**Call for Project Proposals under the Project**

**„Diversity is trendy – Promoting local multiculturalism“**

Issued on December 1, 2017

Guidelines for Grant Applicants

Deadline for submission of Project Proposals: December 22, 2017

The project is implemented by Association for Democratic Initiatives (ADI) in partnership with Multiethnic association “Florence Nightingale” and “*Economic Chamber of North-West Macedonia (ECNWM*)”. The Project is funded by the European Union.

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# INTRODUCTION

The respect of cultural and ethnic diversity, recognition of human rights and democratic principles represent the basis for the development of multiculturalism. Macedonia has a history in terms of inter-ethnic and inter-cultural dialogue and collaboration, while with the signing of the Ohrid Framework Agreement (OFA) in 2001, embraced multiculturalism as declarative and requires considerable political and institutional commitment. Accepting the multiculturalism anticipated with the OFA and the subsequent legal and institutional reforms are essential and high politically relevant for the approximation of ethnicities, better interaction and decreasing level of discarding and mistrust towards the other. In the process of decentralization, as an integral part of the OFA, local authorities have responsibility for the implementation of local public policies, promotion of democratic culture based on respect for human and minority rights and in particular take a proactive stance towards multi-ethnic management.

The report [“Assessment of multiculturalism at the local level in the Republic of Macedonia”](http://www.adimacedonia.org/2017/03/13/844/) points out that interethnic relations in the municipalities of Brvenica, Vrapcishte, Gostivar, Jegunovce, Kichevo, Tetovo, Kumanovo, Struga and Mavrovo and Rostushe are perceived as stable.One of the key problems concerning the interethnic relations is the growing social distance and segregation, both among adults and young people. Despite claims on cooperation and communication, the existing communication is based on pragmatism, while contacts in the private sphere are avoided. The analysis of the Commissions for Inter-Community Relation activities indicates that these bodies do not exploit their full capacities for intervention in the sphere of interethnic relations nor in initiation and implementation of activities for the development of multiculturalism**.**

The sub-granting component of the project “Diversity is trendy – promoting local multiculturalism” is envisioned to support at least 9 (nine) local grassroots organizations in realization of local activities aimed to improve inter-ethnic and intercultural dialogue, tolerance and respect for diversity in Brvenica, Vrapcishte, Gostivar, Jegunovce, Kichevo, Tetovo, Kumanovo, Struga and Mavrovo and Rostushe.

# ABOUT THE PROJECT “Diversity is trendy – Promoting local multiculturalism“

The project “Diversity is trendy–promoting local multiculturalism” is implemented in the frame of IPA Civil Society Facility and Media Programme 2014, Support to Civil Society Organisations under the Civil Society Facility and Media Freedom Action 2014. The project is implemented by the Association for Democratic Initiatives (ADI) in partnership with the Multiethnic Association “Florence Nightingale” and *“The Economic Chamber of Northwest Macedonia (ECNWM)”.* The overall objective of the action is: Improving inter-community relations and increasing local multicultural democracy. The project has three objectives to be achieved: To assess the implementation progress of the strategies and specific politics related to the integration of ethnic communities and inter-community relations; To develop and adopt local strategies for multicultural dialogue; To support the implementation of local actions aiming to improve inter-community relations by local civil society/grassroots organizations.

# CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS

**The objective of this Call**

This Call for applications is part of the project “Diversity is trendy–promoting local multiculturalism” is implemented in the frame of IPA Civil Society Facility and Media Programme 2014, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, implemented by the Association for Democratic Initiatives in partnership with the Multiethnic Association “Florence Nightingale” and “*The Economic Chamber of Northwest Macedonia (ECNWM)”*. The objective of this call is to support the implementation of local actions aiming to improve inter-community relations by local civil society/grassroots organizations in 9 (nine) municipalities targeted by the project. It is envisioned this Call to provide financial support to at least 9 (nine) local grassroots organizations.

The call is open for the registered local civil society/grassroots organizations aimed to implement local actions that will directly target the improvement of inter-ethnic relations in project municipalities Brvenica, Vrapcishte, Gostivar, Jegunovce, Kichevo, Tetovo, Kumanovo, Struga and Mavrovo and Rostushe. The local CSOs should be established at least 2 years before the date of publishing the call. Within this call, it is expected at least nine (9) local actions (cultural/educative/affirmative measures envisaged in the local strategies on multicultural dialogue/understanding adopted in each of project municipalities) to be implemented in the target area;

**Eligibility of the applicants**

All registered CSOs, grassroots organizations active in the above-mentioned municipalities are invited to apply to this Call.

The eligibility criteria for CSOs for sub-granting are:

* Have at least two years of operational experience;
* Organizations that are grant beneficiaries in the frame of the EU IPA Civil Society and Media Programme 2014 are not eligible to apply neither as coordinator nor as partner organization;
* **Organizations that respect and encourage diversity in terms of gender, ethnicity, and culture;**
* **Have an organizational-governance capacity;**
* The applicant may not submit more than one (1) application;
* Grants to individuals will not be considered;

**It is obligatory for the Applicant to provide a Letter of Support from the Local self-governments / Local Committees for inter-community relations** **or institutions relevant for the project implementation.**

**Eligible activities**

Activities should be implemented in the locations as defined in this Guidelines and respond to the objectives of the Call. To contribute to the overall objectives of this Call for Proposals, the projects should support the implementation of activities encompassed in the municipality’s strategy for multicultural dialogue/understanding[[1]](#footnote-1) as well as the following community-led initiatives:

* Establishing programs/or supporting existing programs aiming to integrate the ethnic communities locally;
* Engaging local communities in multicultural celebrations and events;
* Promoting cultural events through schools, language classes, local centers;
* Running sports events that involve youth from a diverse ethnic and cultural background;
* Hosting intercultural dialogue events that bring people from different ethnic and cultural background together;
* Providing youth leadership opportunities to run their own intercultural programs that engage youth from other cultures;

Partnerships with Local Committees for inter-community relations during the preparation of the project applications and implementation of the local activities **are encouraged** **and will be considered as an asset in the evaluation process**

**The duration of the projects and location**

The period of implementation of the activities should be from 3 to 6 months. All project activities must take place between February to August 2018. The proposed project should be implemented at least in 1 (one), but not more than 3 (three) of the following municipalities: Brvenica, Vrapcishte, Gostivar, Jegunovce, Kichevo, Tetovo, Kumanovo, Struga and Mavrovo and Rostushe.

**Visibility**

The applicants must take all necessary steps to publicise the fact that the project “**Diversity is trendy – Promoting local multiculturalism”** has financed the activities. Visibility guidelines will be provided to the grantees upon signing the contracts.

# THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The maximum amount that will be given to a single sub-grantee is 10.000 EUR for the period of maximum 6 months. The maximum total amount that will be sub-granted is 90 000 EUR to at least 9 (nine) local grassroots organizations. The amount of financial support for sub-granting will be based on the presented budget of the sub-grantee and its feasibility. The VAT is not considered as an eligible cost.

**Eligibility costs**

Only “eligible costs” can be covered by a grant. The categories of costs that are eligible and non-eligible are indicated below. The budget is both a cost estimate and an overall ceiling for “eligible costs”.

**Eligible direct costs**

Eligible costs under this Call for Proposals include, but are not limited to: Human Resources: Salaries (gross amounts) e.g. Project Coordinator and Project Assistant, project activities and related costs such as venue rental, equipment rental, translation/interpretation, fees of experts, trainers, etc., local travel, office supplies, communication and visibility costs, publications, design, printing, conferences. Please, make sure that the costs are directly connected to project activities.

Costs related to bank charges are also eligible.

**Ineligible costs**

The following costs are not eligible:

* customs and import duties, or any other charges;
* purchases of land or buildings;
* fines, financial penalties, and expenses of litigation;
* contribution in kind;
* debts and debt service charges (interest);
* costs declared by the beneficiary(ies) and financed by another project or work programme.

# APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

Applications must be submitted in accordance with the instructions in the Project Application Form and Budget annexed to these Guidelines (Annex I and II) and Timeline for activities (Annex III). Applicants should keep strictly to the format of the project Application Form, Budget and Timeline for activities and fill out the paragraphs and pages in order.

Applicants must apply in English.

Applicants should submit clarification request by the December 12, 2017 via email [diversity@adi.org.mk](mailto:diversity@adi.org.mk) The subject of the email should be: Q\_CFP Diversity is trendy /Question for Clarification. The clarifications will be issued on [www.adimacedonia.org.mk](http://www.adimacedonia.org.mk)

The Application **(Annex I: Project Application Form (Word format), Annex II: Budget (Excel format), Annex III Timeline for activities (Word format), copy of the organization’s most recent registration document issued by the Central Registry; letter/s of support)** must be submitted in electronic version on the following email:[diversity@adi.org.mk](mailto:diversity@adi.org.mk)

The subject of the email should be: **CFP Diversity is trendy/Name of the Applicant/**

All project documentation should be sent in a single e-mail. Documents should not be submitted as external links using document sharing websites; Applications sent by any other means (e.g. by fax or by post mail), or delivered to other addresses, will be rejected.

**Incomplete applications will be rejected.**

**Deadline for submission of applications**

The deadline for the submission of applications is December 22, 2017 at 13.00 h. All documents must be submitted in electronic versions and via email: [diversity@adi.org.mk](mailto:diversity@adi.org.mk)

# EVALUATION OF THE APPLICANT

Applications will be examined and evaluated by the Grant Committee. All applications will be assessed according to the following criteria:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Administrative Check** | **Yes** | **No** |
| The submission deadline has been met |  |  |
| The application contains all the annexes published in  the call (Annex I - Application form; Annex II - Budget; Annex III Project Timeline and accompanying documents) |  |  |
| The applicant meets the formal requirements for participation in the call (established and registered under the Law on Associations of citizens and foundations at least two years before the date of  publishing the call) |  |  |

The full applications that pass this check will be further evaluated on their quality, including the proposed budget and the capacity of the applicant.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **EVALUATION CRITERIA** | | **Maximum Score** |
| Project Proposal | Relevance (whether the proposal is in line with the general objective of the Call). | 15 points |
| Effectiveness and feasibility of the proposed activities (clarity of the proposal, quality of the designed project, the extent to which the foreseen activities are appropriate, practical and consistent with the objectives and expected results). | 25 points |
| Extent to which the applicant plans to foster cooperation with relevant stakeholders and sustainability | 10 points |
| Proposed Budget | Budget and cost effectiveness of the proposal | 30 points |
| Capacity of the applicant | Operational capacities of the applicant | 20 points |

# INDICATIVE TIMETABLE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **ACTIVITY** | **DATE** |
| 1. Opening of the call | December 1, 2017 |
| 1. Deadline for requesting any clarifications | December 12, 2017 |
| 1. Date on which clarifications are issued by the Contracting Authority | December 14, 2017 |
| 1. The deadline for submission of applications | December 22, 2017 |
| 1. Information to the applicants on the evaluation of the applications | January 22, 2018 |
| 1. Contract signature | February 1, 2018 |

This indicative timetable refers to provisional dates (except for dates 5,6) and may be updated by the Contracting Authority during the procedure.

1. Each of the project municipality in the previous period had adopted a strategy for multicultural dialogue/understanding. Generally, the overall aim of each strategy is to foster multicultural understanding in the municipality. The municipalities’ strategies are attached and can be downloaded with this Call. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)