**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria through the Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria at Bosnia and Herzegovina announces a procedure for accepting and selecting proposals for projectsto be implemented with a grant within the framework of the Official Development Assistance of the Republic of Bulgaria, with an initial deadline for launching in 2020.

**Priority Areas and Directions for Implementing Projects on the Territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina are:**

1. Improving the quality of education and protecting the rights of children with disabilities and vulnarable groups;
2. Support for building a modern digital society.

**1. Objectives and Scope of the Projects:**

1. Increasing access to education by building up an educational infrastructure and improving the conditions for access to education and training;
2. Promoting the country's economy and helping businesses to build modern conditions for economic activities /digitalization of enterprises in order to achieve competitiveness with EU and world companies.

**2.  Target Groups:**

1. Children and students from educational institutions / schools and kindergartens.
2. Non-profit organizations, institutions.

**3. Outputs/Results:**

1. Improving the quality of education and building a modern educational infrastructure;

2. Improving socio-economic development and good governance leading to sustainable and inclusive economic development, reducing poverty and increasing prosperity; deepening the interaction between institutions at central, regional and local level.

3. Affirmation of the positive international image of Bulgaria;

**4. Eligible Project Budget:**

4.1. Minimal amount of the project is 5 000 BGN.

4.2. Recommended maximum amount of the project is:

* for projects with main purpose to carry out repairs and /or construction activities - up to 50 000 BGN.
* for projects with main purpose to deliver goods and /or services - up to 70 000 BGN;

**5. Implementation Deadlines and Duration of the Projects:**

**5.1**. Project proposals must contain an indicative start date for the implementation of the project after March 1, 2020 and no later than November 30, 2020.

**5.2**. Projects must be completed no later than December 31, 2022 (the third year of the Bulgarian three-year budget forecast).

**6. Eligible Candidates:**

* Primary and secondary budget spenders
* International and local non-governmental organizations;
* Municipalities and their associations;
* Educational, health, trade and social institutions;

No natural or legal person can apply for whom there are circumstances under Art. 23, para. 3-8[[1]](#footnote-1) of Decree No. 234 of the Council of Ministers of 01.08.2011 on the policy of the Republic of Bulgaria on participation in international development cooperation**.**

**7.   Eligible Activities and Project Costs:**

**7.1.**  **The Costs of Project Implementation must Meet All of the Conditions below:**

* be lawful;
* be executed only with the necessary invoices or supporting documents, testifying the expenditures incurred;
* be within the budget limits of the project;
* not funded by any other project, program or any other financial scheme, related to the national budget, the EU budget or any other donor.

**7.2.**  **Compulsory Activities to be provided in the Project:**

* providing of an audit report by an independent financial auditor;
* ensuring the visibility of the financial assistance provided, in accordance with the Guidelines for publicity and visibility of Bulgarian development aid.

**7.3. Examples of Activities Eligible for Funding:**

• Development of research and strategies;

• Organizing seminars, forums, conferences;

• Activities to raise awareness of citizens' rights;

• Activities related to improving the quality of the infrastructure in the respective area and increasing the potential of the objects through supply of equipment and materials, construction works, restoration, renewal, rehabilitation, measures for preservation and improvement of adjacent buildings and infrastructure, public buildings and others, for example:

- Delivery of equipment and materials intended to prove the state or municipal property - schools, hospitals, kindergartens, elderly homes, etc.

- Construction works for improvement of state or municipal property objects - schools, hospitals, kindergartens, old people's homes, etc.

**8. Required Documents for Application:**

An Application Form is available on the following websites

in Bulgarian: <https://www.mfa.bg/upload/37116/Формуляр%20F.doc>

in English <https://www.mfa.bg/upload/37117/App_Form_Development_2019%20F.doc>

All parts of the application form should be filled in clearly and properly in either Bulgarian or English. In case of omissions that hinder the evaluation of the project proposal, the Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria in Bosnia and Herzegovina may require additional information within a short period of time. Failure to provide such information within the deadline shall be considered a ground for rejecting the proposal.

**9. Method and Deadlines for Projects Applications:**

The submission of project proposals under the procedure is carried out only electronically and the applicants fill in and send the Application Form to the e-mail of the Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria in Bosnia and Herzegovina as follows: e-mail: [Embassy.Sarajevo@mfa.bg](mailto:Embassy.Sarajevo@mfa.bg)

**Deadline: 28.06.2019**

**10. Additional Information:**

Candidates shall be informed of the results of the evaluation within 10 working days of the decision of the competent authority. The Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria in Bosnia and Herzegovina has no obligation to inform candidates of the grounds for approval or refusal of the submitted project proposals.

**Annex 1**

**Decree No 234 of the Council of Ministers of 01.08.2011 on the policy of the Republic of Bulgaria regarding its participation in international development cooperation (excerpts)**

**Article 23**(**3**) **A legal person seeking to apply for the provision of development aid must not**:

1. be declared bankrupt;
2. be in liquidation proceedings or in a similar procedure under the national laws and regulations;
3. be in open insolvency proceedings or must not have entered into an out-of-court settlement with its creditors within the meaning of Article 740 of the Commerce Act, and if the applicant is a non-resident – it must not be in a similar procedure under the national laws and regulations, including if its activities are under the court's control or it has ceased its activities;
4. be disqualified from practicing a particular profession or activity under the law of the State in which the offense was committed;
5. have any monetary debts owed to the State or a municipality within the meaning of Article 162, paragraph 2 of the Tax and Social Insurance Procedure Code established by an act of a competent authority which has entered into force, unless rescheduling or deferral of the debts has been allowed, or monetary debts relating to the payment of social insurance contributions or taxes under the legal provisions of the State in which it is established;
6. have any outstanding private debts owed to the State listed in Article 3, paragraph 7 of the National Revenue Agency Act.

**(4) A legal person seeking to apply for the provision of development aid must not have a member of the management body that**:

1. has been convicted by a final sentence for indictable offense;
2. has not fulfilled his/her/its obligations relating to the payment of social insurance contributions or taxes in accordance with the applicable law;
3. has provided deliberately false documents when providing information requested as a condition for financing development aid activities or has not provided such information;
4. has been disqualified from practicing a particular profession or activity under the law of the State in which the offense was committed;
5. is a legal person for which any of the circumstances under paragraph 3 exist;
6. has any outstanding private debts owed to the State listed in Article 3, paragraph 7 of the National Revenue Agency Act.

**(6) Where the members of the management bodies are legal persons, the requirements of paragraph 5 shall apply to their representatives in the relevant management bodies.**

**(7) Persons seeking to apply for the provision of development aid must not**:

1. have a member of a management or supervisory body, as well as such person ad interim, including a procurator or a commercial agent who has “close links”, within the meaning of § 1, item 1 of the Supplementary Provision of the Conflict of Interest Prevention and Ascertainment Act, with the agency administering the relevant project or with senior employees in his/her organisation;
2. have entered into a contract with a person under Article 21 or 22 of the Conflict of Interest Prevention and Ascertainment Act.

1. See Annex 1 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)