



call for applications for the selection of the
first cohort of csos for the second phase of
the samim project

information sheet and complete rules for the call



This call for applications (CFA) is open to civil society organisations (CSOs) located in Greater Tunis (Tunisia), the prefectures of Casablanca (Morocco), Nouakchott North/South/West (Mauritania) and the Greater Amman Municipality (Jordan).

The objective of this call for applications is to select **40 CSOs (10 CSOs per city)** in 2026 for a strategic capacity-building programme (Programme 1). Of these 40 CSOs, a total of 20 (i.e. 5 CSOs per city) will be selected for additional in-depth support over a period of 9 months (Path 2).

CSOs in Track 2 will receive a grant to finance actions to strengthen their structure, deepen their impact and consolidate their economic model.

The AAC application file consists of this information sheet and the application form available on the Lab'ess website: **www.labess.tn** .

The required documents must be uploaded via the online form.
Closing date for applications: 25/01/2026 at 23:59 (GMT+1)





The samim project

A project to strengthen civil society organisations committed to sustainable cities and responsible consumption and production (SDGs 11 & 12)

Samim is a regional initiative aimed at strengthening capacities and structuring the associative fabric in four major cities: **Amman** (Jordan), **Casablanca** (Morocco), **Nouakchott** (Mauritania) and **Tunis** (Tunisia).

Samim supports CSOs in their professionalisation, financial empowerment and the sustainability of their mission by enabling them to invest in strategic organisational and economic strengthening actions.

The programme targets CSOs committed to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 11 and 12 in order to multiply their impact and accelerate the transition to more sustainable, resilient, liveable and inclusive cities.

Samim is funded by the **French Development Agency (AFD)** and operated by **Lab'ess** (Tunisia), in partnership with three support structures (SA): **Ecodev** in Mauritania, the **Moroccan Centre for Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship (MCISE)** in Morocco and the **Jordan Youth Innovation Forum (JYIF)** in Jordan. The **SOS Pulse Group** (France) provides technical support for the project.

Samim's objectives:

Support

Samim promotes the development of CSOs' skills through a proven support methodology. After assessing the CSO, a support plan is drawn up. Group training and individual sessions are then planned according to the identified needs of the CSO.

Funding

Samim awards grants to CSOs that carry out projects aimed at financing their organisational development, their economic model and/or their income-generating activities. Depending on the city, funding varies between €23,000 and €38,000 on average.

Raising awareness

Faced with cities that are constantly expanding, whose populations are growing while degrading the quality of life and the environment, Samim aims to raise awareness among CSOs, their beneficiaries, the general public and decision-makers about the challenges of sustainable cities, ecological practices and innovative solutions that can be implemented.

Website: www.labess.tn/project/samim/ **attention**

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Samim.project



implementation partners

Samim is a cascade project operated by Lab'ess; it receives technical assistance from the sos-pulse group.



In Tunisia: Lab'ess, social and solidarity economy laboratory

Founded in 2012 in the wake of the revolution, the Social and Solidarity Economy Laboratory (Lab'ess) is a Tunisian association committed to a more solidarity-based, inclusive and sustainable economy. As a committed player in the social and solidarity economy, it raises awareness, accompanies and supports entrepreneurs and associations working for the common good in the MENA region (North Africa and the Middle East), with a view to generating a sustainable social and environmental impact for society.

As the leader of the Samim project, Lab'ess supports support structures by steering and coordinating the project at the regional level on the one hand, and by facilitating the network of change agents on the other. It also supports Tunisian CSOs that will be selected at the national level.

- **Website:** www.labess.tn
- **Facebook pages:** <https://www.facebook.com/LabessTunisie>
- **LinkedIn:** Lab'ess



In France: Groupe SOS - PULSE

Created in 2006, PULSE is a French association belonging to the International Action Sector of the SOS Group. Its mission is to support and promote entrepreneurship as a lever for inclusive and sustainable development. Pulse provides technical assistance for the Samim project.

- **Website:** www.pulse-group.org
- **LinkedIn:** PULSE Group



Implementation partners

samim relies on a network of experienced local partners, each contributing their expertise and knowledge of the field to assist and support csos in each city.



In Mauritania: Ecodev - The local development school

Ecodev is a Mauritanian NGO created in 1999, specialising in the management of development projects in partnership with local authorities and civil society. Its areas of focus include support for Mauritanian youth, urban entrepreneurship, the promotion of renewable energies and environmental preservation.

► **Website:** www.ecodev.mr

► **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100071083473593>



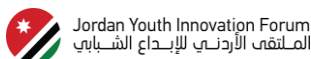
In Morocco: MCISE - Moroccan Centre for Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship

MCISE is a non-profit organisation founded in 2012. It supports social entrepreneurs and innovative initiatives to address social challenges in Morocco. Its actions aim to promote ideas that generate a positive impact at national and international level.

MCISE has been part of the Ashoka network since 2017, strengthening its role as an agent of social change.

► **Website:** www.mcise.org

► **LinkedIn:** MCISE | **Instagram:** @moroccancise | **Facebook:** @MoroccanCise



In Jordan: JYIF - Jordan Youth Innovation Forum

JYIF is a Jordanian NGO that was founded in 2007.

It works to empower young people to increase their active participation in the development process in order to build a community of committed young entrepreneurs. The NGO creates opportunities through local and international development projects, strengthens the capacities of partner youth organisations and develops young people's skills and employability.

► **Website:** www.jyif.org

► **Instagram | Facebook | LinkedIn:** @Youthinjordan

selection criteria

Your participation must be thoughtful and voluntary. Your organisation must be prepared to fully commit to this support project and devote the time necessary to achieve its objectives. The availability of your organisation's teams will be assessed. Knowledge of at least two of the project languages (Arabic, French, English) is required.

CSO profile

- ▶ Be a legally recognised CSO that is up to date with its obligations: association, NGO under local law or any other form of non-profit organisation.
- ▶ Located in Nouakchott North/West/South, the prefectures of Casablanca, Greater Tunis or Greater Amman Municipality.
- ▶ Minimum 3 years of legal existence.
- ▶ Have permanent employees.
- ▶ Inclusion of young people and women in decision-making positions within the CSO.
- ▶ The CSO is not a subsidiary of an NGO: it has a committed office and financial autonomy.

Environmental impact, innovation and sustainability

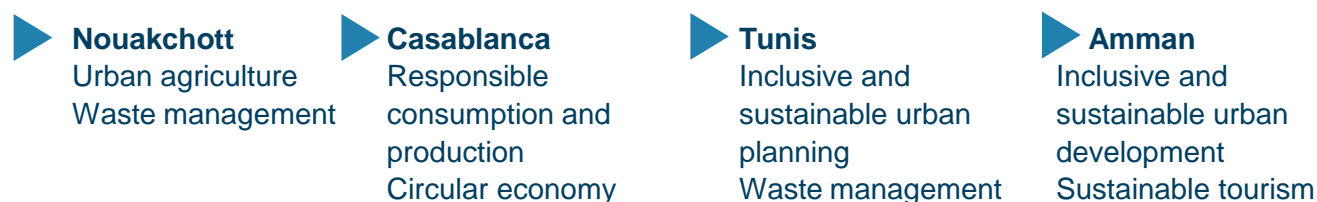
- ▶ The CSO has carried out projects related to SDGs 11 and 12; it shows a serious and strong interest in specialising in these areas.
- ▶ CSOs working on the intervention themes determined by the cities' SA will be prioritised.
- ▶ The CSO must demonstrate innovation.
- ▶ The CSO must demonstrate its ability to carry out sustainable actions and generate a positive impact.

Budget execution capacity and strong commitment

- ▶ The CSO's annual budgets must be greater than or equal to the amount of the grant over the last 2 to 3 years.
- ▶ The CSO must demonstrate its ability to disburse the grant amount within 9 months.
- ▶ The CSO is prepared to develop income-generating activities and/or seek/test new forms of financing.

priority areas for action by city

Each SA partner focuses on specific local themes, based on the priorities and challenges specific to its city's territory.



A solid and structured support programme

Samim offers a support programme **consisting of two consecutive courses** designed to guide CSOs **step by step**, consolidate their organisation, professionalise their practices and staff, and strengthen their impact within their communities.

COURSE 1 = 3 months 10 CSOs per city

After the initial selection stage, each CSO undergoes an in-depth organisational assessment to identify areas for improvement and consider strategic priorities.

A support plan is then developed, including:

- ▶ group brainstorming workshops;
- ▶ group training sessions;
- ▶ individual support sessions.

This process aims to clarify the CSO's mission, vision and values. By working on its organisational identity, it will be able to strengthen its external positioning and define its strategic roadmap.

CSOs will be encouraged to set up a monitoring and evaluation system to measure the impact of the actions carried out.

Path 2 = 9 months 5 CSOs per city

Associations that have completed Path 1 present the organisational and economic strengthening measures they wish to implement to a funding committee jury.

After an oral presentation of their project, the CSOs that have been most highly rated will be able to move on to Path 2 and receive financial support (a grant).

Depending on the needs identified by the CSO, the training topics may include the following:

- Module 1 on structural strengthening: Administrative and financial management, HRM, Communication, Internal knowledge and procedure management, Fundraising and finance;
- Module 2 on developing a sustainable economic model: Identification and/or improvement of an AGR, Value proposition, BMC development, Market research, Financing plan and financial analysis, Sales and marketing strategy.

⚠ Please note that not all CSOs selected for Pathway 1 will be eligible for Pathway 2: a new selection stage must be completed between the two Pathways.

Funding offered by samim, depending on the city



▶	Nouakchott €23,000	▶	Casablanca €30,000	▶	Tunis €28,500	▶	Amman €38,000
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Four cities, four different costs of living and four average grant amounts for greater equity among CSOs in the region.

The grant can fund any action aimed at structurally strengthening your organisation and developing its economic model, thereby helping to increase its financial autonomy.

For example, actions relating to the following may be funded:

- the communication and visibility of the CSO (logo design, graphic charter, communication strategy and plan, website development, communication material design, etc.);
- technical and financial studies for the purchase of equipment necessary for your action (excluding computer equipment) or your income-generating activity (IGA);
- purchasing equipment directly related to scaling up an existing income-generating activity;
- market research and marketing or commercial strategy for your product or service;
- strengthening the financial and accounting management of the CSO;
- support for the implementation of appropriate procedures;
- support for the implementation of a knowledge management system;
- support for the implementation/strengthening of your impact measurement;
- training needs of your teams on specific points;
- etc.

10 to 15% of the grant amount must be used to cover expertise costs related to the CSO's core business and/or the implementation of the AGR.

Further details will be provided to the associations selected for Pathway 1 when they are ready to draft their structural and economic strengthening project with a view to obtaining the grant and benefiting from Pathway 2.

A funding committee will select CSO projects based on their **feasibility, sustainability, impact and overall consistency**.



selection stages

The CSO selection process involves several stages. **Each stage aims to identify the most motivated and prepared CSOs. CSOs must demonstrate a significant level of availability in order to follow the support programme.**

1. submission of applications:

The call for applications is regional. It takes place simultaneously in the four cities. It allows for the selection of the first cohort of CSOs. The application form is available at the following address: www.labess.tn

2. Pre-selection based on application:

Applications are analysed and evaluated by Lab'ess and the relevant SA.

Only CSOs whose applications have been pre-selected will be invited for an interview. Invitations to the interview will be sent no later than five calendar days before the date of the selection committee meeting.

3. interview and selection committee review:

CSOs prepare a PowerPoint presentation based on a suggested outline. The presentation lasts no longer than 5 minutes and is followed by a Q&A session lasting no longer than 20 minutes.

The selection committee is composed of a maximum of 5 people: members of the SA team to which the CSOs report, a member of Lab'ess, and a representative of the AFD and/or the French Embassy in the country.

4. start and progress of path 1:

The 10 CSOs selected per city are informed of the results. They sign a commitment charter and very quickly join the Path 1 support programme. In addition to face-to-face working sessions, they work on delivering deliverables to the SAs.

They also participate in the Samim thematic events organised during these three months. They can benefit from a preparation session for the funding committee before which they will have to present their pitch.

5. submission of the "cso project":

In parallel with the Parcours 1 programme, the CSOs draft the technical and financial proposal for their organisational and economic strengthening project (using the form that will be provided to them at the appropriate time).





6. Funding committee meeting:

Each city organises a funding committee to review the technical and financial proposals submitted by CSOs. Five CSOs per city will be selected to proceed to Stage 2 and receive a grant. The funding committee operates in a similar way to the selection committee.

The funding committee is composed of a maximum of six people: members of the SA team responsible for the CSOs, members of Lab'ess (management + Samim operational team), representatives of the AFD and/or the French Embassy.

7. official announcement of winners and contracting:

The official announcement of the winners takes place one month after the funding committee meetings due to administrative procedures that must be followed with the donor(s).

The contract between the winning CSOs and the SA may be signed very quickly after the announcement. The first instalment of the grant will only be paid after the contract has been signed and all the required documents have been submitted.

8. start of pathway 2:

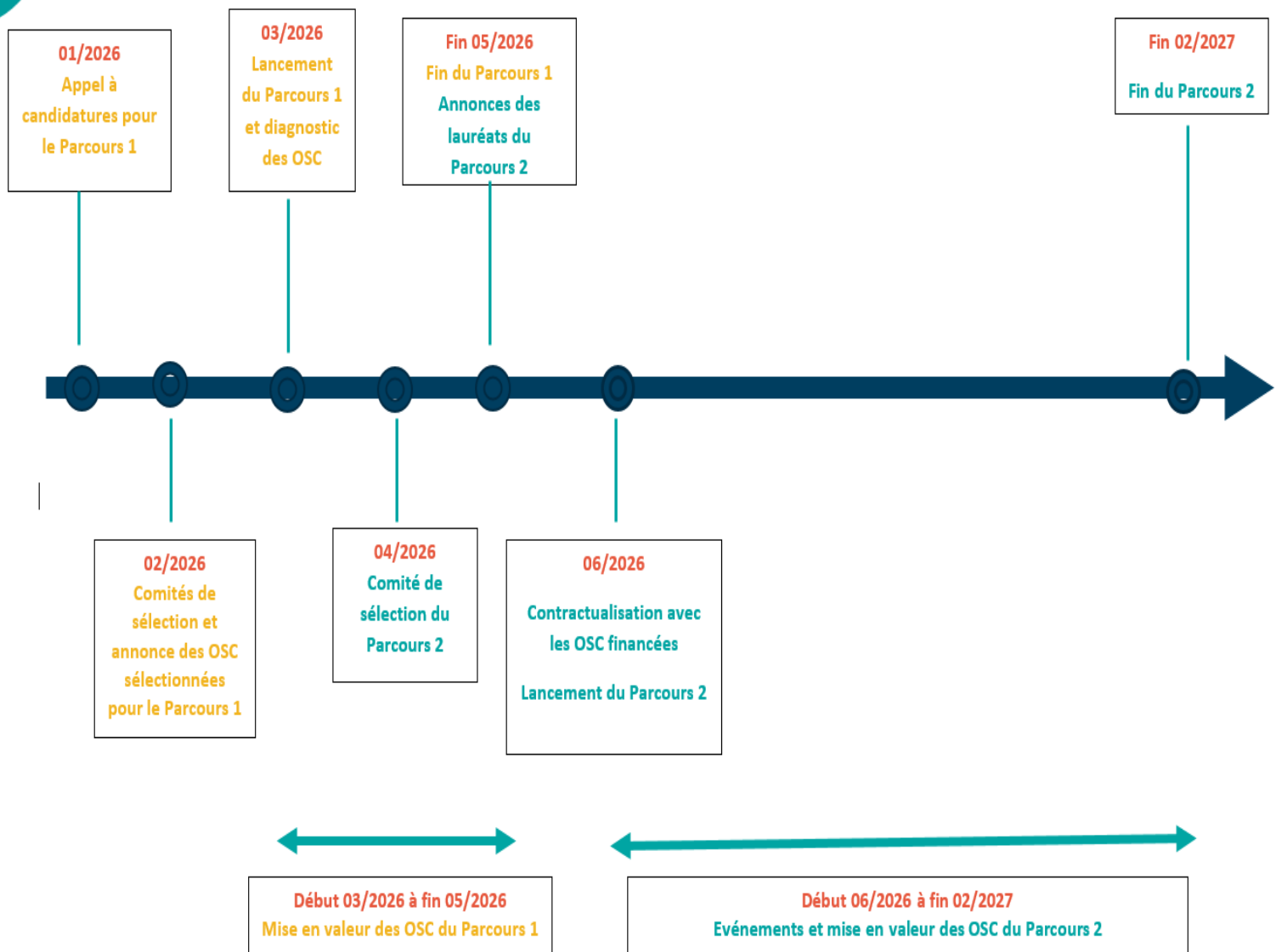
Path 2 can begin; it lasts 9 months.

The grant is paid in several instalments, subject to compliance with the obligations described in the contract and full and proper justification of expenses (financial report + supporting documents).

Compliance with deadlines and procedures is essential for the timely disbursement of instalments and the success of the CSO's project within the allotted time frame (9 months).



Timeline of selection and support stages for the first cohort





calendar of AAC highlights

Stages	Dates
Duration of the call for applications	5 to 25 January 2026
Information sessions	During the call for applications period
Sending of invitations to participate in the selection interview	Week of 2 February 2026 (no later than 5 calendar days before the selection committee meeting date)
Selection committee interview (in person) with shortlisted CSOs	Week of 9 February 2026
Path 1 (3 months)	Early March 2026 – late May 2026
Deadline for CSOs to submit projects	19 April 2026 (23:59 GMT+1)
Funding committee (in person)	Week of 27 April 2026
Official announcement of the list of winners	Late May 2026 - early June 2027
Contractualisation and Pathway 2 (9 months)	Early June 2026 – late February 2027





documents that must be included with your application

Mauritania:

- CSO statutes
- Minutes of the inaugural meeting or the last General Assembly
- List of board members (names, positions, contact details)
- Up-to-date list of CSO employees and interns
- Bank details in the name of the CSO
- Official recognition document (receipt from the FEDDAM platform)
- Annual activity and financial reports for 2023 and 2024

Morocco:

- Final or temporary receipt for the creation of the CSO
- OSC statutes
- Bank account details (RIB) in the name of the CSO
- Minutes of the constituent meeting or the last General Assembly
- List of board members (identity, roles, contact details)
- Up-to-date list of CSO employees and interns
- Certificate of registration with the CNSS and/or latest CNSS declaration for the CSO
- Tax identification number notification form
- Annual activity and financial reports for 2023 and 2024

Jordan:

- Certificate of legal registration
- OSC articles of association
- List of board members/management committee
- Up-to-date list of CSO employees and interns
- Certificate or contract for registered office
- Bank details in the name of the CSO
- Minutes of the last General Meeting
- Tax certificate
- Annual activity and financial report for 2023 and 2024

Tunisia:

- Publication in the OSC's JORT
- Legal statutes Extract from the RNE dated no more than three months ago
- Latest CNSS declaration from the CSO
- Bank details in the name of the CSO
- Tax identification card
- List of board members
- Updated list of OSC employees and interns
- Minutes of the last General Meeting
- Annual narrative and financial report for 2023 and 2024





contacts

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us before **15/01/2026**:

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Tunisia: bochra.mensi@labess.tn; emna.gaïess@labess.tn

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/Samim.project



Good luck !

www.labess.tn