

CALL FOR PROPOSALS PARTICIPATORY ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING IN MINING SITES SMALL GRANT FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

A. BACKGROUND

Mining industry has become one of the biggest contributors to Mongolia's economic growth, however managing the environmental impacts on its natural resources and the social impacts on its people still remains as a key challenge for the country. There is a lack of meaningful participation, collaboration and mutual responsibility of stakeholders, including state, business, civil society and local communities, in broader process of decision-making. As extractive industries encroach into environmentally pristine areas, conflicts between mining companies, local communities, herders, and municipalities have intensified throughout the country.

The Environmental Governance Programme (EGP) for Sustainable Natural Resource Management is a joint initiative of the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency and the United Nations Development Programme to support countries to integrate environment and human rights into the governance of the mining sector. The programme works at the global and regional level to support the exchange of innovative policy approaches within and across countries and regions. Using the nexus between the environment and human rights as a lens, the EGP takes an integrated approach to sustainable natural resource management, that focuses on addressing the drivers of conflict, environmental degradation, inequality, exclusion, and poverty simultaneously.

Participatory Environmental Monitoring (PEM) is an emerging mechanism for meaningful engagement of the local stakeholders in decision making processes of mining sector. In many countries, this mechanism is effectively experienced to address environmental conflicts arisen from mining operations. With the EGP support in 2020-2021, the PEM model has been piloted in 5 soums (Bayanjargalan (Tuv), Airag and Dalanjargalan (Dornogobi), Bayandun (Dornod) and Durvuljin (Zavkhan)) of 4 provinces of Mongolia through engagement with civil society organizations. PEM Committees have been established in those soums by the official decree of the governors, involving representatives of the state administration, civil society, mining companies and the local community including women and youth and the members are engaged in series of training and consultations and followed by on-site monitoring exercises at the selected mine sites. Through these experiences and exercises, a practical hands-on PEM guideline was produced for scaling up in the mining areas of the country.

In 2023, the EGP continues to support the PEM scaleup in the mining areas of Mongolia through providing training and small grants to the Civil Society Organizations (CSO) engaged in human rights, environmental protection and sustainable development, to scaleup the initiative and prepare trainers on the PEM model in the mining governance of Mongolia.

B. THEMATIC AREAS

The proposals applied for the grant must align with the following thematic areas:

- Scaleup of the Participatory Environmental Monitoring model in a selected mining site engaging all relevant stakeholders of mining company, local administration and the local communities, using the [PEM Guide Mongolia](#) developed by the EGP Mongolia;

C. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Only local, national or community-based non-governmental and not-for-profit civil society organization who works on environment, human rights and sustainable development issues related to mining can apply for this grant.

Government authorities and for-profit commercial or private organizations cannot apply but can participate as cooperation partners in the project.

D. PROJECT CRITERIA

Under the small grants programme, UNDP will contribute approximately **MNT 50,000,000 up to 4-5 organizations** (MNT 8,000,000 – 10,000,000 each).

The proposed project activities must be fully completed and reported by **30 November 2023**.

The selection criteria will involve the following elements:

1. Capacity of the applicant and its team
2. Relevance of the proposal to the grant themes
3. Feasibility and effectiveness of the proposed activities
4. Sustainability and scalability of the project
5. Timeframe and budget

E. HOW TO APPLY

Interested organizations must submit the following application documents to the e-mail: registry.mn@undp.org with a subject Participatory Environmental Monitoring Low Value Grant Application not later than **31 March 2023**. Inquiries can be made using same email address.

Application documents:

- **Fully completed project proposal in Mongolian together with the English translation** using the template provided below: [Тэтгэлэгт Төслийн Өргөдлийн Маягт - LVG Application Template](#)
- **Copy of registration certificate of the applicant organization**

Only the successful candidates will be notified within **01 May 2023**.

F. INFORMATION SESSION

An information session on the PEM grant will be organized via online at **11.00 am – 12.00 pm** on **09 March 2023**, and the interested organizations are invited to attend at the following link:

Ariunbileg Radnaa is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: ХОБОМ Тэтгэлэгт төслийн мэдээлэл өгөх уулзалт

Time: Mar 9, 2023 11:00 AM Irkutsk, Ulaanbaatar

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://undp.zoom.us/j/87317447123?pwd=SEZmM05jUXJxVmZkckQ0VWpRL1h4dz09>

Meeting ID: 873 1744 7123

Passcode: 062229