

SMALL GRANTS SUPPORT
For the Specialized CSOs and CSOs/CBOs Coalition

Request for Applications (RFA)

Human Rights Programme (HRP)

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| Atlas project ID | : | 00097336 |
| RFA number | : | HRP-2018-002 |
| Project duration | : | 14 months (November 2018 to December 2019) |
| Call for application | : | 07 October 2018 |
| Submission Deadline: | : | 21 st October 2018 (by 12:00 pm) |
| Expected starting date: | : | 1 st November 2018 |

A. Description of Micro-Capital Grants

1. General Information:

The Micro-Capital Grants (MCG) support to the CSO and/or coalition of CSOs/CBOs is an initiative of Human Rights programme (HRP) to foster small scale innovative human rights initiatives/actions at grassroots/district level with limited management capacity. The actions will have a special focus on the rights issues/concerns of most vulnerable groups/communities, particularly the plain-land ethnic and excluded minorities, Dalits, Third-gender and other groups in specific context of Bangladesh. The specialized CSO or coalition of CSOs/CBOs should focus on one of the specific thematic rights issues in the national and local context of Bangladesh.

2. Background:

Human Rights Programme (HRP) is a rights-based initiative UNDP supported by a consortium of donors. The programme has a specific focus on "strengthening capacity of civil society organizations/community-based organizations to engage in human rights advocacy and awareness raising in Bangladesh". The Human Rights Programme will build the capacity of existing human rights CSOs and their coalitions to improve collaborative human rights actions at grassroots and national level of Bangladesh. The programme will have a focus on working with vulnerable and marginalized groups, including women and girls, children and young people, ethnic and religious minorities, Dalits and sexual minority population. This will seek to expand on human rights advocacy, awareness raising, human rights monitoring and reporting and collaborative actions of the CSOs through connecting then national institutions and stakeholders in addressing human rights issues/concerns in Bangladesh.

The Human Rights Programme (HRP) has five outcomes:

- 1) Strengthened capacity of the National Human Rights Commission to deliver on its mandate

- 2) Enhanced capacity of civil society and community-based organizations to engage in human rights advocacy and awareness raising
- 3) Enhanced capacity of law enforcement agencies, in particular police, on human rights issues
- 4) Strengthened capacity of national stakeholders to better protect and promote women's rights
- 5) Strengthened capacity of national stakeholders to better protect and promote the rights of ethnic minorities

It is noted here that, this particular Micro-Capital Grants (MCG) support to specialized CSOs or CSOs/CBOs coalitions are linked with Outcome-5 of the HRP, UNDP.

3. The Purpose of the RFA

The purpose of this RFA is to solicit applications and establish partnerships with specialized CSOs or CSOs/CBOs coalitions to ***enhance the institutional capacity and engagement of specialized CSOs and CSOs/CBOs coalitions in addressing rights of the ethnic and excluded minorities (including Dalits and other vulnerable groups), Gender diverse communities (Third-gender people) and other vulnerable groups in specific context of Bangladesh.***

The RFA is open to all specialized CSO and the coalitions of small CSOs/CBOs working on specific thematic areas in Bangladesh to address common human rights issues/concerns and having commitment to make positive changes on the rights (knowledge and capacity), accessibility and dignity of target groups.

4. Thematic issues:

The RFA will predominantly focus on the follow thematic areas:

| SL | Thematic Issue | Size of the Grants |
|----|--|--------------------|
| 1. | Rights of the Ethnic Minorities | USD 25,000 |
| 2. | Rights of the Excluded Minorities (including Dalits and other vulnerable groups) | USD 20,000 |
| 3. | Rights of Gender diverse communities (Third-gender population) | USD 25,000 |

4.1 Details on Thematic Issue-1: Rights of the Ethnic Minorities

Bangladesh is well defined as multi-culture and multi-ethnic country. Off the total population, 9.5% people belongs to minority groups including approximate 2% as part of ethnic groups. A large section of ethnic population (70%) lives in plain land areas and struggling for their rights and dignified life in Bangladesh.

Considering that the call focuses on the rights of ethnic minorities to better protect and promote their rights. The actions should consider the national and local context of rights issues with special focus on:

- Research/Review the existing laws/policies related to land rights and policy advocacy (based on findings);
- Ethnic/minority rights advocacy at policy level

- Sensitization of Parliament members and national institution/stakeholders on rights and protection of the ethnic minorities;
- Awareness raising, develop united coordinating platform for the minorities;
- Fact-finding mission (on violence against the minorities), media reporting and dialogues on the rights of ethnic minorities in Bangladesh.

This is an opportunity to **specialized CSOs**, working in national context to work and deliver the meaningful results in advancing rights of the minorities in Bangladesh.

4.2 Details on Thematic Issue-2: Rights of the Excluded Minorities (including Dalits, Munda and other excluded groups) in local and national context.

Dalits comprises of numerous social groups. They speak a variety of languages and practice a multitude of religions. The estimated number of Dalits in Bangladesh range between 5.5 to 6.5 million¹. Unfortunately, Bangladesh does not have disaggregated data on the Dalit population. They are usually engaged in low- income livelihoods such as cane and bamboo craftsman, snake charmer/traditional healers; fisherman, Zola(weavers), Methor (street sweepers), cobblers and manual scavengers. A study from 2014² shows that 43% of Dalits make their living from sweeping and cleaning jobs. 22% of them work in agriculture sector and 14% of Dalits' livelihoods depend on the tea gardens. As a result, remain impoverished, uneducated, and illiterate. Historically, Dalits have been oppressed by dominant groups in society and the majority are under-privileged and struggle for job opportunities They are perceived as "untouchables", which limits their social interactions and hampers their economic development.

Considering that this call focuses on united actions of the specialized CSO or CSOs/CBOs coalition national and local context of Bangladesh. The actions should consider the rights and protection of Excluded Minorities (including Dalits and other vulnerable groups) with specific focus on.

- Comprehensive awareness raising (community and school-based), sensitization of community/social leaders and celebration of rights-based days.
- Dialogues/consultation with state agencies/authorities/service providing institutions on rights and accessibility of the excluded minorities (including Dalits)
- Generate database/information on Human Rights violation issues (with special focus on Dalits and excluded groups), produce Human Rights Situation Report (in national context and initiate policy dialogues to address the rights of excluded minorities (including Dalits).
- Referral services, and ensure better access to justice
- Leadership development of excluded minority women (including Dalit women)
- Initiatives for inclusion of Dalits and other excluded minority group representatives in different structures (including LGI standing committees) of the Government.

This is an opportunity to **specialized CSOs or CSO/CBO coalitions**, working in national and local context to deliver the meaningful results in advancing rights and dignity of the Dalits and excluded minority groups/people in Bangladesh.

¹ Since there is no official statistics and disaggregated data on Dalits, it is hard to get a complete assessment of the total number of Dalits. In a Benchmark report on the draft UN principles and guidelines for the elimination of caste-based discrimination BDERM and Nagorik Uddyog estimates the number to be between 5.5 – 6.5 million. Uddin, Mohamed Nasir, Nagorik Uddyog- Bangladesh Dalit and Excluded Rights Movement. Benchmarking the Draft UN Principles and Guidelines on the Elimination of (Caste) Discrimination based on Work and Descent. 2015: <http://www.nuhr.org/DocFile/134-Benchmarking%20Study%20EIDHR%20NU%20BD%20final.pdf> (accessed 2 February 2017)

² Parvez, Altaf and Mazharul Islam (2014), *Bangladeshi Dalit Somaj: Boishommyo, Bonchona O Osprishota* (Dalit Communities in Bangladesh: Situation of Discrimination, Exclusion and Untouchability).

4.3 Details on Thematic Issue-3: Rights of the Gender diverse communities (Third-gender)

The gender diverse population are defined as the most vulnerable group in the social and religious context in Bangladesh. Because of the lack of respect and accountability in ensuring their human rights, they often face myriad of difficulties, discrimination, stigmatization and societal persecution. The society is yet to officially acknowledge their existence. There are very limited initiatives to address the basic rights of gender diverse communities in Bangladesh.

Considering that this call focuses on innovative actions of the specialized CSOs in national and local context. The actions should consider the rights and protection of gender diverse communities with spoeiafic focus on.

- Awareness raising on the rights of gender diverse comminties and create a sensible society;
- Create tolerant and supportive social, policy and legal environment for greater access of gender diverse communities to social justice;
- Legal/referral services to the gender diverse communities;
- Initiatives for reducing harassment, stigma, discrimination and human rights violations;
- Capacity development of gender diverse communities for better negotiating and establishing their rights and dignified life.

This is an opportunity to **specialized CSOs** or **CSO/CBOs coalition**, working in national or local context to deliver the meaningful results in advancing rights and dignity of the gender diverse people/communities in Bangladesh.

It is noted here that specialized CSOs or CSO/CBO coalitions should specify their working areas (national context or local context with specifying targeted District, Upazila, Name of the Unions).

5. Expectations

The RFA is expected that as immediate outputs, the specialized CSOs and coalition of CSO/CBOs working at national and local context will:

- 1) Have greater opportunity to enhance institutional capacity of the specialized CSO and CSOs/CBOs coalitions;
- 2) Have an opportunity to work together on specific thematic rights issues/concerns;
- 3) Have an opportunity to be engaged in human rights awareness, policy advocacy, fact-fining and rights-based networking initiatives, human rights reporting in local and national context of Bangladesh;
- 4) Establish a stronger coordination of rights-based CSOs in promotion and protection of human rights in Bangladesh.

6. Eligibility Requirements:

Following an open advertisement, the following five eligibility requirements will be adopted for selection of specialized CSOs or coalition of the CSOs/CBOs:

1. Hold a valid Govt. registration
2. Have at least five years working experiences³ on thematic rights issues
3. Have valid evidence indicating transparent and accountable financial management systems (i.e. need authorised audit report)
4. Have strong base in priority areas
5. Have valid evidence indicating transparent and accountable financial management systems (i.e. need authorised audit report)

Note: for CSO/CBO coalition:

- all evidential documents of the lead CSO or CBO (including signed MOU of the coalition members) will be reviewed.
- Five (5) years experiences is applicable to lead CSO/CBO

7. Selection Criteria and Requirement

The selection criteria and requirement to be eligible to receive grants in accordance with UNDP's guidelines for Micro – Capital Grants (MCG).

UNDP provides micro-capital grants for both credit and non-credit purposes as inputs to its programme and project activities for this strategy, HRP will be using the noncredit grant modality under MCGs are generally and broadly used for:

- a. Strengthening the institutional capacity of the local NGO and CSOs/CBOs coalitions;
- b. Supporting community-based self-help initiatives, which may include income-generating activities designed to alleviate poverty;
- c. Promoting advocacy activities and networking between civil society organizations (CSOs), government and donors; and
- d. Supporting NGOs and CSOs involved with local environmental protection and poverty eradication activities.

8. Evaluation Criteria

All submitted applications/proposals (including evidential attachments) will be assessed with the following technical and financial criterias:

I. Technical Evaluation:

| Technical Evaluation Criteria | | Points obtainable | | | | | CSO coalition | | | | |
|---|--|-------------------|--|--|--|--|---------------|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | A | B | C | E | D |
| 1. Demonstrate contextual analysis on <u>specific thematic rights issues</u> at national/local context of Bangladesh | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | Context Analysis on thematic rights issues | 10 | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.2 | Relevance of actions with thematic rights issues | 10 | | | | | | | | | |
| Sub-total | | 20 | | | | | | | | | |
| 2. Strength of the <u>specialised CSO</u> or <u>CSO/CBO coalitions</u> : | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (i). Working experience on thematic rights issues ; | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (ii). Working approach/strategy | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.1 | Working experience on thematic rights issues | 10 | | | | | | | | | |

³ Five (5) years working experiences applicable to lead CSOs

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2.2 Working approach/strategy with national institutions/local administration/other CSOs/CBOs | 10 | | | | | |
| Sub-total | 20 | | | | | |
| 3. Setting of <u>Desired Results</u> and <u>Result-wise activities</u> on thematic rights issues | 10 | | | | | |
| Sub-total | 10 | | | | | |
| 4. Innovation and value for money | 10 | | | | | |
| Sub-total | 10 | | | | | |
| 5. Monitoring and Evaluation plan (with setting of SMART indicators) | 5 | | | | | |
| Sub-total | 5 | | | | | |
| 6. Sustainability of the proposed human rights actions. | 5 | | | | | |
| Sub-total | 5 | | | | | |
| Technical Total = | 70 | | | | | |

II. Financial Evaluation:

| Financial Evaluation Criteria | | Points obtainable | CSO coalition | | | | |
|--|-----------|-------------------|---------------|---|---|---|---|
| 7. Cost-effectiveness of the proposed Human Rights actions | | | A | B | C | E | D |
| 7.1 Analysis of proportion of programme cost and management/operation cost | 10 | | | | | | |
| 7.2 Evidence of Bank Certificate /statement | 5 | | | | | | |
| Sub-total | 15 | | | | | | |
| 8. Financial transparency | | | | | | | |
| 8.1 Authorised audit report | 10 | | | | | | |
| Sub-total | 10 | | | | | | |
| 1. Cost sharing in the budget (i.e. budgetary contribution). | 5 | | | | | | |
| Sub-total | 5 | | | | | | |
| Financial total = | 30 | | | | | | |

9. Submission of Application:

The interested CSOs or coalition of the CSO/CBOs in context of specific areas are requested to submit their proposal (technical and financial proposal) with signed letter and attachment of all supporting documents in line with proposal format (**Annex-1&2**).

The specialized CSOs or CSO/CBO coalition should have to submit their proposal with:

- ✓ **a hard copy of proposal** (including all supporting documents); and
- ✓ **soft copy of proposal** (including scanned version of all supporting documents with a CD no DVD is allowed).

The letter of submission should clearly indicate as the subject: “**Application for Micro-Capital Grants Support**” to:

**Human Rights Programme (HRP)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Bangladesh,
BTMC Bhaban (8th floor)
National Human Rights Commission (8th Floor), 7-9 Karwanbazar,
Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh**

The application must be legibly typed in English in 12 points, Times New Roman Font. Please send only the completed application form and all supporting documents as attachments (as evidence of application).

10. Award Information

The award information will be disseminated to the selected CSO and CSO/CBOs coalitions through e-mail or organizational contact information.

Annex-1:

Project Proposal Format
For
Micro-Capital Grant (Non-Credit Related Activities)
UNDP-Bangladesh
Submission Date:

A. NAME AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION OF THE CSOs/Coalition members

(2 pages maximum):

(This includes: background information of CSOs/coalition, mandates, working approach/strategy with other CSOs and national institutions.

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

1. Title of the project:
2. Thematic Issue:
3. Project Duration: 12 months (----- to -----)
4. Legal status of the CSOs/lead CSOs in the coalition (also attach the evidence as signed MOU and registration certificates)
5. Background Analysis on thematic rights issues/concerns
(max. 2 page): please analyse human rights problem/concerns under the thematic right issues at national/local context of Bangladesh. Also justify that why the problem/issues need to address).
6. Results and Result-wise Activities (Results, activities, targets, Indicators to measure the results and responsibility):
(e.g. Set the desired results and key activities in line with thematic rights issues/concerns. Also set the targets, and measurable indicators, working approach etc.)
7. Target groups and beneficiaries
(Please specify the target groups and beneficiaries of your activities/actions and define approx. numbers of target group/beneficiaries of your action)
8. Project implementation area
(Please specify the working areas. If it is local context, please specify the district, upazilas and name of Unions):
9. Common work plan:

(Please explain your activity plan with timeline)

| SL | Desired Results | Activities | Indicator | Targets | Responsibility | Timeline (14 months) | | | | |
|----|-----------------|------------|-----------|---------|----------------|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | | | | | | Q-1 | Q-2 | Q-3 | Q-4 | Q-5 |
| | Result-1 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Result-2 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Result-3 | | | | | | | | | |

10. Project Management
11. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
(Please insert the common M&E plan)
12. Reporting
(Please insert quarterly technical and financial reporting issues to HRP, UNDP)
13. Sustainability of the proposed action
14. Risk Assessment & Mitigation strategy
15. Project Budget: Amount in BDT
(please make a detailed budget breakdown and attach as Annex, format attached)
16. Log-frame (if possible)

Annexes: to be attached

This should be attached with the proposal application (as signed version)

- ✓ Evidence (signed MoU for coalition and GoB registration certificate for specialised CSO)
- ✓ Audit Report and Bank certificate (last year)
- ✓ Detailed and shared budget (**As per attached template**)

Annex-2

Project Title:

Common Budget:

Duration: 12 months

Name of the specialized CSOs or CSO/CBO Coalition:

| S.N | Head of Budgeted Expenditure | Proposed Budget (in BDT) | | | | |
|------------|---|--------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|---------------------|
| | | Measuring Unit | Unit Cost | Total Unit | Total cost | Responsible CSO/CBO |
| 1 | Programme/Activity Cost | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | |
| | Sub Total 1 | | | | | - |
| 2 | Operational and Management cost | | | | | |
| 2.1 | Human Resources cost | | | | | - |
| 2.1.1 | | Person | | | | - |
| 2.1.2 | | Person | | | | - |
| 2.2 | Monitoring cost | | | | | |
| 2.2.1 | | Person | | | | |
| 2.2.2 | | Person | | | | |
| 2.3 | Other Costs | | | | | |
| 2.3.1 | | | | | | |
| 2.3.2 | | | | | | |
| 2.3.3 | | | | | | |
| 3. | Contribution of CSO/CBO coalition (if any) | | | | | |
| 3.1 | | | | | | |
| | Sub-total 2 | | | | | - |
| | Grand Total (1 and 2) | | | | | |

Signature:**Date:**