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CHALLENGE FUND

CZECH SOLUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Ref Nr: **UNDP-IRH-202005-CFP04-CZECH INNOVATION CHALLENGE**

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Title of the Call: Czech-UNDP Partnership for SDGs: 2020 Challenge Fund Call for Applications

Agency: UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub

Managing Unit: Czech-UNDP Partnership for SDGs

Type of Contract: Agreement between UNDP and the Winning Entities under the “Czech-UNDP Partnership for SDGs: 2020 Challenge Fund Call for Applications”

Locality: **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Georgia, Kingdom of Cambodia, Republic of Moldova, Republic of Zambia**

Development Challenges per country:

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Sustainable growth: with focus on circular economy, green economy, technology and sustainable tourism, sustainable agriculture.

Good governance: waste management; exit single-use plastics; air pollution; renewables, green procurement.

Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

Green economy, access to renewable, affordable and clean energy
Jobs and livelihoods
Support to small and medium enterprises
Sustainable agriculture
Innovative financing

Georgia

Good governance
Jobs and livelihoods
Human security and community resilience
Disaster risk reduction and environmental protection

Kingdom of Cambodia

Expanding economic opportunities, Private sector development and employment.
Revitalizing agriculture; Climate change, natural resources management
Good governance - environmental sustainability, deforestation and degradation, sustainable living
Social protection

Republic of Moldova

Good governance: energy efficiency, waste management
Sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth, sustainable green cities
Climate change, environmental sustainability and resilience

Republic of Zambia

Climate change adaptation and mitigation
Nature Resources management and Renewable energy
Good governance and local development
Agriculture and rural development

Expected date of contract start August 2020

Expected length of contract: up to 1 year

Estimated prize: ranging between US\$20,000 and US\$40,000, the applicants provide co-funding of at least 20% of the total cost of the project

II. OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Challenge fund: Czech solutions for SDGs is to facilitate transfer of Czech know-how and innovative solutions that would address development challenges in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Georgia, Kingdom of Cambodia, or the Republic of Moldova, Republic of Zambia and contribute to the achievement of SDGs.

The Challenge fund: Czech solutions for SDGs is looking for innovative solutions that generate improvement and value by introducing new methods, ideas, or products. The Challenge fund: Czech solutions for SDGs views innovation in its broadest sense:

- i) a new approach, product, idea or service that has not been tested anywhere
- ii) is new to the beneficiary country
- iii) has not been applied to the sector in question in the beneficiary country; or
- iv) service or business model being introduced to a target group where it has not been tried before.

The proposed project must have a potential for financial, social and environmental sustainability and scale up. All projects must be inclusive in nature and benefit the target beneficiaries and contribute to the achievement of SDGs, rather than solely benefitting the participating entity.

The eligible applicants include Czech private and public sector, NGOs, universities, state institutions or research centers. The applicants are required to engage local partners to assure viability in local conditions and to promote sustainability and scalability of the solution.

III. OUTCOMES

The supported outcome is a new approach, product, idea or service. The supported outcome is also a feasibility study providing an innovative and replicable solution to the identified development challenge. The study will include evidence that the proposed solution is feasible, and implementation plan specifying concrete actions and partnerships necessary for the implementation of the solution. It will list all associated activities, stakeholder engagement, implementation costs and possibilities for scale-up.

The applicant is to consult the solution with local partners, stakeholders and/or final beneficiaries in order to make sure that the solution is adapted to and viable in local conditions. Engagement with local partners needs to be documented.

The applicant is also expected to identify potential financial partners from the public/private sector, international financial institutions, donors etc. that could finance the implementation of the solution and scaling up.

The further purpose of the Challenge fund: Czech solutions for SDGs is to generate and share knowledge. The awardee will cooperate closely with the Czech-UNDP Partnership for SDGs specialists on sharing the knowledge on the Czech-UNDP Partnership website and across the UNDP. At the same time, the Czech-UNDP Partnership for SDGs specialists together with the awardee will explore whether the solution could be viable to tackle development challenges in other countries in the region.

IV. ELIGIBILITY

The eligible applicants include the Czech private and public sector, NGOs, universities, state institutions or research centers. The applicants are required to engage local partners to assure viability in local conditions and to promote sustainability and scalability of the solution.

Entities wishing to apply to the Challenge fund: Czech Solutions for SDGs need to meet the following eligibility criteria:

- The lead applicant must be a registered entity in the Czech Republic.
- The project must be implemented in one of the partner countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Georgia, Kingdom of Cambodia the Republic of Moldova and Republic of Zambia.
- All applicants must demonstrate their capacity to implement their proposed project and will need to demonstrate adequate financial, material, human and other non-financial resources to implement the proposed project within the set timeframe.
- The applicant may partner with other entity/entities which meet the eligibility criteria herein.
- The funding request is for a specific, new and innovative project that addresses the set development challenge.
- The proposed project must have a potential for financial, social and environmental sustainability and scale-up.
- All projects must be inclusive in nature and benefit the target beneficiaries and contribute to the achievement of SDGs rather than solely benefitting the participating entity.
- The applicants will be eligible to an award ranging between US\$20,000 USD and US\$40,000 depending on the complexity of the proposed innovative solutions for each country project.
- The projects must demonstrate that the activities funded by the Challenge Fund will be in addition to the entity's existing activities and that the projects would not go ahead without Challenge Fund funding. The Challenge Fund could also consider projects that if they would have gone ahead, it would be at a much-reduced pace or scale in the absence of the Challenge Fund support.

V. SUBMITTING APPLICATION

Challenge Fund applications must to be submitted via Czech-UNDP Partnership for SDGs [website](#) by 30 June, 2020, 23.59 Istanbul Time (GMT +3).

The following documents is further required:

- *CVs of Experts*
- *Budget in the Breakdown Form (Excel Sheet)*
- *Extract from Public Registry, i.e. Commercial Register [Obchodní rejstřík] or another according to the type of the applicant*
- *The declaration of the partnership with local partner in form of the Letter of Support or Contract*
- *Any other relevant documents supporting the application like patent registration or additional contracts with partners from the Czech Republic etc.*

General rules for applications:

- A. Deadline for application is to be strictly respected.
- B. In the evaluation process, only complete applications will be accepted.
- C. All submitted documents must be in English language.
- D. UNDP shall examine the proposal to confirm that all terms and conditions under the UNDP General Terms and Conditions and Special Conditions have been accepted by the Proposer without any deviation or reservation.

VI. AWARD AMOUNT AND BUDGET

The Czech-UNDP Partnership for SDGs will provide between US\$20,000 and US\$40,000 per project through the CFCS. The applicants are expected to provide in kind or financial co-funding of at least 20% of the total project costs.

Typical items that can be covered from the Challenge Fund may include, but are not limited to:

- Salaries of project staff
- Technology, design, business, development or consultancy services
- Advisory inputs
- Small equipment and supplies
- Training and workshop expenses
- Other costs, including travel connected to the implementation of the project.

The expenses shown above should be predicted to reflect the project goals and should be clearly justified in accordance with the project objectives. Only expenditures accrued during the project in accordance with the project plan in line with project objectives necessary for achieving project outcomes and completed by the end of the project are eligible for financing. All agreements with subcontractors or third parties must be submitted with the application and must contain provision that the applicant retains ownership of all new intellectual property and know-how that may be created during the implementation of the project.

Expenses that will not be considered for financing by CFCS include but are not limited to:

- Capital expenditures
- Interest or debt owed to any third part
- Expenditures and provisions for possible future losses or debts
- Items already financed through another similar scheme, program or institution, financial awards
- Bank and currency exchange expenses, losses, fees and penalties
- Marketing, sales and distribution costs for promoting the technology, product or service.

VII. CRITERIA FOR SELECTING THE WINNER

After the deadline for the submission, all duly submitted applications are reviewed against the eligibility criteria and completeness. All rejected applicants will get a notice accompanied by a short explanation. For these applicants, the selection process is finished. They also do not have the right to appeal.

All eligible and complete applications will be evaluated by a five-member UNDP Evaluation Panel via review of the application.

Eligible and complete applications will be evaluated according to the evaluation criteria as follows:

- A. Innovative solution (introduction of a new idea, approach, product or service to a target group) with consideration of risks (10%)
- B. Development impact and project quality including intervention logic (20%)
- C. Experience of management and development team (10%)
- D. Potential for scale up and replication (10%)
- E. Long-term sustainability (financial, environmental, social) (10%)
- F. Value for money and cost-effectiveness (30%)
- G. Availability of co-funding (0% for the required minimum of 20% of total project costs, then 0.5% for every additional 1% co-funding of the total projects costs up to a maximum of 10% = 40% co-funding of total project costs)

Only applications that score above 50% will be evaluated in full and considered for awarding the project.

IX. ANNEXES

Annex 1 – CFCS Guidelines