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Civil Society Business Toolkit: A two-way street to LGBT+ progress

Workplace Pride is pleased to announce the launching of the **Civil Society Business Toolkit**, a free downloadable guide to help civil society organisations (CSOs) develop working relationships with business. This Toolkit has been created in collaboration with [Open for Business](#) and [The Other Foundation](#) and is sponsored by [The Global Equality Fund](#).

The **Civil Society Business Toolkit** provides CSOs with a guide for how to interact with business more effectively and productively. It focuses specifically on empowering LGBTIQ+ CSOs, regardless of their experience and background and has been written to be inclusive of individuals and communities with limited experience of working with corporate and commercial terminology.

The **Civil Society Business Toolkit** draws on the experience of a range of CSOs in countries including Hungary, India, Kenya, South Africa and Thailand who have themselves developed relationships with corporate organisations. It features case studies of successful partnerships and has suggested action plans developed in consultation with CSO leaders to help others establish similar relationships.

CSOs can work closer with business to achieve the aims of greater LGBTIQ+ inclusion. Increasingly, businesses are seeking to address LGBTIQ+ inclusion within their organisations and CSOs are well placed to advise and support them on their journey. In turn, businesses can use their societal and economic influence to amplify the work of LGBTIQ+ CSOs.

The four-part toolkit covers:

- Aligning your aspirations with your prospective business partners' objectives
- How to summarise the business case for LGBTIQ+ inclusion
- Eight practical tools to help improve collaboration with business partners
- How to develop intentions into actions that will advance LGBTIQ+ inclusion in both the workplace and society

David Pollard, Co-Founder & Executive Director of Workplace Pride said, "The Civil Society Business Toolkit embodies the dynamic at play in society today: Businesses want to engage more with grassroots efforts to get a better grasp of what motivates their customers, employees and investors while marginalised communities see the power and influence of the private sector and are eager to explore mutually beneficial activities."

The idea for the Civil Society Business Toolkit was initiated by the Global Equality Fund who also financially supported this work.

The Civil Society Toolkit is available to download for free from the [Civil Society Business Toolkit website](#).

Notes for Editors

- Workplace Pride is a civil society organisation dedicated to pushing the boundaries of LGBTIQ+ inclusion in the workplace.
- Open For Business is a coalition of leading global companies dedicated to LGBTIQ+ inclusion. Their mission is to present the business rationale on global LGBTIQ+ inclusion.
- The Other Foundation is an African trust that advances equality and freedom in southern Africa with a particular focus on sexual orientation and gender identity.
- The Global Equality Fund is a public-private partnership dedicated to advancing and defending the human rights of LGBTIQ+ persons around the world.

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