

TRUSTLAW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Eligibility Criteria

Before proceeding with your application, please read the following eligibility criteria for TrustLaw membership.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS (NGOS)

TrustLaw membership is open to NGOs that are:

- Registered as a legal entity in compliance with local requirements or authorities;
- Non-discriminatory, apolitical and non-proselytizing;
- Working towards a social mission that seeks to address social, humanitarian, or environmental challenges;
- Able to clearly express their social objectives, including the impact they are trying to achieve, who they aim to help and how they plan to do this;
- Able to share at least one annual report detailing their finances, activities and programmes;
- Able to demonstrate their sustainability with evidence of funding or support for the 12 month period following the application; and
- Self-governing, with a Board that manages the activities of the organisation.

SOCIAL ENTERPRISES

TrustLaw membership is open to social enterprises that are:

- Registered as a legal entity in compliance with local requirements or authorities;
- Non-discriminatory, apolitical and non-proselytizing;
- Working directly towards a social mission that seeks to address social, humanitarian or environmental challenges;
- Able to clearly express their social objectives, including the impact they are trying to achieve, who they aim to help and how they plan to do this;
- Non-profit or for-profit organisations (**for-profit organisations must demonstrate a public or legally binding commitment to reinvesting most of their profits to further their social mission**);
- Able to share at least one report or plan detailing their activities, programmes, impact and impact measurement approach;
- Able to demonstrate their financial sustainability with evidence of investment support for the 12 month period following the application or revenue generating activities.

For additional information, see our list of [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

This document is for reference purposes only.

All applications for TrustLaw membership must be submitted through the [online application form](#).

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*Indicates a required field.

INDIVIDUAL CONTACT DETAILS

- Title *
- First Name *
- Last Name *
- Email *
- Job Title *
- City *
- Country *
- Direct Telephone *
Please include country dialing code.
- Mobile
Please include country dialing code.

ORGANISATION CONTACT DETAILS

- Organisation Name *
- Street Address
- City *
- Postcode
- State/Region/Province
- Country *
- Website *
Please enter the full URL.
e.g. <http://www.organisation.org>
- Telephone
Please include country dialing code.

ORGANISATION DETAILS

If your application is successful, the information you provide in this section will be given to lawyers as part of your organisation's request for legal assistance. It is important that these questions are answered fully, as they will help draw the attention of lawyers who may consider offering free legal assistance to your organisation.

Which of the following best describes your organisation? *

NGO

Social Enterprise

1. Please provide a brief summary of your organisation (250 characters or less) *
Once you become a member of TrustLaw and submit a request for legal assistance, this one-sentence description of your organisation will appear alongside your request when it is made visible to our legal network. This field is important, because it helps generate initial interest from lawyers thinking about working with you.
2. Please provide a bit more detail about your organisation and its work (300 words or less) *
3. What is the social or environmental issue that your organisation seeks to address, and what activities or programmes does it engage in to achieve this end? (200 words or less) *

Please provide a bit more detail about your organisation and its work

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4. What impact has your organisation already achieved, and what quantitative measures do you use to gauge your progress? (200 words or less) *
Please provide as much detail as possible, including information about your quantitative measures and evaluation methods.
5. Does your organisation operate independently of government? *
This question refers only to the independence of your operations and not to the receipt of donations, grants or loans from public entities.
6. Does your work include the spreading of religion? *
7. Does your work discriminate on the basis of religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, colour or race? *
8. Are you a for-profit organisation? *
For the purposes of this question, a 'for-profit organisation' is one that intends to fulfill its social mission AND distribute profits to owners, shareholders and/or investors. A 'non-profit organisation' is one that intends (and may be legally bound) to reinvest ALL of its profits back into its social mission.
Are your social goals stated in your organisation's governing documents (e.g. articles of association) or made publicly available on your website? Please explain. *
This could be in the form of a golden share, an asset lock or a public declaration informing stakeholders of the organisation's continued commitment to its social goals, irrespective of financial performance.
If so, do you currently generate any profits? *
If you currently generate profits, how do you use your profits? *
For example, are profits distributed to shareholders? If so, do you have a cap on dividends?
If you do not currently generate profits, how much of any future profits will be reinvested into achieving your social mission, and how is this commitment publicly demonstrated? *
9. How will your organisation be financially sustained in the next 12 months? *
Please provide information about existing grants, fundraising capabilities or income generation.
10. Are you happy for your organisation to appear on our members page?
11. Which of the following best describes your organisation's area of focus? *
*Please select a maximum of **ten** categories.*

Ageing populations
Animal welfare
Arts & Culture
Children & Youth
Climate Change, Environment & Conservation
Democracy & Political Engagement
Disability
Education & Training
Ethnic & Minority Rights
Financial Inclusion
Food Security & Agriculture
Freedom of Expression
Health – HIV & AIDS
Health – Mental Health
Health – Other
Health – Reproductive & Maternal Health

Housing & Shelter
Humanitarian Crisis & Disaster Management
Human Rights (Universal Declaration)
Labour Rights
Land Rights
Law & Justice
LGBT Rights
Modern Slavery & Trafficking
Peace & Reconciliation
Poverty
Privacy & Data
Refugees & Migration
Safety & Security
Social Innovation
Water & Sanitation
Women's Rights

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12. Does your organisation work in Africa?

If yes, please indicate which African countries you work in.

13. Does your organisation work in the Americas?

If yes, please indicate which African countries you work in.

14. Does your organisation work in Europe?

If yes, please indicate which African countries you work in.

15. Does your organisation work in Asia?

If yes, please indicate which African countries you work in.

COMPANY REGISTRATION DETAILS

16. What year was your organisation registered to operate? (DD/MM/YYYY) *

Please note, only legally registered organisations are eligible for TrustLaw membership.

17. Please provide your business or charity registration number and specify the country or jurisdiction where your organisation is registered.

Depending on your country of registration, this may be a Company Number, Charity Number, Employer Identification Number (EIN), Central Index Key (CIK) Number or an equivalent registration indicator.

18. What type of legal entity is your organisation registered as? *

e.g. Community Interest Company (CIC), Registered Charity, 501(c)(3), Public Benefit Corporation (Hybrid organisations with two or more legal entities should describe both entities and how they are connected.)

19. Annual budget/turnover for the current or most recent fiscal year *

20. Were you invited to join TrustLaw by a 'Referral Partner' organisation?"

If so, which Referral Partner invited you to join TrustLaw?

21. Number of paid staff *

22. Number of volunteers *

23. What is the name and title of your organisation's most senior staff member? *

24. Has your organisation paid for legal services in the past?

If yes, which law firms have you worked with?

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Please provide the following documents to complete your application for TrustLaw membership.

25. Founding document *

(e.g. Certificate of Incorporation, Memorandum and Articles of Association, or the equivalent)

26. Most recent annual report, investor deck or report of a similar nature *

27. Most recent financial statement or annual budget

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28. Please upload here any additional documents you would like us to consider in reviewing your membership application.

If your organisation's commitment to reinvesting the majority of its profits is noted in a particular document, (e.g. governing documents, shareholders' agreement, a statement in the annual report or a screenshot of this public commitment as stated on the organisation's website) please attach it here.

29. Include here any additional comments.

Please provide any additional information you would like us to consider when reviewing your application for TrustLaw membership.

Where did you hear about TrustLaw?

30. Do you agree to supply any lawyer you engage with through TrustLaw the materials needed to complete the work within the agreed-upon time frames? *

Please note that even though TrustLaw allows you to engage a lawyer to work pro bono for your organisation, they will need your support to be able to carry out your request.

By checking 'Yes' below, you commit to notify TrustLaw if you become aware of any changes to the information provided in this application.

I have read and accept the [TrustLaw Terms and Conditions](#).*

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