

Request for Proposals
Questions and Clarifications

ActHIVate Fund

by  **aidsfonds**

30 September 2026



Welcome and Purpose

WELCOME



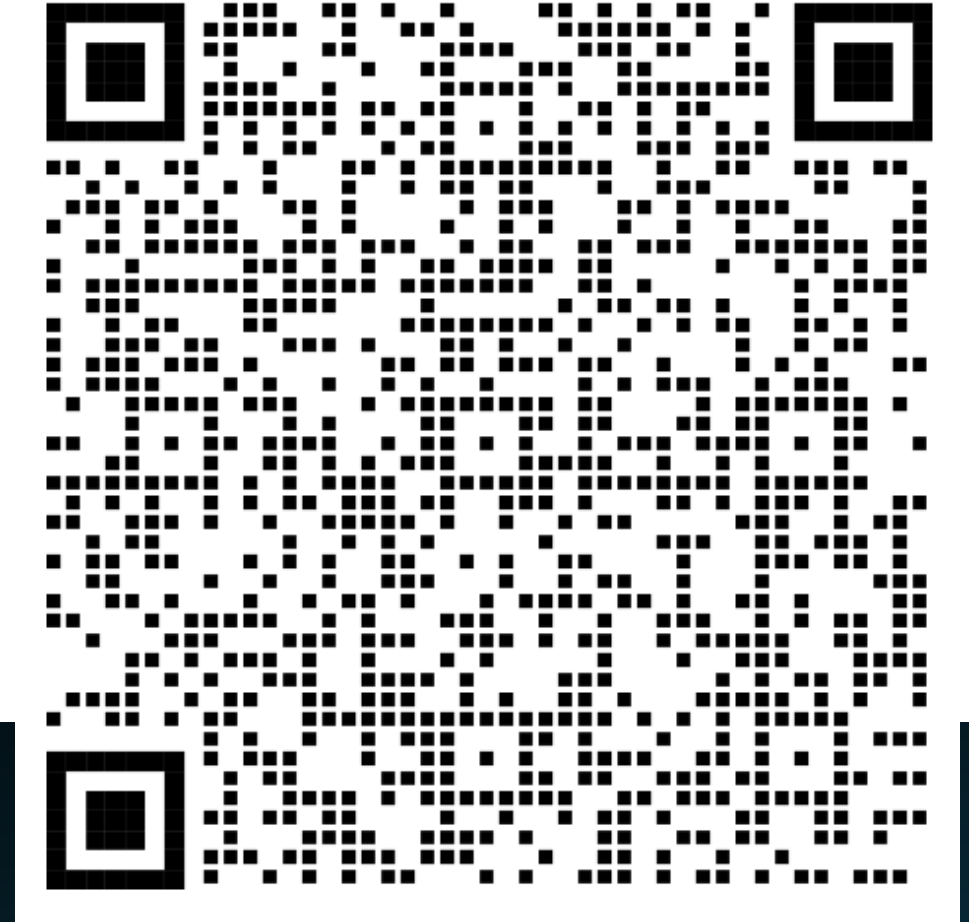
WHAT THIS WEBINAR
WILL COVER

Proposal Questions and Clarifications

- 50 questions were received and answered
- Some questions were edited and merged
- This document will be updated weekly



Submit your questions
in real-time during
today's webinar



<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/n7eWY0E3pa>

What will ActHIVate be funding?



HIV-related service delivery



Strategic advocacy



Health system integration

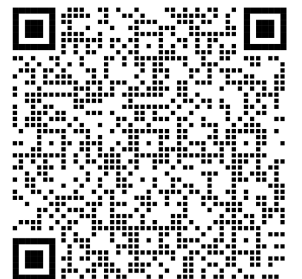


Core organisational strengthening (up to 60%)



Projects should combine service delivery and advocacy, although the balance may vary by context.

Who Can Apply?



Eligible to apply

- MSM-led organisations
- Trans-led organisations
- Community-led organisations serving MSM and/or trans communities, as a partner
- Organisations with HIV-related experience
- Established organisations operational since at least 2024
- Organisations with at least €30,000 annual organisational budget in one year (2024, 2025 or 2026)

Not eligible

- Organisations not led by MSM and/or trans communities
- Organisations that cannot demonstrate the minimum organisational budget requirement
- International NGOs
- Research institutions

New Clarification!

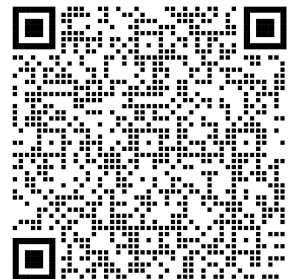
Organisations should be registered in the eligible country of implementation

However, if restrictive laws or operating conditions make local registration or banking arrangements impossible, your organisation may be eligible if:

- the proposed project is implemented in an eligible country, and
- the organisation can demonstrate a strong track record of work there, and
- registration or banking arrangements outside the country of implementation are clearly justified in the application and shown to be a necessary response to the local context.

Community Leadership

What does it mean?



Community Leadership Includes

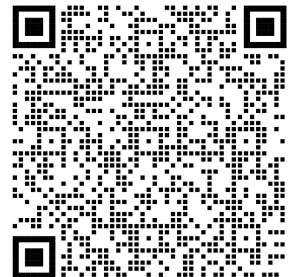
Orgs that are led by, serve, and are accountable to MSM and trans communities

- MSM and trans people are:
 - in meaningful leadership roles
 - hold decision-making power (strategic, programmatic, budget)

Assessed *confidentially* through

- Governance structures: Board of Directors, Advisory Board
- Senior leadership
- Decision making structures
- Accountability mechanisms that include communities served

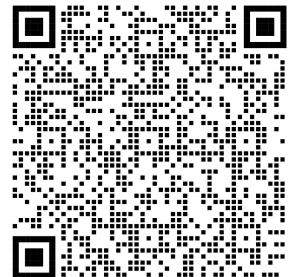
Partnerships



Partnership Requirements

- Maximum two organisations
- Partnership must already exist
- Activities must occur in one eligible country
- **The lead applicant must independently meet all eligibility requirements, including:**
 - MSM or trans led
 - Budget threshold

Budget Essentials



Budget Minimum and Maximums

- Maximum project budget €140,000 (1 year, 9 months)
 - This is a *prorated* annual budget of €80,000
- Requested funding cannot exceed organisational budget limits
- Minimum project budget €52,500 (1 year, 9 months)
 - This is a *prorated* annual budget of €30,000

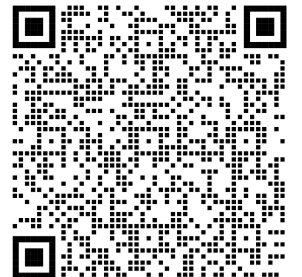
Core Funding

Maximum 60% allowed for core funding

Core funding can include

- Staff
- M&E
- Finance
- Advocacy
- Safeguarding
- Overhead
- Organisational strengthening
- Direct programme costs
- Essential organisational operating costs
- Costs related to achieving your organisational mission

What Makes a Strong Proposal?



Strong Proposals

- Address actual urgent HIV service gaps
- Build on existing work
- Demonstrate community need
- Complement and don't duplicate existing donor investments
- Show how service delivery informs advocacy
- Have a realistic pathway toward greater sustainability or health system integration

Weak Proposals

- Lack a clear HIV-related outcome
- Do not target MSM or trans communities
- Are not community-led
- Duplicate Global Fund or PEPFAR activities
- Focus primarily on pilots, innovations, and technology
- Focus mainly on commodity distribution
- Heavy A.I. use

Application Process & Next Steps



Application Deadline: 25
October 11:59pm CET



Proposal notification by
mid-December 2026



Proposal Questions and
Clarifications



Contact email:
activate@aidsfonds.nl



Read the RFP carefully!



Thank you!

ActHIVate Fund



ActHIVate Call for Proposals Webinar Transcript

30 September 2026

Note: This transcript was machine-generated from spoken English and could contain errors. Versions of this document in languages other than English have been machine translated and could contain translation errors.

Thank you again for joining us today. My name is Moira Beery I'm the manager of the ActHIVate Fund at Aidsfonds based in Amsterdam. And my name is Tushar Malik. I use he/him pronouns. I am the I'm part of the ActHIVate team as part of our key populations team at Aidsfonds. We also have Rafiatu, who I think is quite busy off camera right now trying to sort out the technical issues. Rafy is also on the ActHIVate team in her Aidsfonds. And we are a small but mighty team working on the ActHIVate's call for proposals. Today we are going through some of the questions and clarifications that have been sent to us for the ActHIVate call for proposals.

What we're going to cover today are talking through some of the themes, the primary themes of questions that were submitted to us. We're going to talk sort of overall about what we're funding through ActHIVate. We'll talk about eligibility, who's eligible to apply. We're going to define what community-led means. We're going to talk through partnerships and how they can apply some budget questions and then overall proposal.

We received more than 50 questions, which we had answered in writing here < https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Pr0giP1o8ysh-cUx2Xlm_LeuZg8C7t9rLfzl8grw04I/edit?tab=t.0>. So if you submitted a question, you will find a detailed answer there. You also have the ability to ask questions live in real time in today's webinar. We will be answering some of those, time permitting, not necessarily all of them, but we will have time after our presentation for some additional real-time questions and answers.

So please, look at the proposal questions and clarifications document. There's a tonne of information there. As I said, we answered about 50 different questions in a lot of detail and frankly in more detail than we will have time to talk through today.

One of the questions, of course, that we got is **generally, what are we funding? What activities are we funding? What is ActHIVate funding?**

The first thing that we want to say is that we're talking right now about this round of ActHIVate funding. We have already secured funding, so we know that there will be a second funding round in about two years time. So this will come out to in 2028. There will be another round of ActHIVate funding. And it's possible that that round of funding will look different than this year's because we are responding to urgent needs. And so right now we're focusing on specific geographies, specific communities, it's possible that that could change. So if your community or geography or approach is not represented in today's call for proposals, that could change in the future. So just to be very clear for this round of ActHIVate, funding, we are supporting community-led initiatives that are focused on the HIV-related health outcomes for the communities of transgender people and men who have sex with men. And these HIV-related health care service delivery activities should be linked to some kind of strategic advocacy in the eligible countries.

I want to just give a very short background. We did more than 40 consultations with community organisations across the globe in preparation for the ActHIVate call proposals. We also looked at some other very important evidence, such as the PEPFAR pulse report, which has recently come out from amfAR; The State of Trans Organising Report by the Global Philanthropy Project. And we were trying to respond to sort of everything that we absorbed through all of those consultations. There were a few very clear messages that emerged across all of those conversations, which is that there are very urgent and unmet needs in the HIV space. And that there's a real shortage of direct funding to community-led organisations. And that community leadership has been underfunded for years. And also right now it's facing further defunding.

We also know that organisations find it difficult to access core funding, core and flexible funding, so we wanted to make that available. And that's why ActHIVate is allowing for 60% core funding in these budgets, which is higher than most typical funding. We looked at the epidemiological evidence related to HIV, and there is a large and disproportionate burden of HIV in the MSM and in the trans communities. And in order to focus our investments right now, we have decided to invest in these two communities. We have also decided that right now, especially in the face of global funding cuts, that Aidsfonds needed to make some difficult decisions about what we would fund and what we would not fund. In the past, we have funded a lot more sort of movement building activities, very small, nascent, emerging organisations. We've decided that at this urgent moment in time, we are targeting more established organisations, organisations that have a track record of programmes of service delivery and of advocacy. So we are really looking more towards that medium to larger size organisation. This is not really kind of small nascent organisation level funding.

Again, that could change it in future moments in time, but this is our priority for now. We also know, we put in language around health system integration, which we know is not necessarily possible in every context, but we recognise that the most sustainable long-term way for key communities to have their HIV needs met is to integrate these with existing public or private or donor funded

healthcare systems. So we are looking for approaches that recognise that this is a strong path towards sustainability and can integrate some of this into their work.

So, this is kind of what we're funding at this moment in time. Sorry, one thing I forgot to mention is that we really have understood through other work that we have done that, especially in restrictive environments, health care service delivery providers are often allowed a seat at the table because of that health delivery link that they have, allowing them to do some strategic advocacy. So this is the reason that we've kind of married the two in this call for proposals and that we would like to see health delivery and advocacy represented in these projects, because it's an important entry point into further conversations with policymakers. So I hope that that's clarifying for some of you about what we will be funding, but also why we have made those decisions. All right, with that, we're going to talk about eligibility, and I'm going to hand that section over to the next speaker.

Moving on to eligibility criteria, **who is eligible to apply?** So as mentioned, ActHIVate really wants to fund MSM-led and trans-led organisations. It is quite important for us to really focus on the community leadership aspect. I'll talk a bit more about that later.

So we want to fund community-led organisations that are led by and serving MSM and or trans communities, organisations that have significant HIV-related experience. And in this particular funding round, we are funding established organisations, which means that you have been in existence and working with MSM and trans communities at least since 2024. Also CSO partners serving MSM and trans communities. Also, the budget requirement is that applicants must have at least €30,000 annual organisational budget in one of the years 2024, 2025 or 2026.

Ineligible organisations are those not led by MSM or trans community members. Organisations not meeting the budget criteria and also not eligible are international NGOs and research institutions.

We have released **a new clarification on eligibility**. As a general rule, organisations should be registered in the eligible country where the project will be implemented. However, we recognise that in some contexts, restrictive laws or operating conditions may make local registration or banking arrangements impossible.

In those situations, your organisation may still be eligible to apply, provided that three conditions are met. First, the proposed project must be implemented in an eligible country. Second, your organisation must be able to demonstrate a strong track record of working in that country. And third, if your registration or banking arrangements are located outside the country of implementation, this must be clearly explained and justified in the application as a necessary response to the local context.

So, while local registration remains the preferred approach, we understand that there are circumstances where this is not feasible, and we will consider those situations where a strong

justification is provided. Providing the application is still in one of the 9 implementation eligible countries and that you have a strong track record of working there and that your registration or banking arrangements that are outside of that country are justified. So there is a section in the application where you can talk about why you are not registered in the country of implementation or in the country where you have this track record.

What has the reality been? Is it because of local registration issues? Is it because of punitive laws, you know, against MSM trans communities? We understand that the reality on the ground is very different. So this is a new clarification that has also been included in the original RFP, but a new updated RFP document is now available on our website and we encourage you to download it.

We received quite a few questions about our **definition of a community-led organisation**, so I'd like to take a moment to explain what we mean. For the purposes of this funding opportunity, a community-led organisation is one that is led by, serves, and is accountable to MSM and trans communities. In practice, this means that MSM and trans people are not only beneficiaries of the organisation's work, but also play meaningful leadership roles and hold real decision-making power within the organisation.

When we talk about decision-making power, we mean influence over strategic direction, programme priorities, and budget decisions. We assess this confidentially through the information provided in your application. This may include looking at governance structures such as a Board of Directors or Advisory Board, the composition of senior leadership, formal decision-making processes, and accountability mechanisms that ensure the communities served have a genuine voice in how the organisation operates.

We also recognise that organisational structures can vary. In some organisations, community members may serve directly in leadership positions, while in others there may be external boards, advisory groups, or other decision-making structures that include MSM and trans community members. What is important is that these community representatives are actively involved in decision-making, both in the planning of the proposed project and throughout its implementation.

Ultimately, this is what we understand to be a truly community-led organisation. There is an important distinction between being community-led and being community-based. An organisation may work within a community or provide services to a community, but that does not necessarily mean the community has meaningful authority over decisions. For this funding opportunity, and indeed across Aidsfonds' broader work, we place a strong emphasis on supporting initiatives that are led by the communities themselves and where those communities have a genuine role in shaping priorities, decisions, and action.

Let's now discuss **partnerships**. We understand that in some situations, the reality on the ground might be challenging for a community-led organisation to work by itself, or they might be more than

one community-led organisation working in partnership with another organisation for legitimacy, for purposes of registration, for legal safety. And we understand that in some places, these might look like a community-led and a community-based organisation working together for stronger implementation of work. We understand that these structures work. However, for the purpose of this application, we can only allow a maximum of two organisations to be in a partnership and apply together, which means that this application is not open to consortia, is not open to networks. It can only be open to a partnership at the maximum of two organisations. And it cannot be a partnership that is made for the purpose of this application. It must be a partnership that already exists, which means that it has track record of working together in the past.

The activities must occur only in one eligible country, so which means that your partnership must be for the purpose of this application operating in the one country that you're applying for, and that the lead organisation, this partnership still is a community-led, which is MSM and or trans-led organisation and that it fulfils the budget threshold, which is a minimum budget of 30,000 EUR in one of the years in the last couple of years.

More information on this can also be found in the [frequently asked questions](#). We have tried to provide a more detailed answer, both here as well as in the request for proposals. So you can read more on that.

Now, onto fun questions about **budget**. We had quite a lot of questions that came in. We have tried to answer most of them in the frequently asked questions. In summary, the maximum project budget that you can apply for is 140,000 EUR which is for the period of one year and nine months, which corresponds to a prorated annual budget of 80,000 EUR. Your requested funding cannot exceed your organisational budget limits. What this means is that if in the last three years, your average budget of the organisation has been 70,000 a year, that is the maximum annual budget that you can apply for.

There is also a minimum, which is that a minimum of an annual budget of 30,000 for the proposal, which corresponds to a project budget of 52,500 EUR minimum for the period of one year and nine months. More information on this can also be found in the [request for proposals](#), including a couple of scenario analysis.

And if you still have additional questions, please feel free to send us via e-mail <acthivate@aidsfonds.nl>.

We also, in our consultations, understood that the need of the hour for community-led organisations is **core funding**. Core funding goes beyond programmatic funding. There's many parts of running an organisation, of sustaining an organisation, that are not always captured by programmatic funding which is why under this call for proposals, we are allowing you to apply for up to 60% of the total funding can go towards core funding. This can include staff costs, M&E finance, all the costs that are

related to the project implementation, as well as for the successful running of your organisation. For instance, we understand that costs related to advocacy might not always directly be related to the project that you are implementing, but there are other bits of advocacy that your staff also does, which is important for ensuring the health and rights of MSM and trans communities work within civil society spaces, in spaces where there's crackdowns that are happening. There's a lot more that goes on behind the scenes in terms of advocacy, which requires core and flexible funding. And you can attribute those costs here as well. We understand that there are other core funding that is required for safeguarding for overhead, organisational strengthening. This can, for instance, also include budgetary audits. It can include registration, where that is really important for your organisation strengthening, or other compliance requirements. This can also include other direct programme costs or other essential organisational operating costs and costs related to achieving your organisational mission.

We do not specifically prescribe what these costs are, but we do say that there are certain core costs that are ineligible for this funding, which are related to generally bigger asset purchases, like purchasing buildings, purchasing lab equipment. Some of these exceptions, exemptions are mentioned in the [request for proposals](#). If you have any doubts, please also feel free to let us know and we'll keep on updating the [frequently asked questions](#) with this information. You can also find that in the [FAQ](#) already answered.

Now we will wrap it up with a few comments on **proposal quality**. So what will we, and actually the grant making committee, so the final grant decisions won't be made by Aidsfonds, but will be made by a grant-making panel of community members that has been put together. But what will we be looking at?

So the **strongest proposals** in our mind are ones that are addressing actual and urgent HIV related service gaps. This funding really came out of the urgency of the past two years or so, year and a half, particularly since pretty massive funding cuts came down that really, really affected HIV service delivery, but also service delivery specifically to MSM and trans communities. Strong proposals will build on existing work. We are looking to fill gaps to continue ongoing work, work that has been demonstrated a need by the community, work that is necessary from a community perspective, but also from a health system perspective. We are looking for proposals that may complement existing donor investments. For example a PEPFAR programme or a Global Fund programme as examples, but are not duplicating those. So we're not looking to just duplicate those, but to kind of work alongside them, filling new gaps that exist.

We would like to see in a strong proposal a really clear link between how service delivery informs advocacy. So that could be through community-led monitoring, that could be through the data that or information or stories or anecdotes that your organisation is collecting by providing service delivery and how you are able to share those in some kind of advocacy platform, you know, with an audience of decision makers.

A strong proposal would also talk about a realistic pathway towards sustainability or towards health system integration. Of course, we know that in one year and nine months, we will not be achieving sustainability. We will not be achieving integration. We also know that in many of the countries in which you work, that this is not possible at the moment, but are there steps that can be taken towards that? So these strong proposals need to really keep a focus on HIV, really talk about a link to advocacy and demonstrate that the approaches are coming from existing community needs.

And what would we see as **weak proposals**? So if there's not a clear HIV related health outcome, that would be unlikely to be a successful program. Weak proposals are those that are not targeting the MSM or trans communities. We got a number of questions about intersectionality, work with sex workers, work with people who use drugs. We absolutely would love to see that intersectional work, but the primary communities that we are targeting are the trans and the MSM communities.

A weak proposal is one that is not community-led. These projects need to be community-led. Projects that are duplicating existing activities funded by other donors. And also, projects that are really focused on innovation, focused on pilots or focused on technology, that's not what we're funding with this funding. This is not an innovation fund. This is really kind of an urgent service delivery gap filling fund. So we're not looking for new pilots with brand new ideas. That's not what we're prioritising with this funding. And I think it's important that we say that quite clearly. Proposals that have a heavy focus on commodity distribution also is not is would not necessarily be a strong proposal. There is, there are some commodities that are allowed to be purchased, condoms, lubes, etc. Pharmaceutical purchases are not allowed with this funding, and it shouldn't be primarily commodity distribution focused.

And then a note to all of us that we are not going to love an application where it's obvious that there's been a really heavy use of AI. I think we all know that AI really kind of strips human voices, right? It strips the stories and it strips the voices away. And it really kind of anonymizes and makes everything sound very vanilla. We're not looking for that. We are looking for kind of who are you? Who is your organisation? Who do you represent? And what does your voice sound like? So applications that are kind of obviously have relied heavily on AI. that will not be real favorable.

So, what is the **application process** and what are the **next steps**? The deadline for applications is the 25th of October at 11.59 PM Amsterdam time, so end of day. This is an [online portal](#) through which you will be submitting your application. Don't e-mail us your application. Don't send it to us in any other means. The only eligible way to apply is through that [Good Grants system](#) and also to submit in English.

Another note, people that have gone into the Good Grant system, we've uploaded a budget template there and also a banking details template. It takes you to a Google Docs link. We've been getting a lot of requests. for people to have kind of Google Docs access to that to edit it. But please

don't do that. Rather, download it onto your computer as an Excel file or as a file, make edits to it on your own computer, and then you'll be uploading that file into the Good Grant system. So you're not meant to edit the live version of that document.

We will be **reviewing proposals** throughout the month of November and December. We know there's going to be a big volume of proposals, but we do aim to notify all applicants about the status of their proposal by the middle of December. We will be making a maximum of 20 grants.

Our e-mail address is acthivate@aidsfonds.nl. You can e-mail us and we will respond to you with questions. And then we ask you to just read the RFP very carefully, read the clarifications, the FAQ document very carefully. There's a lot of really great information there.

All right, so with that, we have 18 minutes left, and we can **answer some of the questions that have come in real time**.

1) There was a question, if an organisation acts as a financial operator, I think that we use the word host for that, so host, what percentage of the budget can they request?

So how much can you charge for your fiscal host? We don't have a guidance, a strict guidance around that. We would ask you to base that on how you have worked with your fiscal host in the past. And then that will need to be justified provide in your proposal. So we are not going to give you a percentage. So please give us a reasonable percentage and then a breakdown of how that gets used and how that percentage was calculated. And we will be assessing that.

2) If MSM are represented within the board and among senior management team, can we consider it MSM-led? I hope that question was answered by the previous slide. I think we have very detailed questions around what constitutes community-led in that [FAQs document](#), so please go there. But what I see there is that you have senior management, so that would be leadership from the MSM community and on your board, so governance from the MSM community. That sounds like a great start. So I think you're on the right path there in terms of community leadership, as long as you can kind of describe who these folks are and then in which other ways did the MSM community contribute to decision making, accountability, et cetera.

3) Can unregistered organisations led by MSM or trans communities work with the fiscal sponsors?

Yes, you can. Will the fiscal sponsors budget from the previous years be taken into account? No. So what we say is that the lead applicant, that is the MSM or trans-led organisation, you will share with us your organisational budget for the last three years. Whether you work directly with the fiscal host or the same fiscal host or different fiscal host, that does not matter. What we look at is your capacity to continue the work. To give you an example, it can be that you have a fiscal host that has a really high budget or has a very low budget that really does not matter. We really look at your organisation's capacity to implement the work. And based on your operating budget for the last couple of years, even if you are not registered, that is the amount that we really take into

consideration into calculating the amount of funding that you can apply for. So please always look at your own organisational budget, annual budget for 2024, 2025, and 2026. Your fiscal host's budget does not really matter in this case.

4) While we cannot provide individual feedback on each and every organisation and your particular situation, I can, in a general way, answer that only organisations that are formally led by MSM and trans communities are allowed to apply as the lead applicant. A community-based organisation or a service provider cannot be the lead applicant. We still need a community-led organisation to be the lead applicant and fulfill the rest of the eligibility criteria. And if they work in partnership with another organisation as a secondary partner, that is okay.

5) *Can we include community services in the budget, such as consultations with psychologists or community-friendly medical professionals?* Absolutely, as long as there's a direct link to the HIV health needs of MSMN trans communities. We recognise that a comprehensive set of health services, other targeted interventions, other community support, is important for the HIV and health of MSM and trans communities. That reality looks different on the ground from community to community, from country, from region to region. And whatever you put in the application is fine as long as you're able to tell us how this contributes to the HIV needs of MSM and trans communities, whether in the short term or in the long term. I think it's all about your own understanding of what your community really needs and how that links to what the call for proposals is asking for. You can also read up a bit more in detail in the [request for proposals](#). Hopefully there are more in-depth answers there as well. But also, if you, during the application process, still feel a bit... confused about something, feel free to send in your questions and we will update the [Q&A](#) weekly. As we said, we cannot particularly provide direct feedback on your own personal application at this stage, but we can answer your questions in general.

6) *Does a partnership have any advantage over applying as a single organisation?* No. it doesn't. We will look at those equally.

7) *Can an MSM or trans-led national coalition apply with an organisation from the coalition?* Yes, that partnership sounds good. Please keep in mind that the lead applicant needs to fulfill all of the eligibility criteria. So whoever is indicated the lead applicant in the good grant system has to be, have to meet the budget threshold and must be community led.

8) *Why is the partnership only limited to two organisations?* That is because We are prioritizing a high amount of core costs. And so each organisation that's funded through the ActHIVate Fund is going to, by design, have a lot of kind of administrative and organisational costs. So the more that is spread out across multiple organisations, the less funding there is available for activities. And in addition to supporting the core costs of organisations, we also want to support activities that are going towards service delivery and advocacy and plugging some of the urgent gaps there. And so we didn't limit it to two, so that this funding wasn't really used to sort of build big

partnerships, which have, a lot of overhead costs, but really keeping it lean. So that's why we limited it.

9) *There is a question about the organisational budget of 35,000 within the year stated. So that 35,000 is going to be your ceiling through your, the maximum amount that you can ask for. And then you mentioned the one year, nine months. So if I'm understanding the correct this correctly, the one year, nine months is really because the contract length is only going to be for one year, nine months. And so we're asking you to give us a budget for that one year, nine months. The annual budget of your organisation is the ceiling that can match the annual budget for this project. I hope that's clear and I do I take a close look at the table that we have included in the [RFP](#) with different budget scenarios from organisations, and I hope that you'll find the information you need amongst all of that.*

Further clarification: For this particular example where someone had asked that Let's say your organisation budget average for the last three years, 2024, 2025, 2026, has been 35,000 EUR. That's the annual average budget. That means that you can apply for a proposal that has the annual budget of 35,000 EUR, which then prorated for the one year and nine months would be the 35,000 plus the nine month budget. So that becomes a total of 61,250. So for all calculations that you do, please look at the average annual budget from the three years, 2024, 2025, 2026, and use that as the metric to see what is the budget that you can apply for per year. And then you can prorate that to one year plus nine months. Hope that makes sense.

10) *Can an organisation that has not had 30,000 EUR annual budget apply for the grant, even if you're fiscally hosted?* Unfortunately not. No, that is the requirement for eligibility. So we are targeting more established organisations with larger budgets with this funding.

11) *Are you eligible if one of the organisations is MSM lead and the other in the partnership is not?* That would be eligible. So your lead organisation is eligible. They meet the eligibility criteria. Your partner organisation in this case then needs to demonstrate very strongly how they are community responsive, community embedded and make a very strong case about community integration. And so it is not it is not strictly eligible an eligibility criteria that both organisations are community led.

However, I will say that we are giving priority to funding community-led organisations. So the strongest partnership would be in most 2 community-led organisations. But if that second one is not community-led, then please make a very strong case for how you are accountable and working very well integrated with communities, the MSM and the trans community.

Even if you are in a partnership, it needs to be an existing partnership. So you need to showcase a track record of having worked together. A newly formed partnership for the purpose of this application is not acceptable. So we want to really see that this is an existing partnership and that you are not just partnering up for the sake of applying to this grant.

12) *Are there capacity building opportunities from Aidsfonds directly?* No, Aidsfonds is not, we're not planning to do capacity development. In specifically, however, within that 60% core funding that is available to you, can fund the capacity building that you need. So it's not something that we as Aidsfonds are taking on. We would prefer that you are working with capacity service providers directly from your community in your area. Of course, if you are a funded partner, we can have that conversation. If there's something that you would like to learn from Aidsfonds and you think that we're a great teacher for that. We'll certainly speak to you about that, but we're not requiring you to engage around capacity strengthening with us as Aidsfonds.

And the capacity strengthening needs to be related to your organisation's mission. So we also look at your organisation in terms of your work towards MSM and trans communities and other affected communities as your mission might be. So first of all, it's really to see like what kind of capacity strengthening activities are you proposing that are directly relevant to furthering your organisation, your own strengthening, your organisation's mission. And that is basically part of the core cost and you can definitely apply for that.

13) *If two organisations apply in partnership and one is not registered, do we still qualify?* Yes, you would be eligible to apply. We understand that there are organisations that are not able to register for legal reasons and reasons of restriction. But of course, there would need to be some sort of kind of hosting relationship that can get explained in detail in the application on sort of what your organisational status is and also why. We need to understand if you're not registered or registered, in another country, kind of what's the story behind that? For unregistered organisations that are applying through a hosting arrangement, when you are filling out the application on the [Good Grants platform](#), you will see that under your organisation details, we will ask you if you have a fiscal host where you have the opportunity to provide the information for your fiscal host and what the hosting arrangement, MOU and other details are.

14) *The eligibility a 30,000 EUR budget per year or 30,000 EUR expenditures per year?* That's budget. So your organisational budget needs to be 30,000 EUR per year. So that's what you're spending on staff, overhead, activities, operations, facilities - that's your organisational budget. 30K per year is the minimum. We also understand that some organisations might get more in funding in a year than the organization budget might be, sometimes it's lesser, sometimes you plan a multi-year budget. We understand all of these kind of situations as well as these kind of plannings. But basically what we're looking for is your planned organisational budget for the year, your operational budget. And just to give you an idea that you will, of course, put this information in a table in your application, but we will also ask you to upload a copy of your organisational budget for 2024, 2025, and 2026, where you have all the specifications of how you plan your organisation's budget over the year.

So with that, we really want to thank you. All of the questions that we received during this webinar, we will answer in writing and we will add them back into that [FAQs](#) document. So you will see your written responses to these as well. We hope that this was helpful and that you got some necessary clarifications. We wish you the best of luck. We know that writing proposals is both tedious and also inspiring. So I hope it's an okay process for you and your colleagues. Thank you so much for your interest.

We wish you the best of luck with your applications and hope to get to work with you.