



**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**  
**Procedure for acceptance of project proposals for grants from the Republic of Bulgaria**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria through the Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria in the Republic of South Africa announces a procedure for the acceptance and selection of proposals **for pilot projects to be implemented on the territories of the Republic of Namibia and the Republic of Angola** with grants through the Official Development Assistance of the Republic of Bulgaria, with an initial implementation period in 2023.

**Priority Areas for Project Implementation on the territories of Namibia and Angola:**

- *Providing inclusive and high-quality education;*
- *Assistance in addressing the health, economic and social consequences of the COVID 19 pandemic;*
- *Promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment.*

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

- *Provision of access to modern, quality and inclusive education;*
- *Tackling the health, economic and social consequences of the COVID 19 pandemic;*
- *Ensuring equal participation of women and young girls in the economic, social and cultural life;*
- *Reaffirmation of Bulgaria's reputation and positive image as international donor.*

**2. Target Groups:**

- *university and adolescent students, researchers and lecturers at different educational institutions;*
- *representatives of various social and minority groups, different categories of vulnerable people (disabled children, migrants, elderly people);*
- *young women entrepreneurs, having the ambition to start up own businesses;*
- *civil society and NGO representatives.*

**3. Outputs/Results:**

- *improved access to high-quality education;*

- increased capacity to deal with the COVID 19 pandemic;
- affirmation of Bulgaria's reputation and enriched positive image;
- conditions created for sustainable and inclusive economic growth;
- diminished poverty levels and increased well-being.

#### **4. Eligible Project Budget:**

- 4.1. Minimal amount of the project is 5 000 BGN.
- 4.2. Recommended maximum amount of the project is up to 15 000 BGN;
- 4.3. Co-financing of project activities provided by the applicant will be considered an advantage in the evaluation, selection and approval of the projects.

#### **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, 2023 and no later than November 30, 2023.
- 5.2. Projects must be completed no later than December 31, 2025.

#### **6. Eligible Candidates:**

- Primary and secondary budget spenders - legal entities of Namibia or Angola;
- International and local non-governmental organizations;
- Municipalities and their associations;
- Educational, health and social institutions;
- International humanitarian organisations;
- Others (depending on country specificity).

No natural or legal person can apply for whom there are circumstances under Art. 23, para. 3-8<sup>1</sup> 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 and comply with the principles of responsibility, economy, efficiency, effectiveness and transparency;
- be executed only against the necessary supporting documents - invoices or other documents of equivalent probative value, testifying the expenditures incurred;

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<sup>1</sup> See Annex 1

- be within the budget limits of the project;
- not be funded by another project, program or any other financial scheme, related to or originating from the national budget, the EU budget or any other donor.

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

- provision of an audit report issued by an independent financial auditor;
- activities to ensure publicity and visibility of the financial assistance provided, in accordance with the Publicity and Visibility Guidelines of the Bulgarian Development Aid, worth 3 to 5% of the total project value, but not exceeding 5 000 BGN.

### **7.3. Examples of Activities Eligible for Funding (non-exhaustive list):**

- *Organizing of educational courses on specific topics in Bulgarian and local institutions;*
- *Purchase/delivery of equipment, software and materials for higher educational institutions, schools, kindergartens, centres for children with disabilities, including for the promotion of online learning during the Covid-19 pandemic;*
- *delivery of technical equipment and materials for hospitals and other health care facilities including in response to the COVID 19 pandemic;*

### **8. Required Documents for Application:**

An Application Form is available on the following website in Bulgarian and English:  
<https://www.mfa.bg/bg/3866>

All parts of the application form should be duly completed in Bulgarian and / or English. In case of any deficiencies that hinder the evaluation of the project proposal, the Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria in the Republic of South Africa may require additional information within a short period of time. Failure to provide such information within the deadline shall be considered a ground for rejection of the proposal.

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

***Submission of proposals under the procedure is done only electronically. The candidates must fill in and send the Application form to e-mail: Bulgarian.ODA.Pretoria@mfa.bg***

The deadline is **30 June 2022**. Please be advised that project proposals sent by post or other channels except for the above quoted will not be considered.

### **10. Additional Information:**

Applicants shall be informed of the results of the procedure for evaluation, selection and approval of the project proposals within 14 working days of the completion of the individual stages of the

procedure. The Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria in the Republic of South Africa has no obligation to inform applicants about the grounds for approval or rejection 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.