



The International Center for Not-for-Profit Law

1126 16th Street NW, Suite 400

Washington, DC 20036

Tel: (202) 452-8600 | Fax (202) 452-8555

NGO Legal Enabling Environment Program (LEEP) ***Call for Research Project Applications***

The International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL) is pleased to invite applications from local partners in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam for a research grant pursuant to the NGO Legal Enabling Environment Program (LEEP). Applications should be submitted directly to ICNL as specified below.

Background:

ICNL is an international not-for-profit organization that promotes an enabling legal environment for civil society, freedom of association, and public participation around the world. ICNL has provided technical and research assistance to support the reform of laws affecting CSOs in over 100 countries. We draw upon a worldwide network of partners and experts to produce innovative research and analysis on legal topics affecting civil society. For more information about ICNL's global programs, please visit <http://www.icnl.org/programs/global/index.html>. Through LEEP, ICNL seeks to establish legal and regulatory frameworks that protect and promote civil society and civic participation. LEEP is made possible through the generous support of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

ICNL is conducting research on digital surveillance laws in the Mekong Region and the extent to which they comply with international human rights law. Specifically, this research will examine review the legal frameworks of Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam that govern digital surveillance, and compare the relevant laws and regulations in these five countries to the Necessary and Proportionate Principles.

Content of Research:

Through a research grant, ICNL will support one local partner per country from Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam in gathering all relevant laws on digital and communications surveillance, analyzing those laws in accordance with domestic jurisprudence, and comparing those laws to international standards and principles. Specifically, the research study should consider existing legislation, regulations, case law, and procedures relating to the capture and surveillance of electronic and digital communications. ICNL will provide an overview of international standards and principles, as well as a template to guide the research.

ICNL will work closely with the grant recipients to analyze these laws, regulations and jurisprudence, as well as assist with translation of these documents into English. The grant recipient will be responsible for drafting and submitting "County Report" to ICNL at the end of the Research Grant.



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Application Instructions:

To apply for this grant, applicants must submit the following items in English:

- Resume, Curriculum Vitae (CV), or other statement of relevant work history and education (no more than 3 pages);
- Line item budget (not more than 1 page); and
- Proposal.

Content of Proposal:

In 3 pages or less, please describe the following:

- Your experience and expertise on issues relating to the freedom of expression, the right to privacy and digital surveillance;
- Your experience and expertise on issues relating to regulation of not-for-profit organizations;
- Likely sources of documents/information that will be investigated, including whether interviews and other on-the-ground research will be involved;
- Proposed timeline for: completing the research, submitting a first draft of the Country Report, and submitting a final draft of the Country Report.

Eligibility Requirements:

This research call is open to individuals or organizations, including civil society organizations (e.g., NGOs, societies, trusts, non-profit companies), law firms, academic institutions, think tanks, and other research-oriented legal entities based in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. Lawyers or organizations focused on legal issues are strongly preferred.

One participant from each country will be chosen, and applicants are encouraged to focus proposals on one country. Applicants are expected to strictly comply with submission deadlines. The project is expected to be completed by October 10, 2017, including submission of an initial draft of the Country Report and opportunity for ICNL to provide comments on a final draft of the Country Report. Earlier timelines for the project and submission of drafts are preferred and are a favorable factor in the application review process.

Selection Criteria:

Applications will be evaluated based on the following factors:



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- Legal education and experience;
- Familiarity with the laws, rules, practices, and treaty obligations applicable to freedom of expression, the right to privacy and digital rights in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand or Vietnam;
- Experience in research and writing in the English language;
- Compliance with eligibility requirements and application procedures;
- Commitment to complying with project submission deadlines;
- Quality of Proposal, including, feasibility of the research (e.g., the research is targeted to answer the relevant questions; and the scope of research is achievable within the timeframe);
- Timeline for the research and draft submissions (Timelines that ensure project completion earlier than October 10, 2017 are considered favorably); and
- Proposed budget and apparent value for cost.

How to Apply

Interested applicants may apply by submitting all required documents in English to Alexandra DeBlock:

- Email to: adeblock@icnl.org

Terms of Reference:

All grant recipients must submit a final report on the use of funds, activities conducted, and outcomes of their projects prior to receiving their final grant disbursements.

All grant recipients must finalize their projects by October 10, 2017.

Deadline:

The deadline for applications is July 17, 2017.