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## I. Background

The “Enhancing the Development of Albanian Maritime Sector through Technical Assistance and Increased Partnership” project, aims to enhance the integration of Albanian Maritime Standards in line with the EU requirements’. The Blue Economy Programme for Albania and the respective set of programmatic project fiches were developed following a participatory approach and in consultation and cooperation with line Ministries in charge. This programme is in line with the EU Blue Economy Report 2021.

Through four components, the Blue Economy Programme has sought to: (a) improve institutional and human capacity for delivering the maritime economy (b) create appropriate financial mechanisms to support private sector by improving public fishery related infrastructure, (c) establish the Albanian coast as a new marina tourism hub, as well as a connectivity hubs in the region and broader, and (d) consolidate tourism hubs (clusters) and maritime ecosystems by securing provisions of financial support for small and medium enterprises (SMEs), fishermen and other entrepreneurs in the vicinity of ports.

The consultation process will continue so as to further endorse it and strengthen the national capacities for the implementation of the National Blue Economy Programme components and the potential of the (green) blue economy transition to promote resilient, low carbon, resource efficient and socially inclusive economic development, a capacity building programme is in the framing process with the counterparties in line with objective one and two of the project.

The above will benefit the Government of Albania’s efforts to tackle regional experience for the protection, improvement, and integrated management of the sea environment and of cross-border natural resources.

Cross cutting issues that are tackled focus in promoting awareness about the macro potential in terms of new technologies, aquaculture and fisheries, marine protected areas and climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as the direct contribution to SDG14 and interlinkages of all SDGs.

## II. Purpose of the grant and duration

The purpose of this call for grants is to support interested CSOs (Civil Society Organizations) to contribute to improving capacities under the fourth pillar of consolidating tourism hubs (clusters) and maritime ecosystems, through innovative solutions to:

*#1: Create solutions, products, services to empower circularity and sustainability for coastal tourism using digitalization and digital technologies by facing specific needs or by making citizens and tourists conscious about their impact in the ecosystem to improve their habits.*

*#2: Develop solutions, products, tools and services to increase efficiency, sustainability and circularity in ports activities applying digitalization and digital technologies.*



Norwegian Embassy



*#3: Solutions, products and services related to the circular economy for climate change mitigation and marine ecosystems protection.*

Based on the three pillars above, below are some potential activities, but not limited to:

- a) Promotion of tourist destinations, marketing or branding of the territory, through tourist guides, websites, social media, promotional videos, adventurous and cultural activities, characteristic / traditional materials of the areas, etc.
- b) Promotion of the tourist product according to the characteristics of the tourist destinations;
- c) Promotion of natural landscapes for tourist purposes, through the identification and development of panoramic places, special natural phenomena, special natural resources, outdoor activities, etc.
- d) Promotion of sea cuisine as a tourist attraction, in function of culinary tourism related to fishery and aquaculture.
- e) Promotion of accessible tourism products for tourists with special needs by including them in nature and cultural heritage activities.
- f) Tourism projects that promote environment conservation such as:
  - "Green and clean", by planting trees to limit the dumping of waste outside the areas dedicated to their collection, in beach areas, nature parks, etc.
  - Craft activities by the local population to create products with recyclable materials that can serve as souvenirs for tourists.
  - Establishment of installations to collect plastic waste in beach areas.
  - Sport tours hiking, kayaking, rafting, boating, etc., free of charge for tourists who agree to collect waste during the route they traverse.
  - Comprehensive local events with concerts, games and discussion panels on environmental awareness, accompanied by BIO cuisine and ecological methods.
- g) Professional education of human resources of entities that develop activities in the field of tourism in order to increase the quality and improve the service, through training, etc.
- h): Training and capacity building related to green skills, in collaboration with national academic institutions.

**The project will be implemented for the period: June 2022– August 2022.**

### **III. Eligibility and Qualification Criteria**



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Interested CSOs must meet the following criteria to be eligible for selection, and submit them with the application:

1. Be legally registered as a CSO in accordance with the Albanian legislation.
2. Be fully operational in the target selected area.
3. Mandate and founding document should be in line with the activities for which the fund is being sought.
4. Have an established office and experience in similar/related activities.
5. Have previous experience in working with local community and other stakeholder groups.

#### **IV. Proposal**

##### **a. Proposed Methodology, Approach, Quality Assurance Plan and Implementation Plan**

This methodology must be laid out in an implementation timetable and a quality assurance framework including baselines and quantitative and qualitative indicators.

##### **b. Management Structure and Resources (Key Personnel)**

Another component of the proposal should be a comprehensive description of the management structure and information regarding required resources including curriculum vitae (CVs) of key personnel that will be assigned to support the implementation of the project, clearly defining the roles and responsibilities vis-à-vis the proposed methodology.

#### **V. Budget size and duration**

1. Proposal amounts should not exceed USD 25,000 equivalent in ALL as per the United Nations Rate of Exchange UNROE.
2. At least one grant will be awarded to one CSO and the geographical coverage will be observed in grant distribution.
3. The amount requested in the proposal should commensurate the organization's administrative and financial management capabilities.
4. Duration of the project shall be from June 2022 to August 2022.

A detailed **mandatory** proposal template is annexed to this Request for Grant as Annex A.

#### **VI. Submission Process**

Applications (grant proposals) in the **mandatory form** of the template attached (Annex A) must be submitted by CSOs to the UNDP Office in Tirana ([registry.al@undp.org](mailto:registry.al@undp.org)) no later than 3 of June 2022 in English.



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**ANNEX A**

**Low Value Grant Proposal**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the INSTITUTION: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount of the Grant (in USD and in ALL): \_\_\_\_\_

UNDP RATE OF EXCHANGE FOR May 2022: 108.66

**PURPOSE OF THE GRANT**

- 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 if there are any targeted group(s)/ geographical area who will benefit from the grant, other than the Recipient Institution. If so, who are the targeted groups/geographical area and how will any potential beneficiaries be selected?

**WORK PLAN**

PLANNED ACTIVITIES <sup>1</sup>	Timeline <sup>2</sup>	
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	T1	T2	T3	T4	<b>Planned Budget for the Activity (in grant currency)<sup>3</sup></b>
1.1 Activity					ALL
1.2 Activity					ALL
1.3 Activity					ALL
<b>Total</b>					ALL

- 1 State what activities will be completed with the grant Funds. Use as many activity lines as necessary
- 2 Define the time periods relevant for the grant and indicate when specific activities are expected to be completed. Typically, time periods relate to when the tranches of Funds are released.
- 3 Indicate the budget amounts in the grant currency.

**PERFORMANCE TARGETS**

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

INDICATOR(S)	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	MILESTONES			
			Period 1	Period 2	Period ...	FINAL TARGET
1.1						
1.2						

**RISK ANALYSIS:**



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

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Risk rating* (High/Medium/ Low)</b>	<b>Mitigation measures</b>

\*The risk rating is based on a reflection of the likelihood of the risk materializing and the consequence it will have if it does occur.

**GRANT BUDGET OF RECIPIENT INSTITUTION:** ( in ALL and USD with the official UN Rate of Exchange)

PERIOD COVERING FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_

<b>General Category of Expenditures</b>	<b>Tranche 1</b>	<b>Tranche 2</b>	<b>Tranche 3</b>	<b>Total</b>
<i>Personnel</i>				
<i>Transportation</i>				
<i>Premises</i>				
<i>Training/Seminar/ Workshops, etc.</i>				
<i>Contracts (e.g., Audit)</i>				
<i>Equipment/Furniture (Specify)</i>				



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<i>Other [Specify]</i>				
<i>Miscellaneous</i>				
<b>Total</b>				

\* *Please note that all budget Lines are for costs related only to grant Activities.*

\*\* *These budget categories and number of tranches are suggested guidelines. The Recipient may choose alternates which more accurately reflect their expense items and needs.*