Call for Grants

**Background**

As governments take urgent action to address COVID- 19 and its related impacts, there is an unprecedented opportunity to accelerate transition to green and resilient economies that keeps warming below 1.5oC, while also advancing the goal of more equitable and inclusive societies. Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and other related climate change plans (e.g., National Adaptation Plans and Long-Term Strategies) can serve as an important lighthouse to guide countries’ recovery efforts in greening these economic stimulus plans. Countries’ climate pledges have already outlined how to transition to green and resilient pathways that help spur economic growth and job creation, while aligning with national development objectives and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

UNDP launched its Climate Promise in September 2019, with the aim to support at least 100 countries to enhance their NDCs ahead of COP26. Since its inception, the Climate Promise has become the world’s largest offer of support on NDC enhancement, supporting over 115 countries in partnership with over 35 partners. Recently, UNDP initiated a new component of the Climate Promise which specifically aims to scale-up its offer to help countries leverage climate action for stronger COVID-19 recovery and sustainable development. The integrated approach builds on UNDP’s extensive portfolio on climate change and development, and its role in leading the UN system’s support to help countries cope with the socio-economic impact of the health crisis.

Albania is among the recipient countries. As part of the Climate Promise global initiative UNDP has supported Albania to submit its more ambitious and robust NDC with an Action Plan to support interventions to achieve the 20.9% target by 2030. In terms of Mitigation, the NDC relies on the comparison between a Business-as-Usual scenario and a mitigation scenario considering mitigation measures in the main emitting sectors of the economy: Energy, Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land-use, and Waste. Projections rely on macro-economic assumptions such as GDP and population forecast but also on historical trends, strategies and plans endorsed at the national level. Albania revised NDC was registered at UNFCCC on 12 October 2021. Albania is among those countries who pledged to end and reverse deforestation by 2030 (through the Glasgow Leaders Declaration on Forests and Land Use) and support clean energy as part of the countries’ efforts during United Nations COP26 summit in Glasgow to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius from pre-industrial levels.

**Purpose of the grant and duration**

The purpose of this call for grants is to support interested CSOs (Civil Society Organizations) to contribute to incorporate NDC measures with focus on Forestry and Energy, advocating those measures that target improvements for women, youth, and other vulnerable people, aiming at:

* providing technical assistance and guidance in (1) improving sustainable forest management and (2) efficient practices of consumption including fuelwood harvest, which consumption is considerable in the energy balance of the households and service sectors with regards to heating, cooking, and hot water provision.
* marketing and promotion identifying and targeting market strategies that can help accelerate recovery, addressing product diversification, and recommendations and guidelines
* Promoting efforts to halt deforestation, prevent forest degradation and increase forest area through investment in forestry-related jobs as part of COVID-19 economic recovery stimulus packages, including afforestation, reforestation, conservation, watershed protection, agroforestry, and urban forestry jobs.
* Advocating measures that target improvements for women, youth and other vulnerable groups are of high importance.

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

1. Introduction of new technologies with higher energy efficiency through encouraging the replacement of existing stoves with new higher energy efficiency technologies focusing on:
* public institutions,
* eco-tourism private initiatives, etc.
1. Encouraging the sustainable use of forestry biomasses from forest clearing or sanitation cutting.
2. Incentives to encourage the installation of bio-energy technologies including as a source to meet space heat and cooking demands
3. Encouraging the cultivation of trees for firewood with fast-growing varieties
4. Promotion of low-cost afforestation methods through demonstration
5. Awareness raising campaigns through trainings, visual material etc., involving new generation, women, vulnerable people, etc.

**The project will be implemented for the period:** **March 2023– September 2023.**

1. **Eligibility and Qualification Criteria**

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.

**Proposal**

1. 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.

1. 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.

1. Budget size and duration
	1. Proposal amounts should not exceed USD 10,000 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.

* 1. Duration of the project shall be from March to September 2023.

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

**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) no later than 28 February 2023 in English.

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 ………………..: ………..*

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 ACTIVITIES1*** | ***Timeline2*** |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | *T1* | *T2* | *T3* | *T4* | ***Planned Budget for the Activity******(in grant currency)3*** |
| *1.1 Activity* |  |  |  |  | *ALL* |
| *1.2 Activity* |  |  |  |  | *ALL* |
| *1.3 Activity* |  |  |  |  | *ALL* |
| ***Total*** | *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:

*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*** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

*\*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*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *General Category of Expenditures* | *Tranche 1* | *Tranche 2* | *Tranche 3* | *Total* |
| *Personnel* |  |  |  |  |
| *Transportation* |  |  |  |  |
| *Premises* |  |  |  |  |
| *Training/Seminar/**Workshops, etc.* |  |  |  |  |
| *Contracts (e.g., Audit)* |  |  |  |  |
| *Equipment/Furniture**(Specify)* |  |  |  |  |
| *Other [Specify]* |  |  |  |  |
| *Miscellaneous* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Total*** |  |  |  |  |

***\**** *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.*