



African Civic Leadership Program (ACLP)

Empowering Civil Society in Ethiopia

Established in March 2016, the African Civic Leadership Program (ACLP) is a United States-based non-profit research organization. It spearheads a variety of impactful projects, including a flagship fellowship program, in collaboration with a network of partners ranging from public and private universities to local and international NGOs, and grassroots groups advocating for social justice and public interest law. ACLP's endeavors predominantly focus on Africa, particularly in Ethiopia. The organization engages in comprehensive projects like institutional capacity-building training, proactive advocacy, and a blend of both basic and applied action-oriented research on numerous critical issues. At the heart of ACLP's mission is its dedication to action-oriented research, aimed at directly tackling and resolving the challenges encountered by grassroots organizations. This strategic approach not only shapes ACLP's project-centered work but also bolsters its commitment to evidence-based advocacy, ensuring tangible outcomes and sustained impact in its areas of focus.

We have two broad objectives. The first is to support civil society organizations that promote the principles of democracy and social justice. The second is to promote and support the public interest engagement of young professionals and community activists in the civil society sector.

Our flagship initiative, the Civil Society Resource Center (CSRC), stands as a testament to our commitment to fostering growth and collaboration within the civil society sector in Ethiopia.



CSRC: Nurturing Civil Society in Ethiopia

In August 2019, ACLP took the initiative to establish one of its flagship programs called Civil Society Resource Center (CSRC) in Addis Ababa. CSRC is established to provide training, resources and working space for existing and emerging civil society actors, providing exclusive focus on human rights advocacy groups and those civil society actors engaged in governance issues. The CSRC training and resource center provides much needed support to rebuild CSOs and foster collaboration and cooperation, as well as provide a platform for networking among like-minded civil society leaders.

Key Initiatives: Building a Strong Civil Society

ACLP's dedication to building a robust civil society is exemplified through key initiatives done in collaboration with CSRC, aimed at empowering organizations and individuals committed to social justice and public interest law.

1. Promoting Access to Civil Societies Law

Bridge the information gap in Ethiopia's civil society sector by creating accessible versions of the Civil Societies law, including audio, Braille, and pocket-size editions in multiple languages. Available online for wider distribution.

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Users' Manual (Tigrigna)
Users' Manual on Ethiopia's CSO Law
(in Tigrigna)

SEERA JAARMIYAALÉE
SIIVILII HAWAASAA
ITIYOOPHIYAA IRRATTI
HUJEEKA ITTI
FAYYADAMTOOTAF
QOPHA'E

Users' Manual (Oromiffa)
Users' Manual on Ethiopia's CSO Law
(in Oromiffa)

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Users' Manual (Amharic)

2. Strategic Mentorship and Training Program

Empowering eight emerging CSOs through tailored training and one-on-one mentorship. Focused on organizational development, project management, advocacy, fundraising, and governance practices.



Doctor Bogalech Gebre ACLP Fellowship

In collaboration with the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC) and CSRC, ACLP launched a program enhancing human rights investigations. Eight fellows actively contribute to EHRC's mission, addressing human rights challenges and receiving capacity building training.



Executive Civil Society Leadership Program (ECSLP)

ACLP in partnership with CSRC has designed a program for emerging and newly established CSOs to enable them in becoming independent forces in their respective fields. The primary aim of this project is to provide tailor-based training and mentorship from experienced CSO leaders. It will also provide ample networking opportunities with established human rights advocates groups.



Webinar Series on the Impact of COVID-19 on Ethiopian CSOs

ACLP, in partnership with CSRC, conducted webinar series addressing the multifaceted impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations. Through this series, we delved into the challenges faced and share strategic insights. The webinar series equipped CSOs with knowledge, strategies, and a supportive network to navigate the unprecedented times.



Your Support Matters

Support ACLP's impactful initiatives through CSRC. Your contribution empowers civil society, promotes human rights, and builds a more just Ethiopia. Together, we create lasting change.

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