

Project Proposal: Open=Safe: Empowering Communities Through Open-Source Radiation Monitoring

1. Executive Summary:

Open=Safe is a project initiated by Safecast to empower communities worldwide by providing them with the knowledge and tools to monitor radiation levels in their environment. Building on Safecast's 13 years of experience in successful community-based workshops, this project will establish a series of hands-on workshops focused on building and utilizing open-source, real-time radiation detection devices (bgeigieZen kits). By fostering local expertise and providing access to reliable data, Open=Safe aims to create a more informed, resilient, and safer world. This proposal seeks funding to cover instructor costs, workshop materials, and bgeigieZen hardware kits.

2. Problem Statement:

Access to accurate and transparent radiation data is often limited, particularly in areas with potential environmental risks or limited resources. This lack of information can lead to public anxiety, hinder effective decision-making, and impede community resilience. Open=Safe addresses this problem by democratizing access to radiation monitoring technology and empowering communities to take ownership of their environmental safety.

3. Project Goals and Objectives:

- **Goal:** To empower communities worldwide to monitor radiation levels in their environment using open-source technology.
- **Objectives:**
 - Conduct a series of community-based workshops in [Specify target regions/countries].
 - Train participants in the assembly, calibration, and operation of bgeigieZen radiation detectors.
 - Create a network of trained individuals capable of collecting and sharing radiation data.
 - Contribute to the expansion of Safecast's open-source radiation database, providing publicly accessible data for informed decision-making.
 - Foster a culture of transparency and community engagement in environmental monitoring.

4. Project Activities:

- **Workshop Development:** Develop a standardized workshop curriculum covering radiation basics, bgeigieZen assembly, data collection protocols, and data interpretation.

- **Instructor Training:** Recruit and train experienced instructors to lead workshops in various locations.
- **Workshop Implementation:** Conduct workshops with a maximum of 10 participants per session, led by three instructors. Workshops will include hands-on assembly of bgeigieZen kits, calibration exercises, and data collection practice.
- **Data Management:** Integrate data collected by workshop participants into the Safecast open-source database.
- **Community Engagement:** Foster ongoing communication and collaboration among workshop participants and the broader Safecast community.

5. Project Methodology:

Open=Safe will utilize a participatory, hands-on approach to empower communities. Workshops will be designed to be accessible to individuals with varying levels of technical expertise. The open-source nature of the bgeigieZen allows for customization and adaptation to local needs. Safecast's established data management protocols will ensure data quality and accessibility.

6. Project Team:

- [List key personnel from Safecast involved in the project, highlighting their relevant experience and expertise. Include roles and responsibilities.]
- Safecast has a long history of successful community engagement and open-source development. [Briefly describe Safecast's history and accomplishments].

7. Budget:

The requested funding will cover the following expenses:

- **Instructor Fees:** [Amount] (Includes instructor salaries/stipends and travel expenses)
- **bgeigieZen Kits:** [Amount] (Cost per kit x number of kits)
- **Workshop Materials:** [Amount] (Consumables, printed materials, etc.)
- **Workshop Venue Rental (if applicable):** [Amount]
- **Contingency:** [Amount] (5-10% of total budget)

Total Funding Request: [Total Amount]

A detailed budget breakdown will be provided in the appendix.

8. Evaluation Plan:

Project success will be evaluated based on the following metrics:

- Number of workshops conducted.
- Number of participants trained.
- Number of bgeigieZen devices deployed.

- Volume of data contributed to the Safecast database.
- Participant feedback on workshop effectiveness.
- Increased community awareness of radiation issues.

9. Sustainability:

Open=Safe is designed to be a sustainable project by:

- Empowering local communities to maintain and expand their monitoring capabilities.
- Utilizing open-source technology that can be adapted and improved over time.
- Building a network of trained individuals who can serve as local experts and trainers.
- Leveraging Safecast's existing infrastructure and resources.

10. Organizational Information (Safecast):

- [Provide a brief overview of Safecast's mission, history, and accomplishments.]
- [Include Safecast's legal status and contact information.]

11. Appendix:

- Detailed Budget Breakdown
- Workshop Curriculum Outline
- Letters of Support (if available)
- Team Member Biographies

Key Considerations and Customization:

- **Target Audience:** Tailor the language and focus of the proposal to the specific organization or university you are applying to. Research their funding priorities and highlight how Open=Safe aligns with their mission.
- **Geographic Focus:** Be specific about the regions or countries where you plan to conduct workshops. If you have specific communities in mind, mention them.
- **Impact:** Emphasize the potential impact of Open=Safe on the communities you will be working with. How will this project improve their lives and contribute to a safer world?
- **Visuals:** Include photos or videos from previous Safecast workshops to illustrate the project's effectiveness.
- **Letters of Support:** Obtain letters of support from community organizations or local leaders in the areas where you plan to conduct workshops.
- **Budget Justification:** Provide a clear and detailed justification for each budget item.
- **Open Source Emphasis:** Highlight the importance of open-source technology in promoting transparency, accessibility, and community ownership.

I hope this template helps you create a compelling funding proposal for Open=Safe! Let me know if you have any other questions.

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Okay, based on the search results from Safecast's website, the bgeigieZen kit costs approximately \$475 USD. The bgeigieNano kit is listed at \$350.

Here's an updated budget section for your proposal, assuming you're planning to use the bgeigieZen kit and want to train 100 people:

7. Budget:

The requested funding will cover the following expenses:

- **Instructor Fees:** [Amount] (Includes instructor salaries/stipends and travel expenses) - *This will depend on the number of workshops, instructor rates, and travel costs. You'll need to estimate this based on your planned locations and instructor availability.*
- **bgeigieZen Kits:** \$47,500 USD (100 kits x \$475 per kit)
- **Workshop Materials:** [Amount] (Consumables, printed materials, etc.) - *Estimate the cost of materials needed for each workshop (e.g., batteries, soldering supplies if needed, printed guides) and multiply by the number of workshops.*
- **Workshop Venue Rental (if applicable):** [Amount] - *If you need to rent space for the workshops, include an estimate of rental costs.*
- **Transportation for Instructors:** [Amount] - *Estimate the cost for the 3 instructors to travel to and from the workshop.*
- **Contingency:** [Amount] (5-10% of total budget)

Total Funding Request: [Total Amount]

A detailed budget breakdown will be provided in the appendix.

Important Notes:

- **Instructor Fees:** This is a significant variable. Research typical instructor rates in the regions where you plan to conduct workshops. Consider whether you will be paying instructors a salary, a stipend, or an hourly rate.
- **Workshop Materials:** Be as specific as possible when estimating the cost of workshop materials. List the specific items you will need and their estimated prices.
- **Contingency:** It's always a good idea to include a contingency fund to cover unexpected expenses.
- **In-Kind Contributions:** If Safecast or other organizations will be contributing any resources to the project (e.g., staff time, office space), mention these as in-kind contributions. This can strengthen your proposal.

- **Currency Conversion:** If you are applying for funding from an organization that uses a different currency, be sure to include a currency conversion rate.