**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

**GRANT FOR ORGANIZATIONS TO DEVELOP CAPACITY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN IN LAO PDR**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Eligibility** | Lao PDR-based (national or international) non-governmental organizations, including civil society organizations |
| **Maximum Grant Available** | USD 25,000 |
| **Expected Duration** | 9 months |
| **Deadline** | Proposals must be submitted by 23:59 12 June 2022 to [lao.procurement@undp.org](mailto:lao.procurement@undp.org) with the subject line: *Submission of Proposal to Develop Capacity for CEDAW\_Name of Organization* |

1. **BACKGROUND**

* The Government of Lao PDR ratified the [Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women](https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cedaw.aspx) (CEDAW) on 14 August 1981 without declarations and reservations. The key provisions of CEDAW are nationalized in Lao PDR’s Constitution (2015) that enshrines equal rights of men and women in Article 35: *“Lao citizens are all equal before the law irrespective of their gender […],”* and Article 37: *“citizens of both genders enjoy equal rights in the political, economic, cultural and social fields and in family affairs.”* Article 29 specifically commits to *“supporting the progress of women and to protecting the legitimate rights and benefits of women and children”*.
* In 2018, Lao PDR submitted the combined eighth and ninth reports on the implementation of CEDAW. The CEDAW Committee reviewed the progress of Lao PDR on CEDAW implementation at the country level and issued 82 recommendations and requests for the Government to consider by 2023 as part of the [CEDAW Concluding Observations](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CEDAW/C/LAO/CO/8-9&Lang=En).
* Since the first state party’s report submitted in 2003, there has been no submission of a parallel report by a non-governmental organization to the treaty monitoring body. Without parallel reports by CSOs, there is no monitoring and evaluation of government activities, no accountability to its commitments, and no effective implementation of CEDAW. Therefore, UNDP has identified the need to support civil society organizations for gender equality to review the state party’s report, assess its accuracy, and provide supplementary information to the CEDAW Committee through a parallel report.
* Under the [Project on Prevention and Elimination of Violence Against Women for Mainstreaming Gender in the National Development Agenda in Lao PDR](https://www.la.undp.org/content/lao_pdr/en/home/projects/project-on-prevention-and-elimination-of-violence-against-women-0.html)  (Khan Hom Project), UNDP is assisting the Government of Lao PDR to implement the Second 5-year Lao National Strategic Plan on EVAW, and establish an effective and accountable governance framework capable of supporting GBV survivors.
* This includes providing support to CSOs build expert capacity in advocacy for protecting the rights of women. In the framework of the Khan Hom Project, UNDP has initiated research on (i) the barriers faced by women survivors throughout the justice continuum, including legal protection, legal awareness, legal aid, the interlinkages between customary law practices and the formal legal system, and impunity for perpetrators, and (ii) male perceptions of gender-based violence in Lao PDR.
* UNDP has previously provided support to national Organizations of Persons with Disabilities to submit a report to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) Committee, and aims to provide further support to national civil society organizations for gender equality to engage in dialogue and develop and submit a parallel report to ensure the experiences of women across the country are considered by the CEDAW Committee.

1. **UNDP GRANT AWARD**

The UNDP Grant to “Develop Capacity for the Implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women” aims to support national civil society organizations for gender equality in their efforts to contribute to the country-level implementation of CEDAW and domestic legislation and policies for gender equality.

Proposals may address one or several specific provisions of CEDAW, including but not limited to: (i) law and legal frameworks, (ii) stereotypes and cultural practices, (iii) education, (iv) employment, social protection, and vocational training, (v) women in rural areas, etc. UNDP also welcomes proposals on other activities contributing to advancing the rights of women, including those focused on coordination with governmental and non-governmental organizations on gender equality.

**Objectives:**

* Empower CSOs for gender equality and women’s empowerment to participate in decision-making affecting women;
* Facilitate networking and coordination among CSOs and other NGOs working in the area of gender equality and women’s empowerment.

**Suggested Modalities of Interventions:**

* Strategic planning;
* Public awareness-raising;
* Analysis of disability-related domestic legislation and policies;
* Disability data collection and analysis;
* Capacity-building and knowledge-sharing.

**Expected Duration:** 9 months

1. **GUIDELINES FOR PROPOSALS’ SUBMISSION**

**Eligibility Criteria:** The UNDP Grant not exceeding USD 25,000 will be provided to **one** Lao PDR-based (national) non-governmental organization.\*

*\*According to the* [*UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP)*](https://popp.undp.org/SitePages/POPPRoot.aspx)*, the Grant can be awarded to non-governmental organizations, including non-governmental academic or educational institutions. The private sector, commercial entities, and governmental organizations, such as regional governments, municipalities, National and Provincial Universities, etc., are currently not eligible to receive this Grant.*

**Selection Criteria:** The selection criteria will involve the following elements:

* Capacity of Applicant Organization;
* Experience and existing partnerships in the area of gender equality and women’s empowerment
* Simplicity and ease of implementation, yet adopting innovative or unconventional approach;
* Effectiveness and measurability of impact; and
* Timeframe.

Proposals passing the eligibility criteria will be scored against the following:

* Applicant organization’s institutional capacity, relevant experience, and existing partnerships *(30 points)*;
* Relevance of the proposal: quality of the context/problem analysis and assessment *(20 points)*;
* Implementation strategies: soundness of strategy, proposed activities, and expected results against the context/problem analysis in designing the proposal *(30 points)*; and
* Budget proposal *(20 points)*.

**Selection Process:**

* Eligible Applicant Organizations are expected to submit proposals using the UNDP template *(Annex I)* and Proposal Cover Sheet *(Annex II)*;
* Queries should be sent to Sarah Tae, UNDP Lao PDR, Governance Team: [sarah.tae@undp.org](mailto:sarah.tae@undp.org);
* Proposals must be submitted by 23:59 5 June 2022 to [lao.procurement@undp.org](mailto:lao.procurement@undp.org) with the subject line: *Submission of Proposal to Advance implementation of CEDAW \_Name of Organization.*

**ANNEX I: LOW-VALUE GRANT PROPOSAL**

*(to be prepared by the Applicant Organization and submitted t UNDP Lao PDR by the deadline)*

Date:

Project Title:

Name of Applicant Organization:

Total Amount of the Grant (USD):

1. **OBJECTIVE(S) OF THE GRANT**

* Indicate the objective(s) of the Grant and describe the expected result(s) the Grant is expected to achieve;
* Explain why the grantee is uniquely suited to deliver on the objectives.

1. **PROPOSED ACTIVITIES AND WORKPLAN**

* Describe the activities that will be completed to achieve the objectives;
* Elaborate if there are any target group(s) / geographical area(s) that will benefit from the Grant, other than the Applicant Organization. If so, what is/are the target group(s) / geographical area(s), and how will potential beneficiaries be selected?

**Workplan:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Planned Activities\*** | **Timeline\*\*** | | | | **Planned Budget for the Activity**\*\*\*\* |
| T1 | T2 | T3 | T… |
| 1 Activity |  |  |  |  | USD |
| 2 Activity |  |  |  |  | USD |
| … Activity |  |  |  |  | USD |
| **Total** | | | | | USD |

\* State what activities will be completed with the Grant funds; add as many activity lines as necessary;

\*\* Define the time periods relevant for the Grant and indicate when specific activities are expected to be completed *(time periods relate to when the tranches of Grant funds are released – i.e., quarterly, biannually, annually)*; add as many time period lines as necessary;

\*\*\* Indicate the budget amounts in the Grant currency.

1. **PERFORMANCE TARGETS**

State the indicators for measuring results that will be achieved using the Grant. At least one indicator per each activity is required:

| **Indicator(s)\*** | **Data Source** | **Baseline** | **Milestones** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Period 1** | **Period 2** | **Period\*\* …** | **Final Target** |
| Activity 1 | | | | | | |
| 1.1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| … |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activity 2 | | | | | | |
| 2.1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| … |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activity … | | | | | | |
| 3.1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| … |  |  |  |  |  |  |

\* Add as many indicator lines as necessary;

\*\* Add as many period columns as necessary.

1. **RISK ANALYSIS**

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:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Risk\*** | **Risk Rating\*\***  (High / Medium / Low) | **Mitigation Measures** |
| 1 Risk |  |  |
| 2 Risk |  |  |
| … Risk |  |  |

\* Add as many risk lines as necessary;

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

1. **GRANT BUDGET**

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

* Please note that all budget lines are for costs related **only** to Grant activities;
* The following budget categories and the number of tranches are suggested guidelines; Applicant Organizations may choose alternates that more accurately reflect their expense items and needs:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **General Category of Expenditures** | **Tranche 1** | **Tranche 2** | **Tranche … \*** | Total |
| Personnel |  |  |  |  |
| Transportation |  |  |  |  |
| Premises |  |  |  |  |
| Capacity-building |  |  |  |  |
| Sub-contracts |  |  |  |  |
| Equipment / Furniture *[Specify]* |  |  |  |  |
| Other *[Specify]* |  |  |  |  |
| Miscellaneous |  |  |  |  |
| … |  |  |  |  |
| **Total** |  |  |  |  |

*\* Add as many tranche columns as necessary.*

**ANNEX II. PROPOSAL COVER SHEET**

**General Information**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of Organization** |  |
| **Contact Person** |  |
| **Contact Information** | **Address:** |
| **Telephone number:** |
| **Email:** |
| **Organization Type** |  |
| **Is your Organization legally registered?** | * Yes * No   *If yes, please attach a copy of your registration document to the submission* |
| **Institutional Profile**  *(A brief description of the Organization, including its vision, mission, relevant experience, and partnerships in the proposed thematic area[s])* |  |
| **Total Requested Budget (USD)** |  |