



Cyber Security Improvement Grant (CySIG) Program Announcement

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Purpose:	To upgrade the level of information and cyber security at the government institutions and state-owned enterprises of critical infrastructure in Ukraine
Competition Opens:	March 1, 2019
Application Deadline:	April 1, 2019 (Applications reviewed on a rolling basis)
Eligibility:	Applicants - government institutions and state-owned enterprises - in areas of critical infrastructure in Ukraine as the sole providers of services in Ukraine (e.g. electricity or natural gas, etc.)
How to Apply:	By email to cysig@crdfglobal.org
General Area:	Cyber Security
Award Amounts:	Up to \$25,000
Award Duration:	One year
Announcement & Application:	http://www.crdfglobal.org/ (see " Current Funding Opportunities ")

Overview

- CySIGs are CRDF Global-sponsored grants to upgrade the level of information and cyber security at the government institutions and state-owned enterprises that match eligibility criteria
- CySIGs are a one-time, one-year award of up to \$25,000 each
- The awards are implemented through CRDF Global.

Eligibility

*CySIG applicants must possess **all of the following** to be eligible for this competition*:

CySIGs are open to applicants - Ukrainian government institutions and state-owned enterprises - that possess all from listed criteria:

- A citizen and consumer-oriented web-interface
- An existing IT infrastructure appropriate for advanced security enhancements
- A geographically dispersed network (covering Kyiv, Kyiv region, and at least three other regions of Ukraine)
- A natural monopoly as the sole provider of services in Ukraine (e.g. electricity or natural gas)

Each proposal is evaluated independently and therefore should not be part of, nor depend on the success of, other proposals submitted to this program.

Each applicant - government institutions and state-owned enterprises of critical infrastructure in Ukraine - is allowed to submit **only one application** per this grant competition.

CRDF Global reserves the right to restrict the participation of any individual or institution in its programs. CRDF Global complies with all U.S. laws and regulations pertaining to export control and the participation of

foreign nationals or institutions in its activities. It is the policy of CRDF Global not to conduct any transactions with U.S. restricted entities without appropriate authorization from the U.S. Government.

Required Application Materials

- **A completed CySIG application form** (*mandatory*)
- **A completed CySIG budget form*** (*mandatory*)
- **The curriculum vitae (CV)** of each project team member from the applicant' side – 3 pages each maximum, in Word or PDF format - with indicated contact phone and e-mail of Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) from the applying institution (*mandatory*)
- **An internal or external vulnerability assessment** (in a form of report or internal memo) (*mandatory*)

All application materials must be submitted as attachments in Word, PDF, or RTF files using the forms provided by CRDF Global.

* CySIGs are intended for **equipment (and associated installation fees), materials, and supplies** that improve information and cyber security. **The labor costs of the project team members from applicant' side is not allowed under this grant funding.**

Allowable Costs

The maximum total grant is up to **\$25,000** U.S. Dollars (USD) from CRDF Global awarded directly to the institute at which the Ukrainian Primary Point of Contact is employed. *In case of an award, budgets requesting CRDF Global funding may be subject to revision.

Allowable Expenses include:

- Equipment, Supplies, and Services (ESS),
- Other Direct Costs (other collateral expenses that may occur in relation with ESS installation and maintenance)

Proposal Evaluation Criteria

All proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Cyber security relevance and impact:

- What are the proposed security upgrades and how will they improve security within the applicant government institution/ state-owned enterprise?
- How often did the applicant observe precedents of cyber-attack attempts aimed on its informational resources?
- What are the maximum possible consequences in case of a successful cyber-attack on key information resources?

Sustainability and commitment:

- Does the applicant's organization demonstrate their commitment to the project by offering any complimentary financial, logistical, and/or personnel support?
- Does the applicant have a clear monitoring/evaluation strategy or plan? How will the applicant know that the requested upgrade has had the intended impact?
- Does the applicant institution offer long-term financial support or a detailed maintenance plan?

Clarity, feasibility, and detail:

- Does the project have a clear and reasonable timeline and plan for implementation?
- Is the proposed budget appropriate and reasonable for the activities?
- Will interruptions in work with web-interface or information resource (network) directly impact services provided by the government institution/s and state-owned enterprise/s?
- Is the institution's current information and telecommunications system appropriate for the proposed upgrades?

Please note that CySIGs are competitive grants and repeated funding for the same individuals or institutions is limited.

Additional Information

- For detailed information regarding the CySIG competition please visit: <https://www.crdfglobal.org/docs/default-document-library/cysig-faq.docx>
- For detailed information regarding general CRDF Global grant policies please visit: <http://www.crdfglobal.org/grants-and-grantees/faqs>
- For additional questions regarding the CySIG competition please contact CRDF Global at cybsig@crdfglobal.org

How to apply

- Submit completed application, budget and requested documents to cybsig@crdfglobal.org.

CRDF Global Policies

Anti-Plagiarism: CRDF Global will not provide funding to an application in which plagiarism exists. All applications for funding submitted to CRDF Global will be thoroughly screened for plagiarism against a large number of sources including published research papers, books, conference abstracts, and websites. When plagiarism is detected, the program within CRDF Global that is overseeing the funding opportunity will determine the specific action to be taken. Action taken may include, but is not limited to a) informing the applicant that plagiarism has been discovered; b) excluding the applicant from the funding opportunity; c) informing the applicant's institution; d) informing reviewers; e) informing organizations collaborating with CRDF Global on the funding opportunity; f) barring the applicant from participation in future funding opportunities.

Confidentiality of Proposals and Applicant Information: CRDF Global assures confidentiality of all proposals' material and will require all panelists and reviewers to respect the confidentiality of proposals. However, proposal authors should be aware that successful proposals will be treated as public information. Therefore, at the author's discretion, if there is specific information in the proposal that is business-confidential and not intended for public dissemination, it should be clearly labeled as such. Such passages will be withheld from public distribution if the proposal is successful.

CySIG Project Examples

*** Please note that CySIGs will not fund training or workshop events. CySIGs will only fund trainings associated with using the procured cyber security equipment or understanding cyber security procedures.**

Examples of equipment to be used for ensuring cyber security of information & telecommunication systems (ITS) and for physical security of objects of information activity (OIA) include:

1. Systems of access control to objects of information activity (OIA) and/ or server rooms (e.g. cameras, electronic digital locks)
2. Web Application Protection Screen (WAF)
3. Firewall (network firewall)
4. Intrusion Prevention Systems (IPS)
5. Security Information and Security Event Management (SIEM) systems (for example, McAfee Enterprise Security Manager)
6. Antivirus software
7. Equipment for physical security assurance and work continuity of server rooms and data centers (backup power supply, fire alarm, fire extinguishing system, climate system)

***Please note that the above is not an exhaustive list of eligible projects. CRDF Global encourages applicants to contact cysig@crdfglobal.org if they have any questions or concerns regarding the eligibility of a potential topic.**

Examples of activities and procedures for establishing or enhancing cybersecurity:

1. Audit and development of IT management processes (for example, based on COBIT 5 methodology)
2. Information security audit and recommendations development of based on it (for example, on the basis of ISO 270XX package of standards)
3. Development and implementation of information security incident management procedures (policies)
4. Development and implementation of a procedures (policies) for changes management in information systems
5. Development and implementation of procedures (policies) of information resources control access
6. Training and certification of information security department staff in accordance with international requirements (for example, certification by one of the ISACA programs)