



Montenegro
Ministry for Labour and Social Welfare



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CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Project Title: Support the establishment and strengthening of civil society organizations, including organizations representing women from minority and disadvantaged groups, to advocate for the development and implementation of laws and policies in line with CEDAW and the Istanbul Convention, under the Programme "Ending Violence against Women: Implementing Norms, Changing Minds"

Duration: October 2018 – March 2019(tentatively)

Contract Type: Micro capital grant agreement

Deadline for submissions: 17 September 2018, 16:00

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is inviting women civil society organizations to submit proposals to:

- 1) Monitor, report on and advocate for the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (also known as Istanbul Convention) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in Montenegro.
- 2) Provide specialist support services for victims of all forms of violence in line with the standards enshrined in CEDAW and the Istanbul Convention, including women from minority or disadvantaged groups.

Terms of Reference

I. Background

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) is central to the realization of women's human rights and gender equality. By ratifying CEDAW, all States parties are obliged to periodically submit reports with an aim to promote compliance with the obligations contained in the Convention. An important part of any periodic report is reporting back to the Committee on concrete measures taken to implement the Concluding Observations on the previous report. In 1992, the Committee adopted general recommendation 19 on violence against women, asking State parties to include in their periodic reports to the Committee statistical data on the incidence of violence against women, information on the provision of services for victims, and legislative and other measures taken to protect women against violence in their everyday lives, including against harassment at the workplace, abuse in the family and sexual violence.

The Istanbul Convention (IC) requires sanctioning by states and obliges states to prevent offences, protect victims, prosecute perpetrators and have integrated policies (through criminal and civil law provisions, improved service delivery, resource allocation, and cultural transformation measures). The IC establishes a two-pronged international monitoring mechanism: Council of Europe Group of Experts on



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action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO), and political body of officials (Committee of the Parties). GREVIO recognizes the important role that NGOs play in monitoring implementation and made it clear in its Rules of Procedure (Rule 35) that NGOs and other members of civil society are vital sources of information and that all information received from NGOs will be treated as confidential by GREVIO.

Overall, the capacity of women's organizations in Montenegro to hold the government accountable to their gender equality commitments and monitor government activities and spending from a gender equality perspective needs to be improved through technical support, sustainable funding, and creating networking opportunities. In addition, they are also key stakeholders in the provision of services that are essential in the establishment of multi-sectoral and coordinated mechanisms to adequately respond to the needs of victims of violence.

II. Objective of UNDP's support

The support to strengthening of civil society organizations to advocate for the development and implementation of laws and policies and provide services in line with CEDAW and the Istanbul Convention will contribute to the creation of an enabling legislative and policy environment in line with international standards on eliminating violence against women and all forms of discrimination.

The Call for Proposals falls under the Programme "Ending violence against women and girls: Implementing norms, changing minds" (February 2017- January 2020). The Programme aims at ending gender based discrimination and violence against women, with a particular focus on the most disadvantaged groups of women, in six Western Balkans countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, FYR Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia) and Turkey. The Programme is anchored in the normative frameworks of CEDAW and the Istanbul Convention, and also in alignment with EU accession standards. The Programme is run by UN WOMEN (with UNDP being implementing partner in Montenegro) and is funded by the European Commission within the Instrument for Pre- Accession Assistance (IPA) II.

III. Scope of the project

The Programme builds on the strong links of UNDP with women civil society organizations (CSOs) in Montenegro, placing the Programme in a strategic position to assist women in their drive for rights as citizens. Civil society, in particular women's organizations, plays a crucial role in the promotion of gender equality and women's rights. Furthermore, women's organizations are key stakeholders in ensuring that the perspectives and voices of the most excluded and discriminated against groups of women are heard by policy-makers. Additionally, women's organizations are instrumental - in terms of their networks, outreach and innovation - to facilitating the required behavioral and attitudinal changes for tackling the structural barriers to gender equality and ending violence against women.

The ultimate goal of the three-year Programme is that women and girls live a life free of discrimination and violence. The specific objectives are: (1) To create an enabling legislative and policy environment in



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line with international standards on eliminating violence against women and all forms of discrimination; (2) To promote favorable social norms and attitudes to promote gender equality and prevent discrimination of and violence against women; and (3) To empower women and girls (including those from disadvantaged groups) who have experienced discrimination or violence to advocate for and use available, accessible and quality services.

In line with the set Programme goals, this second round of Call for Proposals (first one was launched in July 2017) will contribute to the following objectives:

Objective 1:

Strengthen women's organization capacity to monitor, report on and advocate for the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (also known as Istanbul Convention) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in Montenegro.

Objective 3:

Strengthen women's organization capacity to provide specialist support services for victims of all forms of violence in line with the standards enshrined in CEDAW and the Istanbul Convention, including targeting women from minority or disadvantaged groups (such as shelters, crisis centers for victims of domestic and sexual violence, etc.) Organizations must bear in mind the legislation in Montenegro covering this area, namely the Rulebooks on standards for provisions of these services, in order to be able to meet the standards prescribed by the Law and obtain license for providing that particular service.

When applying, the organizations are expected to indicate which category of the Call for Proposals they are applying to.

IV. Duration of project

From October 2018 to March 2019 (tentatively)

V. Budget Request

Total eligible amount of funding under this Call will be 80,000 EUR, dividable per a number of proposals approved by the Evaluation Committee.

VII. Institutional Arrangement

The selected organizations will sign a Micro-Capital Grant Agreement (PCA) with UNDP. A competitive selection process will take place to identify the potential Responsible Party. The NGO will be selected only if it has proven capacity to deliver the proposed activity. The NGO's capacity will be assessed by the



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Evaluation Committee comprising of members of UNDP, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, Ministry of Human and Minority Rights and the Delegation of European Union to Montenegro.

VIII. Reporting

The selected partner will be the principal responsible party, but will work closely with UNDP during programme implementation. The partner will provide regular narrative and financial reports in line with UNDP guidelines and requirements.

All knowledge products and communications materials that would be produced under this agreement must acknowledge the support and seek approval of UNDP. Furthermore, they should be in line with the EU Communication and Visibility tools and the EU-UN joint visibility guidelines.

Annex I. Guidelines for the Submission of Proposals

I. Who can apply

- Women's CSOs, women's CSOs networks and platforms that have specialized knowledge, expertise and track record of working in women's human rights and ending violence against women.
- Women's CSOs/ Women's CSOs network and platforms with track record in monitoring international human rights treaties and conventions, and more specifically Istanbul Convention.
- Women's CSOs/ Women's CSOs network and platforms gathering women from disadvantaged groups (Roma) and background and track record in working on issues of improving the position of Roma women in Montenegro.

II. What to submit

Eligible applicants are expected to submit the followings in English:

1. General Information including name of organization, contact person and contact details (see Annex I - Application Cover Sheet).
2. Project proposal
A narrative proposal consisting of:
 - Context and problem analysis
 - Project Design & Justification: A description of the approach to meeting the programme objectives as described in the Terms of Reference, including the description of why and how your organization/ institution is best suited to undertake this endeavor
 - Workplan with detailed activities and resources required (see financial proposal)
 - Partnerships: A description of the partners needed to successfully implement the project and their roles
 - Institutional profile: A brief description of your organization, including its registration details and relevant experience addressing issues pertaining to an intersectional approach to gender



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- equality and ending violence against women and girls
 - An output-based budget – i.e. budget showing how much is required for each activity to achieve each output. The administrative/indirect cost should not exceed 7% of the total budget.
3. A copy of the organization's legal registration document
 4. Supporting documents such as your organizational brochures, annual reports and audit reports from the past three years.

III. Evaluation Criteria

Proposals passing the eligibility criteria (see above) will be scored against the following:

1. Relevance of the proposal (20 points): quality of the context analysis and assessment;
2. Implementation strategies (30 points): Soundness of strategy, proposed activities, and expected results against the problem analysis in designing the project;
3. Budget Proposal (20 points); and
4. Applicants' institutional capacity and relevant experience (30 points) Minimum score to be eligible is 70 points.

Only applicants passing the minimum score will be contacted to proceed with shortlisting and a capacity assessment review.

IV. When is the proposal due

The deadline for submission of proposals is 17 September 2018, 16:00. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.

V. To whom should the proposal be sent

Please send all required application documents in one email to procurement.me@undp.org indicating in the e- mail subject: **Call for Proposals for EVAW Programme.**