

«Women in Politics» Programme and «Democracy Programme - Elections» announce the expression of interest for the GRANTS PROGRAM "Design and implementation of voter education campaign targeting specific groups of voters" for Non-Governmental Organisations

In 2012, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Moldova started Programme "Improving the Quality of Moldovan Democracy through Electoral and Parliamentary Support" (Democracy Programme). The Programme aims at strengthening the institutional capacity of the Parliament and Central Electoral Commission (CEC), improving their main functions and entrenching gender and human rights considerations in formal political process. At the Central Electoral Commission, the Programme supports the further development of an enabling environment for the delivery of modern and inclusive electoral services.

As a distinct initiative, in July 2014, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) jointly with United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment (UN Women) and in partnership with the East Europe Foundation (EEF) and the Centre for Participatory Development (CPD) started a new Programme in Moldova named "Enhancing Women's Political Representation through improved capacity and enhanced support in Moldova" (Women in Politics). Women in Politics Programme aims at ensuring an increased participation of women in politics and in the decision-making process by creating an environment conducive to their meaningful participation and providing support to capacity development of women before, during and after the elections at the central and local levels.

Both Moldova Democracy Programme and Women in Politics in Moldova Programme are being implemented in line with strategic priorities of United Nations in Moldova and contribute to UN Partnership Framework areas of "Institutional Strengthening: Increased transparency, accountability and efficiency of central and local public authorities" and "Human Rights, Empowerment of Women and Anti-discrimination: State bodies and other actors effectively promote and protect human rights, gender equality and non-discrimination, with particular attention to the marginalized and the vulnerable".

In order to support CEC civic education efforts within the upcoming 2015 Local General Elections, with a view to enhance the inclusive participation of various categories of voters in the electoral realm, the two Programmes are announcing an Expression of Interest for Grants Program "Pre-local Elections Civic Education Campaign for Specific Groups of Voters".

In this regard, the Programmes are announcing an Expression of Interest for Grants opened to NGOs registered in the Republic of Moldova.

The **overall objective** of the Grants program is to promote an inclusive democratic society by raising the awareness of the specific groups of voters about the importance to participate in local elections, and provide relevant information in support of casting the vote in a meaningful manner. **Gender equality principles and human rights based approach will be an overarching principle of all activities envisaged under the current Grants program**.

The specific groups of voters to be targeted by the activities of the Grants program shall include:

- Voters with disabilities;
- Roma, specifically Roma women;
- Other national and ethnic minorities;
- Women
- Other specific groups of voters proposed by grant applicants (specifying the groups and justifying why it needs to be supported in the context of local elections).

To maximize the impact of the civic education activities envisaged herein, the Grants Program will target **specific localities** (Geographic areas) as described in the Applicant's Guidelines.

Within this Expression of Interest an NGO can target one specific group (in one or more geographic areas) or target one geographic areas (e.g. Centre, South) and work with several specific groups of voters. An NGO can submit several applications.

Application ceiling shall be as follows:

15,000 USD for applications targeting one group in one area, or

30,000 USD for applications targeting several groups in one area or one group across several geographic areas.

The implementation timeframe for every proposed Project should fit the following timelines: 11 May – 13 June 2015 (5 weeks).

The rules and procedures that will guide the submission, selection and implementation of projects can be found in the **Applicant's Guidelines**.

The application package should contain the following documents:

- Application Form (which will include the budget and activities timeline), filled in Romanian, Russian or English. Handwritten Application Forms will not be accepted;
- Copy of the registration certificate to prove that the organization is a registered legal entity;
- Copy of the Statute of the organization;
- Declaration of partnership, where applicable, signed by parties;
- CVs of Project Manager, accountant and key staff, involved in project's implementation;
- CVs of experts and their written consent to be involved in the activities of the project;
- To the extent possible, a **brief** overview of the activities of the organization (including, if applicable, recommendation letters from other donors, developed materials: researches, strategies, training aids, newsletters, brochures; any other relevant materials/information: newspaper articles, audio/video clips, photo reports from events, etc.);
- Other relevant materials to increase credibility of the Applicant and to complement the project justification.

Application Form and **Applicant's Guidelines** are posted on the UNDP Moldova website (http://tenders.undp.md/tenders/982/).

Deadline for submission of proposals: 27 April 2015, 4.30 PM (GMT +2). Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

The documents can be sent either by e-mail at: tenders-Moldova@undp.org titled as "GP-2015: Voter education campaign targeting specific groups of voters", or by post, or delivered physically in a sealed envelope (marked « GP-2015: Voter education campaign targeting specific groups of voters ») to the following address: UNDP Moldova, 131, 31 August 1989 Str., MD-2012, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova. Attention: Registry Office/Procurement.

Applications sent by fax will be rejected. Incomplete applications shall not be examined. Applications sent by e-mail should not exceed 5 MB in size. Applications larger than 5 MB should be split into several messages and each message subject should indicate "part x of y" besides the marking mentioned in the announcement and the solicitation documents. All electronic submissions are confirmed by an automatic reply from tenders-Moldova@undp.org. If you do not receive a confirmation by email, please, contact UNDP Moldova Registry Office by phone +373 (0) 22 220-045.

For additional information on the application process, please contact Ms. Elena Verdes by e-mail at: elena.verdes@undp.org