

# *Community Solutions Programs*

The Community Solutions Program (CSP) is a professional development program for the best and brightest global community leaders working on issues related to the environment, tolerance and conflict resolution, transparency and accountability, and women and gender. Community Solutions is a year-long program that includes a four-month fellowship at a U.S. community-based organization, government office or legislative body.

Through tailored, hands-on learning experiences and the Community Leadership Institute, fellows gain valuable experience in U.S.-based community work, increase skills and knowledge, strengthen their capacity for leadership and development in their home countries, bring years of experience to community development in the United States, and create action plans for community-based initiatives back home.

U.S.-based institutions that host CSP fellows are community-based, non-profit organizations or government offices that actively engage in community development projects. Host organizations provide mentorship and guidance to the Community Leaders throughout their four-month fellowship in the U.S.

For additional information on the Community Solutions Program, please visit <https://www.irex.org/project/community-solutions> or email [csp@irex.org](mailto:csp@irex.org).

## **PROGRAM LENGTH**

1 year including a 4-month fellowship in the U.S.

## **Eligibility and Application Overview**

**Public applications are accepted.**

Participants must:

- **Be between the ages of 25 and 38 at the beginning of the year;**
- **Be a citizen of an eligible country;**
- **Be living and working in your home country (individuals with refugee status working on behalf of their home community may be given special consideration);**
- **Have at least two years of experience working on community development, either as a full-time or part-time employee or volunteer;**
- **Have a high level of proficiency in spoken and written English at the time of application**
- **Be eligible to receive a U.S. J-1 visa**

**Applications are typically accepted from October through November of each year. Visit [IREX](#) for more information.**