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## **CALL FOR PROPOSAL**

**Project Title:** Raising awareness on the issues that people with disabilities and their families are facing in everyday life and how the Reform of the national disability assessment/determination system promotes inclusion and create a lasting change

**Purpose:** Selection of Grant Recipients

**Duration:** August 2021 – July 2022 (tentatively)

**Contract Type:** Law Value Grant Agreement

**Deadline for submissions: 23 July 2021, 16:00**

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is inviting civil society organizations representing persons with disabilities and children with disabilities to submit proposals to address following priority areas:

1. Improving understanding of the contributions and possibilities of persons with disabilities by relevant government authorities through strengthening cooperation with relevant institutions;
2. Raising awareness of citizens about the possibilities of persons with disabilities and the potential for their further development and progress, and the importance of the new disability assessment/determination system;
3. Promoting awareness and education of persons with disabilities, their families, guardians - caregivers and NGOs representing persons with disabilities, on the rights and opportunities, with special focus to the less represented categories of persons with disabilities (children, women, persons with intellectual disabilities, persons with psychosocial disabilities, persons with rare impairments) and those living in less developed areas in Montenegro;
4. Raising awareness and knowledge of media representatives about the opportunities and obstacles that people with disabilities are facing and ways to overcome them, as well as the importance of changing the disability assessment/determination system.

### Uslužni prevod:

1. Unapređenje razumijevanja doprinosa i mogućnosti osoba sa invaliditetom od strane nadležnih državnih organa, kroz jačanje saradnje sa resornim institucijama;
2. Jačnje svijesti građana o mogućnostima i potencijalima osoba sa invaliditetom, te o važnosti novog sistema procjene invaliditeta/utvrđivanja invalidnosti;
3. Povećanje informisanosti i edukacija lica sa invaliditetom, njihovih porodica, staratelja - njegovatelja kao i o NVO koje zastupaju osobe sa invaliditetom - o pravima i mogućnostima, s posebnim osvrtom na manje zastupljene kategorije osoba sa invaliditetom (djeca, žene, osobe sa intelektualnim invaliditetom, osobe sa psihosocijalnim invaliditetom, osobe sa rijetkim oštećenjima) i na one koji žive u manje razvijenim sredinama u Crnoj Gori;
4. Povećanje informisanosti i znanja predstavnika medija o mogućnostima i preprekama sa kojima se osobe sa invaliditetom suočavaju i načinima njihovog prevazilaženja, važnosti promjene načina procjene invaliditeta/utvrđivanja invalidnosti.



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## Terms of Reference:

### I. Background

The project Reform of National Disability Determination System, financed by the European Union, will be implemented by UNDP, in partnership with civil society organizations representing persons with disabilities, relevant ministries and relevant state institutions. The overall objective is to fully reform the national disability determination system - for more just, equal, easier access to rights to all kinds of cash benefits and services for persons with disabilities, in line with the national positive legislation and ratified UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

This is a challenging reforming venture which includes six sectors: social protection, employment, pension and war veterans, education, health. All the disability entitlements in these sectors for about 50,000 citizens and their families, directly depend on design of disability assessment/determination system.

The reform envisages suspension of the existing commissions and establishing a single national entity (Institute for Disability Determination) which will conduct a process of disability assessment/determination based on a new, uniform, national methodology and criteria for all the sectors. The current disability assessment/determination system is operated through 30 commissions whereas each sector has its own commissions and mostly medically (illnesses and health conditions) based disability assessment/determination criteria. The present legal framework operates on the basis of six laws and 17 by-laws.

In line with the principle Nothing About Us Without Us, persons with disabilities and their representing organizations are recognized as key partners in implementation of this complex reform. Organizations of persons with disabilities will, among others, lead the campaign to promote system reform a new approach to determining disability.

### II. Objective of EU and UNDP support

The overall objective of this Call for Proposals is to ensure wide and impactful outreach of the Action Reform of National Disability Determination System and effective engagement with diverse audiences. The Action *Reform of National Disability Determination System (2020-2023)* aims at more just, equal and easier access to rights to all kinds of cash benefits and services for persons with disabilities, in line with the national positive legislation and ratified UN Convention on Persons with Disabilities. This objective will be enforced through technical assistance for the development of new (legal and institutional) national disability assessment/determination system, capacity building of all line sectors and their professionals and civil servants and raising public awareness among specific target groups and general population.

The Action is implemented by UNDP in partnership with civil society organizations representing persons with disabilities, relevant ministries and relevant state institutions and is funded by the European



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Commission. The project is recognized as a priority area under the Program of Economic Reforms (2021-2023).

### III. Scope of the project

One of the key underlying, guiding principles of this Action is *Nothing About Us Without Us*. Civil society, in particular organizations representing persons with disabilities and children with disabilities, will play a crucial role in the promotion of this reform. Furthermore, civil society organizations are key stakeholders in ensuring that the perspectives and voices of persons with disabilities are heard by policy-makers. Therefore, persons with disabilities are engaged in every aspect and activity of the action. Their role is twofold: (a) running a public information campaign targeting end beneficiaries explaining how the new system works and at communicating the new paradigm and the objectives of the reform, and (b) training/educating public officials and civil servants in the new paradigm.

Additionally, civil society 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 successful transformation of the system from medical to human based approach to disability assessment/determination.

With regards to the first aim, the continuous information and promotional campaign will primarily be concerned with shifting the public perception of disabilities from “disabilities” to “abilities” from “medical” to “social” model of understanding disabilities, from “protective” to “enabling” policies and human rights context. **Simultaneously, the campaign will also aim at communicating new procedures and institutions set up by the project to enable comprehensive understanding and acceptance of the new system, both by the persons with disabilities, their family member and guardians-care givers as well as by the wider public i.e., society as whole.** With regards to the second aim, there is going to be separate call for grants, approximately at the end of the 2022, where the selected NGOs will provide educational programs targeting public officials and civil servants both at local and national level. The educational programs will introduce the shift in the understanding of disabilities in more details and reflect on various consequences for daily operations of sectors such as employment, education, etc. Due attention will be paid to the less represented categories of persons with disabilities (children, women, persons with intellectual disabilities, persons with psychosocial disabilities, persons with rare impairments) and those living in less developed areas in Montenegro.

The ultimate goal of the 36-months Action is a more just, equal and easier access to rights to all kinds of cash benefits and services for persons with disabilities, in line with the national positive legislation and ratified UN Convention on Persons with Disabilities.

The specific objective of the project is the reform of the national Disability Assessment and Determination System. The reform will enable persons with disabilities to enjoy fair treatment, easier and equal access to all social security entitlements and better social inclusion prospects.

The expected results of the Action are:

- Development and adoption of new methodology for disability assessment/determination;



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- Institutional rightsizing and optimization – by termination of the current Commissions and establishing of a national disability assessment/determination entity;
- The CSO representing persons with disabilities will be duly involved in all project activities while the project will be continuously supported by the public campaign run by these CSO.

In line with the set goals, **this Call for Proposals will contribute** to raise awareness on the issues that people with disabilities, their families and guardians-caregivers are facing in everyday life and how the Reform of national disability assessment/determination system promote inclusion and create a lasting change.

When applying, the organizations are expected to indicate which category of the Call for Proposals they are applying to. **Applicants should clearly define project goals that advance one or more of the proposed topics, as well as define tangible outcomes that can be measured after the project's completion.**

#### IV. Duration of project

From August 2021 to July 2022 (tentatively)

#### V. Budget Request

Total eligible amount of funding under this Call will be around 50,000 EUR. Award amount will range from EUR 7,000 to EUR 12,000 per project.

#### VII. Institutional Arrangement

The selected organizations will sign a Law Value Grant Agreement (LVGA) with UNDP. A competitive selection process will take place to identify the potential Grant Recipient. 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 UNDP Evaluation Committee.

#### VIII. Reporting

The selected grantee 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 (as per attached Narrative and Financial reports as per UNDP rules and procedures for LVGA).

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.

### Guidelines for the Submission of Proposals

#### I. Who can apply?

- CSOs representing persons with disabilities, CSOs networks and platforms that have specialized knowledge, expertise and track record in advocating for rights of persons with disabilities registered in Montenegro and whose projects are aligned with the defined objectives of the



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priority areas.

- CSOs representing parents of children with disabilities, CSOs networks and platforms that have specialized knowledge, expertise and track record in advocating for rights of children with disabilities registered in Montenegro and whose projects are aligned with the defined objectives of the priority areas.

## II. What to submit?

Eligible applicants are expected to submit the followings documents in English:

**1. General Information** including name of organization, contact person and contact details  
**(Attached Annex C - Application Cover Sheet).**

**2. Project proposal (Attached Annex A - Low Value Grant Proposal with Budget and Annex E - Budget excel sheet)**

A narrative proposal consisting of:

### Purpose of the grant indicating

- Context and problem analysis.
- Indicate the purpose of the grant and describe the result(s) the grant is expected to achieve.
- Explain why the grantee is uniquely suited to deliver on the objectives.

### Proposed activities and work plan

- Describe the activities that will be completed to achieve the objectives.
- Elaborate how will targeted group benefit from the grant.

### Performance targets

- State the indicators for measuring results that will be achieved using the grant. At least one indicator is required. More indicators can be used if useful to better measure the expected results.

### Risk analysis

- Indicate relevant risks to achieving the grant objectives and the risks mitigation measures that will be taken. Risks may include security, financial, operational, social or other risks.

### An output-based budget

- 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 from the past three years and web site or face book page.

## III. Evaluation Criteria

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

1. Relevance of the proposal (30 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;



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3. Budget Proposal (20 points); and
  4. Applicants' institutional capacity and relevant experience (20 points)
- Minimum score to be eligible is 70 points.

Only applicants passing the minimum score (70 points) will be contacted to proceed with shortlisting.

#### **IV. When is the proposal due?**

The deadline for submission of proposals is **23 July 2021, 16:00**. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.

In order to provide detailed information about the call, application procedure and selection criteria to potential applicants, UNDP will organize an **online consultative session on Tuesday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 11 a.m.** Bellow, please find the Zoom link:

**Zoom link:** <https://undp.zoom.us/j/84209111136?pwd=T3YrRktQTjZHdGFuSmdScjAya0QxQT09>

**Meeting ID:** 842 0911 1136

**Passcode:** 152579

#### **V. To whom should the proposal be sent?**

Please send all required application documents in one email to: [procurement.me@undp.org](mailto:procurement.me@undp.org) indicating in the e- mail subject: **Call for Proposals for Reform of National Disability Determination System.**