: <http://www.commonwealthfoundation.com/Howwedeliver/Grants/Civilsociety/responsivegrants/Howtoapply>

(Call for Applications) Meridian Institute's Fellowship Opportunity

The Meridian Institute Fellowship is a one to two year placement in Meridian's Colorado or Washington, DC office that provides the opportunity to work on varied and highly complex public policy issues, learn about the field of multi-party collaborative problem solving, and engage with leaders from a variety of sectors and interest groups.

The topics include: Agriculture and Food Security, Climate Change and Energy, Environment and Natural Resources, Global Stability and Security, Health, Sustainability and Resilience and Science and Technology.

Completed applications are due by 6pm EST on Friday, March 25, 2011.

For more information, go here: <http://www.fundsforngos.org/latest-funds-for-ngos/meridian-institutes-fellowship-opportunity>

(Call for Applications) Nestlé Prize in Creating Shared Value

The Nestlé Prize in Creating Shared Value is awarded in alternate years to an individual, a non-government organization (NGO) or a small business to reward an outstanding innovation or project in the area of water, nutrition or rural development. The 2012 Nestlé CSV Prize nomination period is running from 11 February to 30 June 2011. Find out more about the nomination process and conditions to apply.

The Nestlé CSV Prize commits to the Prize Laureate an investment of up to CHF 500 000 (approximately, USD 480 000) for a specified period of time to assist in the development of the innovation and bring it to scale.

The nomination period closes 30 June 2011. For information and application instructions,
see: <http://www.nestle.com/CSV/CreatingSharedValueAtNestle/NestlePrize/Pages/NestlePrize.aspx>

(Resource) Managing NGOs: Practical Toolkits

These toolkits are developed by the National AIDS Minority Council, and aim to provide new insight and specific tools to enable organisations to work more effectively. Please note that each toolkit may require some time to download.

Fiscal Management: The purpose of this training manual is to present the fundamentals and practical aspects of fiscal management. (59 pgs.)

Board Development: This manual provides nonprofit community-based organization board and staff members with new insight and specific tools and resources for building an effective board. (82 pgs.)

To download the toolkits, please see: <http://www.nmac.org/index/oes-english>

(Resource) A Budget Guide For Civil Society Organisations Working In Education

This guide provides civil society organisations (CSOs) in the education sector with the basic information they need to get started on budget work. It introduces core concepts relating to budgets, and discusses ways of analysing them. It also demonstrates how budget work can inform strategic advocacy messages, and bring about change in the education sector.

As well as background information and budget exercises, short case studies throughout the guide demonstrate the many ways in which budget work has been applied in the education sector.

To download the full text of the document, please see: http://www.ansa-africa.net/index.php/views/pub_view/a_budget_guide_for_civil_society_organisations_working_in_education/

(Resource) Systems & Policies for NGOs

Do you have these policies and systems in your NGO? Here is a checklist of policies and other management systems necessary for NGOs to run effective organizations and mobilize resources for development work: Organization Chart, Human Resource Development, Job Descriptions, Personnel Policy, Finance

For the full article, see here: <http://www.fundsforngos.org/free-resources-for-ngos/policies-systems-ngo>

(Resource) Zimbabwe NGO Corporate Governance Manual: How to Improve Governance for NGOs in Zimbabwe

This manual seeks to improve the effectiveness of NGOs in Zimbabwe through improved governance. It provides a practical framework and flexible guidelines applicable across the NGO sector. The manual is intended for non-governmental organizations including charities, foundations, trusts, community based organization, faith-based organisations and welfare organizations in Zimbabwe and beyond.

To download the document, please see:
<http://www.eldis.org/assets/Docs/38988.html>