

# LEGAL HEALTH CHECKS FOR REFUGEE-LED ORGANIZATIONS IN ASIA PACIFIC

A Collaborative Initiative by PILnet & APNOR

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

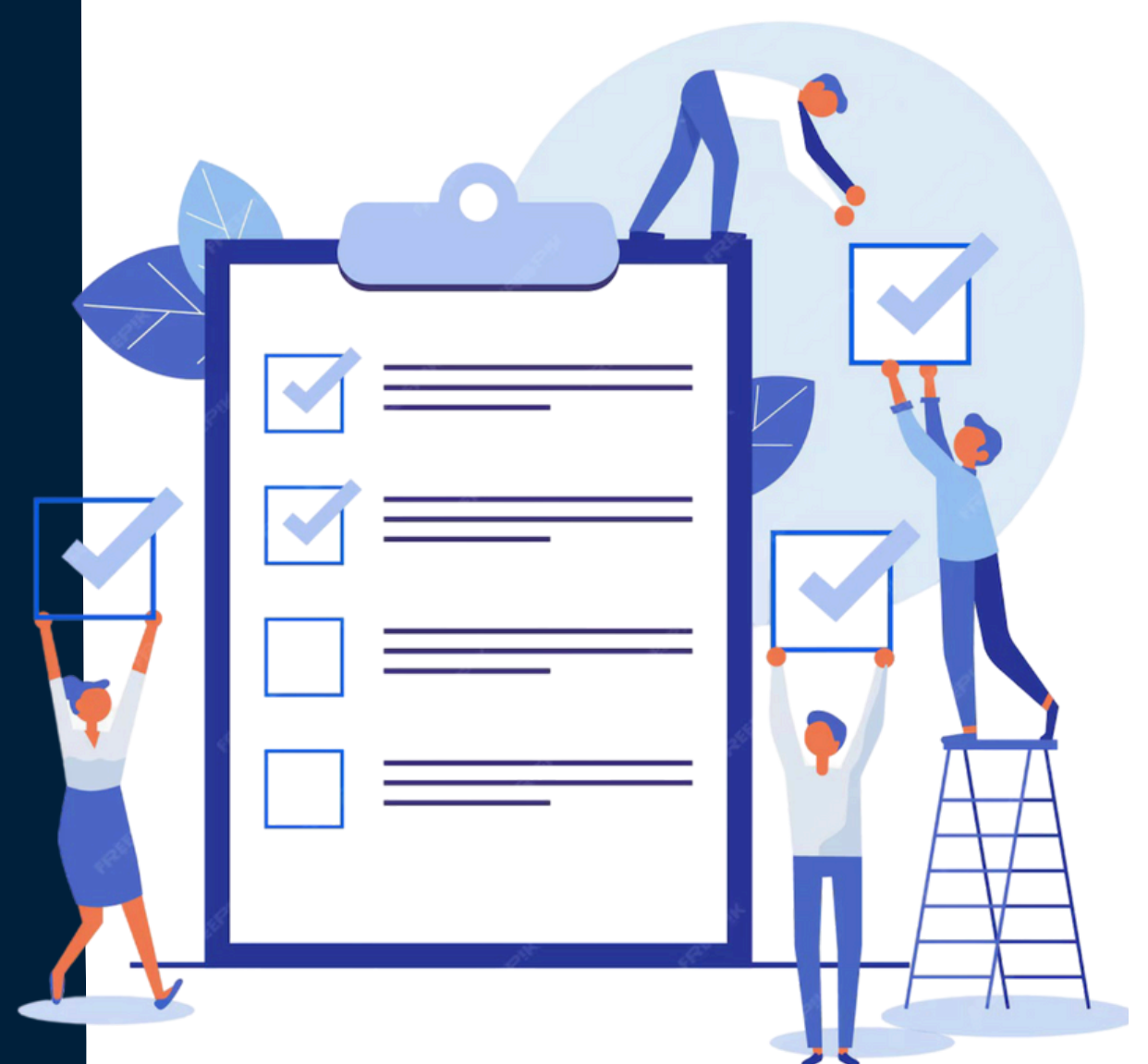
PILnet and APNOR are launching legal health checks to help refugee-led organizations (RLOs) in the Asia-Pacific region better understand and manage their legal risks. This pilot program will initially focus on Malaysia and New Zealand to test the effectiveness of a legal health check model adopted in Hong Kong, and assess its feasibility for application in other countries, both within and beyond the region.

## WHY THIS MATTERS

RLOs in Asia Pacific face critical legal challenges that limit their effectiveness, including:

- Lack of knowledge about running a non-profit in compliance with the law
- Difficulties with legal registration and establishing alternative models of operating
- Limited access to banking services
- Barriers to legally hiring staff

These obstacles make it harder for RLOs to secure funding and operate effectively, even as donors seek to increase their support. Without proper legal guidance, RLOs risk non-compliance and perpetuate concerns about their funding eligibility.



# LEGAL HEALTH CHECKS FOR REFUGEE-LED ORGANIZATIONS IN ASIA PACIFIC

## PROJECT PLAN

### Co-design and Training (October - December 2024)

- Workshops with RLOs in Malaysia and New Zealand
- Development of country-specific legal health check tools
- Creation of tailored training materials for RLOs and legal professionals

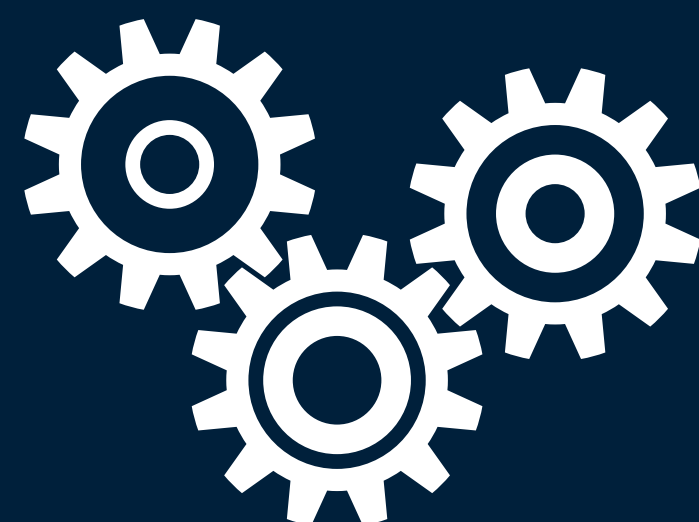


### Outreach and Education (January - March 2025)

- Legal awareness workshops for RLOs
- Promotion of available resources and support
- Training for legal professionals involved in the legal health checks

### Pilot Implementation (April - September 2025)

- Testing of legal health checks in both countries
- Assessment of tool effectiveness
- Documentation of lessons learned



## Orientation Call

### RLO & PILnet

This initial call provides an overview of the process and the questionnaire. The timeline for completing the questionnaire and scheduling the next call is agreed upon.

01  
STEP



STEP  
02

## Questionnaire Completion Call

### RLO & PILnet

The questionnaire is completed using a user-friendly format with drop-down and conditional questions. Additional documents, such as Articles of Association and Annual Reports, are gathered as needed.



STEP  
03

## Health Check Report provided

### Law firm

Law Firms review questionnaire and develop a structured report using a traffic light system and an executive summary.



STEP  
04

## Legal Health Check and Action Plan

### RLO & PILnet

PILnet and the RLO review the findings, discuss tailored recommendations, and identify legal support options. Priorities and next steps are finalized in a concise one-page document.