



(1) Call for Applications: IDREAM Project

Dear colleagues and applicants to IDREAM,

Introduction

The Center for Victims of Torture (CVT) is pleased to launch this Call for Applications for a new human rights training and mentoring project, the “Incubator for Defenders Remaining in Exile to Advance Movements.”

This application package includes 3 documents:

- (1) Call for Applications: IDREAM Project
- (2) Guidelines and Instructions for Applicants
- (3) IDREAM Application Questions

Applicants should carefully review all 3 documents in the application package before applying. **Applicants should complete their application online in the link** listed in “(2) Guidelines and Instructions for Applicants.”

The IDREAM Project provides support to displaced or exiled Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) and their organizations in three technical areas, which are described below. IDREAM seeks to enable displaced or exiled HRDs and civil society organizations to continue their work advocating for fundamental freedoms despite forced relocation due to threats or attacks they have experienced as a result of conducting their human rights work.

HRDs who are selected to join the IDREAM project (“partner HRDs”) will benefit from participation in a range of capacity building and mentoring activities and exercises, including:

- Partner HRDs will work extensively with expert trainers and consultants throughout the project, with a goal of increasing the effectiveness and sustainability of the HRDs’ advocacy initiatives.
- Partner HRDs will experience opportunities to develop new and innovative methods for implementing effective advocacy campaigns while also learning skills to cope with work-related stress and to reduce isolation.
- Partner HRDs will develop their capacity to better assess and respond to the specific threats and security risks that they encounter in their work.
- With sustainability in mind, the project includes both online and in-person networking opportunities, so that partner HRDs can benefit from peer mentoring and knowledge and resource-sharing. *Note: In-person networking will only be held if international travel is possible, and funding and timing allow.*
- Financial assistance up to USD \$35,000 will be provided to partner HRDs to support their activities and participation in this project.

After application review, approximately 10 partner HRDs will be selected to participate in IDREAM.

IDREAM Project Description: An Incubator for HRDs in Exile

HRDs are often targeted and exiled for the work they do. The resulting displacement and isolation increase the challenges they face, undermining their individual and organizational effectiveness, and eroding their resilience to stress, change, and security risks. To address these challenges, IDREAM focuses on integrated capacity building for HRDs in three core domains:

- 1) Resilience: Increase individual HRD well-being and organizational capacity to withstand challenges, including the challenges created by staff's experience of work-related stress, fatigue, and secondary traumatization.
- 2) Effective Advocacy: Promote strategic and tactical innovation and effectiveness in human rights advocacy.
- 3) Integrated Security: Decrease security risks for HRDs and their organizations, both in terms of "physical security" of individuals and assets as well as in terms of "digital security" in the use of electronic communications and devices.

Key Activities. As part of IDREAM and early in the project, each partner HRD will, together with IDREAM expert staff, develop a capacity building plan that addresses their individual needs in each of the three core domains. This will ensure that individual HRDs experience the project in a way that is tailored to their specific challenges. In addition:

- HRDs will work with IDREAM staff in each domain to track progress in their capacity building plan and to adjust the plan as necessary to maximize benefit from the project.
- A key component of the project is to decrease isolation experienced by HRD partners, increase solidarity among them, and increase the access to resources used by other similarly-situated HRDs. To facilitate these aims, HRD partners will be invited to an IDREAM workshop over the course of the project, where partners will be able to meet in person, share knowledge and experiences, and work in-depth with IDREAM project staff.
- The project includes many other activities to address individual HRDs goals, including online training and networking (e-learning) and peer mentoring.

Anticipated Impact. HRDs participating in IDREAM will have many unique and tailored opportunities to learn ways to increase their well-being (and as a result, increase their ability to conduct effective work and to appropriately respond to challenges), improve their skills in their core work of advocacy, and to learn about and be able to effectively mitigate security risks they experience that greatly impact their work, health, and safety. In addition, IDREAM will bring together exiled HRDs, through both online networking and in-person workshops, to create a cohort of colleagues who can collaborate on issues important to the cohort throughout the project, as well as into the future. This will create a source of support -and a bank of resources- that IDREAM HRD partners can access long after the project ends. *Note: In-person workshops will only be held if international travel is possible, and funding and timing allow.*

Project Language. HRD partners participating in IDREAM will likely come from countries all over the globe. English will be the primary language used in IDREAM activities, and during the project CVT will work with HRD partners to identify resources, content, and tools in multiple languages, depending on partner preferences. Applications submitted in response to this Call must be written in English.

Background on CVT

CVT is a US-based NGO established in 1985 as one of the first centers in the world dedicated to the issue of torture rehabilitation. CVT's mission is to heal the wounds of torture on individuals, their families, and their communities and to end torture worldwide. CVT's work includes: care for survivors in the US, Africa, and the Middle East; technical assistance and capacity building for more than 100 torture rehabilitation and human rights organizations around the world; innovative research and monitoring and evaluation initiatives to measure the effectiveness of rehabilitation interventions; and nonpartisan advocacy initiatives to advance human rights.

Overview of Eligibility

Eligible applicants are **HRDs living in exile as a result of their advocacy work**, who are interested in building their effectiveness in the three project domains. Competitive applicants will have been living in exile for at

least 10 months, but no more than 7 years at the time of application. Applicants should be motivated to participate in a collaborative and dynamic capacity-building project that will include the use of new tools and resources. In addition, other requirements include, but are not limited to:

- Applicants must have an established track record in advocacy or activism.
- Applicants must demonstrate an ability to accept, track, and report on funds received over the course of the project.
- Applicants should demonstrate an ability and willingness to participate in the project through the project's duration: Approximately March 2025 through February 2026).

How to Apply

Interested applicants should apply to IDREAM through the **online application on Submittable**. Please see the attached "(2) Guidelines and Instructions for Applicants" for the link to the online application and for instructions on how to start and complete your application. For future communications with applicants, we encourage all applicants to obtain a Signal account (<https://signal.org/>) *before* starting the application online. See the attached "(2) Guidelines and Instructions for Applicants" for details. Note that CVT is not affiliated with Signal.

Deadline

All applications must be received by CVT by **11:00 pm CST (23:00 CST) on 31 December 2024**. You are encouraged to apply as early as possible to address any technical issues that may arise in a timely manner.

Evaluation of Applications

Applying in response to this Call for Applications is the first stage in the IDREAM partner selection process. The next stage in this process includes, for example, screening calls and a more in-depth financial assessment for applicants who pass initial evaluation. The final selection of partners is scheduled to take place by the end of March 2025.

Questions

Questions about this opportunity or the application can be addressed to IDREAMinfo@cvt.org, and **questions will be answered periodically only**. Please note that e-mails to this address are not encrypted. While CVT will protect the confidentiality and security of information received by our organization, the use of unencrypted e-mail involves risks that are outside of our control. Use of this e-mail address is at the applicant's discretion. We advise people using this e-mail address to not include details that might place them or their colleagues at risk.

We wish the best to all IDREAM applicants and look forward to receiving your applications.

Sincerely,

The IDREAM Project
The Center for Victims of Torture