
Assessment of Applications to the SI Young Voices Initiative (SI YVI)

The Swedish Institute assesses applications according to the following **chief criteria**:

- Your project must seek to strengthen democracy and human rights in the programme countries.
- In particular, your project must aim to enhance active youth participation in civil society and active citizenship. This should, in the long run, lead to a positive change in at least one of the following constituents of a democratic society:
 - participatory engagement
 - representative government
 - fundamental rights
 - checks on government
 - impartial administration
- Your project must contribute to Sustainable Development Goal 16 in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Your project must have a strong gender equality perspective and, if possible, target young women in high or middle management positions.
- *Your project must have* a strong local connection in the partner country.
- Your project must target agents of change and engage civil society and/or grassroots organisations and networks in the target countries.
- Your project must contribute to building or enhancing at least one of the following:
 - networks
 - platforms
 - skills and methods
 - innovative products and tools
- Your project's achievements must be sustainable. They will continue to spread and have an impact after the project has finished.

Further evaluation categories are:

Organisational capacity

- To what extent do the organisations have the necessary capacity and experience to carry out a project of this kind?
- To what extent do the organisations have the capacity to analyse, plan, follow-up and assess the initiative in a satisfactory way?
- To what extent can the Swedish organisation maintain an acceptable level of financial management and control?
- To what extent does the organisation have established routines for identifying, preventing and dealing with corruption?
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Relevance

- To what extent does the project contribute to SDG 16? (0-1-2-3)
- To what extent does the project enhance active youth participation in civil society and active citizenship?
- To what extent is one or more of the project objectives consistent with the constituents of a democratic society given above.
- To what extent do the project's target groups comply with those of the SI YVI programme?

Results and effectiveness

- To what extent do the expected results contribute to SDG 16 and the constituents of a democratic society given above?
- To what extent are the expected results of the project realistic and measurable?
- To what extent does the project have a cost-effective budget in relation to the planned activities and estimated results?
- How great is the potential for the project and its results to spread more widely in the future?

Sustainability

- To what extent are the results of the project likely to be sustainable after the conclusion of the project?
- To what extent will the project strengthen the capacity of local partners to manage the long-term outcomes of the project?
- To what extent does the project contribute to building or enhancing one of the following: networks, platforms, skills and methods, innovative products and tools?
- To what extent does the project have a strong gender equality perspective?

Risk management

- To what extent is the project's risk analysis relevant and thorough?
- To what extent is the project's risk analysis regarding corruption relevant and thorough?
- To what extent are the measures proposed for minimising and mitigating the identified risks of the project appropriate?
- How serious are the risks and how likely are they to jeopardise the successful completion of the project?

Extra points

- Does the project target women and decision makers? 0 or 1
- Does the project involve an exchange of knowledge or best practice between partners? 0 or 1

Non-assessment of applications

SI reserves the right to reject applications on the following grounds:

- The application does not fulfil one or more of the chief criteria above.
- The application is incomplete. (If substantial parts of the application are missing or incorrect the applicant will not be given the opportunity to complete the application.)
- The application was received outside the application period.
- The application concerns a type of project which does not qualify for funding.
- The Swedish applicant organisation is not eligible to apply.
- The Swedish applicant organisation has not fulfilled previous contractual obligations vis à vis SI.

If the application does not qualify for assessment, the applicant organisation will be sent a written explanation.

Decisions

Decisions about applications are published on www.si.se approx. 8 weeks after the final date for applications.

Appeals

SI decisions are not subject to appeal.