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»INTERAKTIVNE OTVORENE ŠKOLE«
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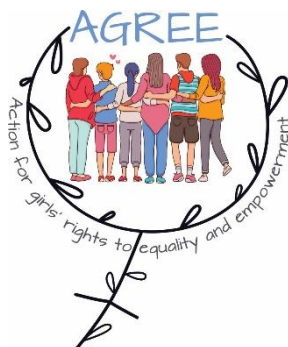


Korunma Altında Yetişen Gençler ve
Koruyucu Aile Derneği



Institute for Development of Civil Society "Innovate"

ofenşiva
tinerilor



AGREE – ACTION FOR GIRLS' RIGHTS TO EQUALITY AND EMPOWERMENT!"

IPA III / 2024 / 459-906

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

For Sub-granting Scheme under the project “AGREE! – Action for Girls’ Rights to Equality and Empowerment”

Reference No: EuropeAid/179703/DH/ACT/Multi

Budget line: 6.4.1.

Deadline for submission of applications: 18th of September 2026 (23:59 local time per partner country)

BACKGROUND

The project “**AGREE! – Action for Girls’ Rights to Equality and Empowerment**” aims to support and encourage civil society participation and influence over women’s and girls’ rights respect, anti-discrimination, regional cooperation and social cohesion through capacity building, networking and advocacy for gender equality and empowerment of girls in the WB region and TR.

Within the project, we develop a Regional Network of CSOs, develop and empower national networks in 6 WB countries and TR to: **a)** engage in evidence - based advocacy and lobbying; **b)** partner, cooperate and network with other networks / consortia nationally, regionally, at EU and global levels; and **c)** assist national, local and grassroots CSOs to develop, test and promote local initiatives, improve their quality, accountability and fundraising in order to increase their impact and outreach.

The main focus of the action is on prevention of peer gender-based psychological, physical, emotional and financial violence against girls and their empowerment through improved entrepreneurship, breaking the stereotypes and discrimination.

The project is implemented by a partnership of civil society organisations, led by Pomoć deci (Serbia), in cooperation with Volunteers Centre Skopje (North Macedonia), Institute for Development of Civil



Co-funded by
the European Union



Society – Innovate (Kosovo*¹), Gruaja Tek Gruaja (Albania), Kalben Association (Türkiye), Women’s Safe House Podgorica (Montenegro), International Association Interactive Open Schools (Bosnia and Herzegovina) and Ofensiva Tinerilor (Romania).

The duration of the project is between December the 1st 2024 and November the 30th 2027.

The project is supported by the European Union within the IPA III / 2024 / 459-906.

The objectives and results to be obtained with the financial support through sub-granting

Within the project, a financial support through sub-granting is plan to be implemented. The reason for AGREE! network to offer training and small sub-grants to local and grassroots CSOs is to: a) build their capacities to partner with other organisations; b) develop their internal quality in governance, financial and project management, fundraising, advocacy, lobbying, research and analysis; and c) improve outreach through fostering intercultural dialogue at local levels.

Expected results include improved capacities of local and grassroots CSOs to network and partner with different other organisations and institutions, their improved internal and Project Management quality and increased recognition of their advocacy for respect for gender equality, and intercultural dialogue as well as for prevention of peer GBV at local levels.

TYPES OF SUPPORT

Applications for sub-grants can be submitted for:

1. One-off activity or event
or
2. Project or initiative for up to 6 months duration.

ELIGIBILITY OF APPLICANTS

Types of legal entities that may receive financial support

1. Individual legally registered NGOs;
2. Informal CSOs’ groups (parents’ groups, informal CSOs) led by a legally registered NGO;
3. Informal consortia of NGOs, educational and other relevant institutions, local authorities and other legally registered bodies, led by a legally registered NGO

Only the CSOs, formal and informal grassroots organisations which complete AGREE! project set of trainings on regional, national or local level (topics of the set of trainings: 1) gender and anti-discrimination; 2) social and financial education; 3) peer education; 4) CSOs’ capacity building) are eligible to participate in the Call for proposals.

The applicants must be registered for at least two years at the moment of submitting application.

Each applicant may submit **only one application under this Call for Proposals**.

¹ This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.





INELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

The following are not eligible:

- individuals
- applicants and co-applicants of the AGREE! project
- organisations without legal status
- Business (for profit) entities

LOCATION:

All activities must take place in Republic of North Macedonia

TYPES OF THE ACTIVITIES THAT MAY BE SUPPORTED BY THIS SUB-GRANT

The activities supported through sub-grants will include:

1. Participation of local and other CSOs in relevant training, or conferences;
2. Implementation of proposed advocacy campaigns for gender equality and/or prevention of peer GBV;
3. Implementation of the proposed projects relevant for intercultural dialogue, gender equality, prevention of peer GBV and networking with other similar local organisations related to these issues;
4. Conducting relevant analysis and research;
5. Organising and supporting local youth and/or parents' groups in peer-to-peer empowerment to engage and promote gender equality, respect for diversity and prevent peer GBV.

Ineligible activities and costs include:

- activities that are not aligned with the objectives and priority areas of this Call
- activities that are already funded by other donors or programmes
- use of the sub-grant as core organisational funding
- purchase of equipment or infrastructure
- salaries of staff not directly engaged in the project or additional staff fees not justified by project activities
- core organisational or administrative costs not directly linked to the project implementation
- scholarships, stipends or financial allowances



- sponsorship for participation in conferences or events
- debts, losses or provisions for liabilities
- activities aimed at generating profit
- activities linked to political parties or of political/partisan or religious nature.
- actions in relation to: the tobacco industry (CAEN code 16), production of alcoholic distilled beverages (CAEN code 1591), arms and munitions (CAEN code 296).
- Capital investments.
- actions that are proven to generate or promote mis- or disinformation in the society.
- activities that involve any form of discrimination or exclusion
- activities that do not comply with safeguarding, ethical or data protection standards

The list is not exhaustive and the Contracting Authority reserves the right to determine the eligibility of any proposed activity.

DURATION OF PROJECTS

Supported actions may take the form of:

- a one-off activity/event, or
- a project or initiative with a duration of up to 6 months

The implementation period will start from the date after the last signature of the Sub-grant Agreement.

ESTIMATED BUDGET

Financial support under this Call for Proposals will be awarded under one of the following categories:

1. Up to €5,000 for one-off activities/events
- Or
2. Up to €10,000 for projects and initiatives with a duration of up to 6 months

The co-financing is not required.

Applicants may apply under only one category.

The proposed budget will be scrutinised for value; adherence to local market costs and appropriate to the proposed activities.

Any activity or costs not related to the outcomes of the activities will be removed.



All applicants are required to complete the official Budget Form and designate at least two persons who will be responsible for the financial expenditure.

Sub-granting of the projects will be done on the basis of the contract concluded between the AGREE Partner and the awarded applicant in the country where the action will take place, and the contract will specify the terms of payment, reporting obligations and other relevant issues.

Any money judged to be spent outside of the agreed project budget/proposal or for any ineligible activity/cost as stipulated above, the sub-grantee has to return to the AGREE Partner that provided the sub-grant.

Awarded applicant/s is/are obliged to submit a final report consisting of the detailed documented narrative and financial report, with true copies of the original receipts verified by the responsible person's signature and organizational stamp in the prescribed forms. The final report must be submitted within one month of the conclusion of the activities, at latest 30 days after the end date of the project as stipulated in the Contract

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The Call for Proposals is open from 20th of July **to 18th of September 2026 23.59 local time per partner country**).

All application documents (Application Form, Budget Form, Declaration of Applicant and supporting templates) are part of this Call and must be used in their original format.

Required documents:

Applicants must submit the following documents:

- completed Application form, signed and stamped by the authorised person
- Budget form (Excel format, including tabular and narrative budget, signed by the authorized person)
- signed Declaration of Applicant
- A copy of Registration Certificate of the applicant
- Narrative/financial report for the previous year 2025

Applications must be submitted **electronically only**, in PDF or Word and Excel formats, to the following e-mail address: vcs_contact@yahoo.com. The subject line of the e-mail must include: 'Application for Sub-grant – name of applicant'.

The Application can be submitted in the official language of the country or in English.

The application package must include: Application Form (PDF); Budget Form tabular and narrative (Excel); all supporting documents (PDF) listed above.



Technical requirements

- applications must be completed using electronic formats (Word/Excel)
- handwritten or incomplete applications will not be accepted
- all documents must be submitted in the prescribed templates
- any modification of the official templates may result in rejection of the application
- all narrative parts of the application must be completed in min Calibri font, size 11, single spacing

Please note that applications must be complete and submitted in accordance with the requirements of this Call. Incomplete applications will not be taken into consideration.

Personal data provided by applicants will be processed in accordance with applicable data protection regulations. The Contracting Authority is committed to ensuring the confidentiality and protection of all personal data collected during the application and evaluation process, and such data will be used solely for the purposes of this Call for Proposals.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

The deadline for the submission of applications is 18th of September 2026 (23:59 local time per partner country), via e-mail vcs_contact@yahoo.com.

Applications received after the specified deadline will be automatically rejected and will not be evaluated.

Applications submitted through other means (e.g. post, fax or in person) will not be accepted.

A timely application is considered to be an application received at the vcs_contact@yahoo.com e-mail address before the official deadline.

For any additional questions, please contact the relevant AGREE partner via e-mail to the following e-mail: vcs_contact@yahoo.com before 10th of August 2026.

Responses to all relevant questions will be provided in written form no later than 14th of August 2026.

EVALUATION, SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION PROCESS

The evaluation process will be carried out in several stages:

- **Administrative, technical and eligibility check** – verification that the application is complete, submitted on time, and that the applicant meets all eligibility criteria
- **Quality evaluation** – assessment of the quality, relevance and feasibility of the proposal, including its objectives, activities, methodology and expected results, as well as review of the proposed budget to ensure cost-effectiveness, realism and alignment with the planned activities



(1) STEP 1: OPENING & ADMINISTRATIVE CHECKS

If the examination of the application reveals that the proposed action does not meet the set criteria for the application process:

- The Application has arrived in a timely manner
- The Application submitted in the prescribed form;
- The Application package is complete;
- The required Supporting documents are provided
- The Application form and both budget forms are signed by the authorized person and stamped

the application will be rejected on the basis of Administrative error.

(II) STEP 2: QUALITY OF THE APPLICATION EVALUATION

The quality of the applications, including the proposed budget and capacity of the applicants, will be evaluated using the evaluation criteria in the evaluation grid below.

I. Relevance of the proposal (maximum 30 points)

Criterion	Points	Maximum
How relevant is the proposal to the objectives and priorities of the Call for Proposals, including integration of gender equality and inclusion perspectives?		15
How relevant is the project proposal to the needs of your project target groups?		15

II Quality of the proposal (maximum 40 points)

Are the activities proposed appropriate, practical, and consistent with the objectives and priorities of the Call?		10
Are the activities feasible and consistent in relation to the expected results?		10



Do the proposed activities ensure safe and inclusive participation of children and young people?		5
Do the project activates promote and include directly girls?		5
Is the action plan clear and feasible in relation to the timeframe?		5
Level of creativity and innovation		5

III. Operational capacity of the applicant (maximum 10 points)

Does the applicant have sufficient experience of project management? (at least one project completed)		5
Does the applicant have sufficient thematic expertise? (especially knowledge of the issues to be addressed.)		2
Has the applicant provided financial/narrative reports for the previous year?		1
The level of dissemination activities showed		2

IV. Budget and cost-effectiveness (maximum 15 points)

How realistic and effective the budget is in relation to the proposed action		10
Are the activities appropriately reflected in the budget?		5

V. Visibility

How adequate is the visibility in relation to the project?		5
Total points		100

The Selection Panel will award points for each of the criteria as shown in the Evaluation Grid. Ranking lists will be made based on the total score of the points.



INDICATIVE TIMETABLE

The indicative timeline for this Call for Proposals is as follows:

Activity:	Date
Launch of the Call	20.07.2026
Deadline for requesting any clarifications from the contracting authority	10.08.2026
Last date on which clarifications are issued by the contracting authority	14.08.2026
Deadline for submission of the application	18.09.2026 (23:59 local time per partner country)
Notification of preliminary results	02.10.2026
Complaint period	02- 09.10.2026
Consultation meetings with the short-listed applicants	05.10 – 16.10.2026
Notification of final results	19.10.2026
Notification of final results for the unsuccessful applicants by e-mail	02.11.2026
Contracting with winning projects	within 7 days after final decision

The Contracting Authority reserves the right to adjust the timeline if necessary.

DEADLINES AND MANNER OF PUBLICATION OF THE ACCEPTED and REJECTED PROJECTS

Following the evaluation, a **ranking list of all submitted proposals per country** will be made within **2 weeks after the submission deadline**.

Based on the ranking, the highest-scoring proposals will be shortlisted. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to **consultation meetings** in order to solve any anomalies in implementation of activities or in the budget.

Notification of results - The preliminary results will be published on the official website and/or social media channels of the project partner. All applicants will be informed in writing about the outcome of their application.

Complaint procedure - Applicants who are not satisfied with the results may submit a complaint within **7 days** from the date of award notification.

Final decision - The final decision will be made within **10 days after the closure of the complaint period** and will be publicly announced through the same communication channels and notified by email to the applicants.



Contracting - Selected applicants will be notified in writing and invited to sign a Sub-grant Contract. Contracts will be concluded within **7 days** from the publication of the final results.

Feedback to unsuccessful applicants - All unsuccessful applicants will receive written feedback via e-mail within **15 days** after the final decision has been made.

The Selection Panel reserves the right not to award all available funds.

MONITORING, MENTORING, REPORTING and VISIBILITY

Selected grantees will receive continuous mentoring and technical support throughout the implementation of their projects. The project team will provide guidance to ensure quality implementation, compliance with project requirements, and effective achievement of results.

Monitoring of supported actions will be carried out on a regular basis and may include meetings, communication with grantees, and at least one monitoring visit during the implementation period.

Grantees will be required to submit **narrative and financial reports** in accordance with the requirements defined in the Sub-grant Contract. The reporting templates and detailed instructions will be provided to the selected applicants upon signing of the contracts.

All grantees must also comply with communication and visibility requirements, as well as relevant safeguarding, ethical and data protection standards.

A final evaluation of each supported project will be conducted upon completion of the implementation.

SAFEGUARDING AND ETHICS

All supported actions must be implemented in line with the principles of gender equality, non-discrimination and respect for diversity. Particular attention should be given to ensuring the safe, inclusive and meaningful participation of children and young people in all project activities.

Grantees are required to comply with relevant safeguarding policies, ethical standards and data protection regulations throughout the implementation of their actions. In addition, all activities must be carried out in accordance with the applicable national legislation and relevant legal provisions.

Additional Information

All templates (Application Form, Budget Form, Reporting Templates) are part of this Call.

For additional information, please contact: Volunteers Centre Skopje at vcs_contact@yahoo.com

This call for proposal was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of Volunteers Centre Skopje and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.