



**CALL FOR PROPOSALS
BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS
SMALL GRANT FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS**

A. BACKGROUND

Over the last several decades, pro-growth policies have translated into higher incomes and reduced poverty levels in many countries in Asia and the Pacific. However, economic development has not come without costs and risks, particularly to the most vulnerable. There is now wider recognition that human rights abuses in business operations and supply chains in Asia are no longer sustainable.

In 2011, the United Nations Human Rights Council endorsed the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, world's most authoritative, and normative framework for promoting responsible business practices, and to provide a way forward. The three key pillars of the principles included State duty to protect human rights in business operations, businesses' responsibility to respect human rights, and both to provide remedies when violations occur.

The Principles are now being widely adopted by nations around the world and Mongolia has initiated development of its National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights in 2019 with broad participation of the state, business and civil society representatives. The development of the National Action Plan would be an instrumental step toward establishing the necessary legal and policy framework setting a clear guideline for businesses to follow and implement in respect to human rights and appropriate remedy mechanisms.

UNDP is implementing since 2020, the project Business and Human Rights in Asia: Enabling Sustainable Economic Growth through the Protect, Respect and Remedy Framework, that is funded by the European Union (EU) Partnership Instrument. The goal of this EU-UNDP joint project is to promote the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles in Asia through multi-country efforts focused on advocacy, policy development, technical advisory support, capacity building, awareness raising, innovation platforms, regional peer learning events, and South-South cooperation.

In this context, UNDP is going to provide a small grant support to the civil society organizations engaged in human rights protection, recognition and advocacy in Mongolia, in greater context of defending human rights abuses from businesses and industrial operations.

The objective of this programme is to promote the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles in Mongolia through civil society efforts on human rights advocacy, capacity building, awareness raising, innovation platforms and public consultations.

B. THEMATIC AREAS

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

Priority areas:

- Documentation of human rights issues and concerns in workplace in the specific sectors and areas such as infrastructure, construction, agriculture, food industry, leather, textiles, hospitality, and automobile repair workshops;
- Select a business entity and conduct a pilot Human Rights Due Diligence using a specific methodology, and produce case study on the adoption mechanism for scale up;
- Innovative means of advocating the human rights issues in specific business sectors;

Optional areas:

- Participatory human rights monitoring for specific business entities in a specific sector or industry, engaging all relevant stakeholders;
- Undertake a pilot Human Rights Impact Assessment at a specific site or place, using the methodology developed by the National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia;

C. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Only local, national or community-based non-governmental and not-for-profit civil society organization with existence for **5 years or more** who works on human rights issues can apply for this grant.

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

D. PROJECT CRITERIA

Under the small grants programme, UNDP will contribute approximately **40,000 USD up to four CSOs** (USD 8,000 - 10,000 each).

The proposed project activities must be completed by **31 December 2021**.

The selection criteria will involve the following elements:

1. Experience and capacity of the applicant
2. Relevance of the proposal to the grant themes
3. 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 Business and Human Rights Low Value Grant Application not later than **07 May 2021**. Inquiries can be made using same email address.

Application documents:

- **Fully completed project proposal in English** using the template provided below: Low Value Grant Proposal Template
- **Copy of registration certificate of the applicant organization**

Only the successful candidates will be notified within **31 May 2021**.