



REQUEST FOR CONCEPT PAPERS (RfCP) # CEP-YESG-05

Youth Engagement Support (YES) Grants

The USAID Civic Engagement Project (CEP) in Macedonia invites youth civil society organizations (CSO) in Macedonia and non-registered youth groups to submit Concept Papers for Youth Engagement Support (YES) grants.

CEP is a five-year USAID-funded program that contributes to achieving two objectives: (1) strengthened influence of CSOs on policies and programs related to priority issues of citizen concern, and (2) increased and sustained youth engagement in public life in Macedonia. CEP is implemented by East West Management Institute, Inc. (EWMI), in partnership with four local CSOs: The Foundation for Internet and Society "Metamorphosis" (Metamorphosis), the Association for Democratic Initiatives (ADI), the Foundation Open Society - Macedonia (FOSM), and the National Youth Council of Macedonia (NYCM). YES grants are managed by ADI.

CEP is seeking to support through YES grants, initiatives by youth CSOs and non-registered youth groups that have innovative, action-oriented activities related to the following priority areas that will have tangible results or deliver key services:

1. Youth Participation includes initiatives that create opportunities for young people to influence the creation and implementation of youth strategies and programs.

2. Human Rights and Social Inclusion includes initiatives for young people that advance public institutions' accountability, and social justice; empower ethnic and social minorities, women, youth, and other vulnerable groups; ensure the implementation of fundamental human rights; and undertaking actions to advance social inclusion of vulnerable groups.

3. Youth Employability includes initiatives that provide opportunities for young people to be proactive and creative partners in overcoming unemployment by promoting innovative actions.

CEP plans to award up to **10 (ten)** grants under this RfCP. The maximum grant award for each proposal is **15,000 USD** covering activities that may last up to 12 (twelve) months and not less than 9 (nine) months.

CEP will give priority to applications that:

- a) Focus on **priority areas of this RfCP** listed above;
- b) Have a proven track record of engaging in effective and successful interventions related to the above-mentioned priority areas for **at least for one year**;
- c) Have a **transparent system of bookkeeping** that complies with the Macedonian legislation and International Accounting Standards (IAS). If such a system is not in place, upon grant award, the grantee must work closely with CEP to ensure that accurate financial management and transparent bookkeeping systems are developed;
- d) Propose **innovative solutions** to address the identified problems and to engage youth;
- e) Demonstrate clear potential for **positive and concrete impact** in the lives of youth and/or their communities;
- f) Include activities that increase **commitment and ownership by youth and other citizens**, such as volunteering;
- g) Ensure substantial engagement of **women, girls, youth, ethnic or religious minorities, the LGBT community**, or other **vulnerable/marginalized groups** in the proposed activities;
- h) Support **multi-culturalism and inter-ethnic cooperation** and take progressive stances vis-à-vis **gender equality and social inclusion**;
- i) Demonstrate understanding and have a concretely elaborated commitment to **cooperate with a wide range of stakeholders**, including the media, private sector, think tanks and academia, and public institutions;
- j) **Demonstrate a clear and feasible sustainability plan** that increases the likelihood that CEP-funded activities will have lasting positive impact or will continue after the end of the grant.

To download the full Request for Concept Papers, the Concept Paper Application Form, and the Budget Template for this call, please go to www.adimacedonia.org or write to Mr. Nino Sotirovski at nino@adi.org.mk

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING CONCEPT PAPERS: 13:00, NOVEMBER 27, 2018