



REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA) # CEP-SSG-02

Strategic Support Grants (SSGs)

The USAID Civic Engagement Project in Macedonia (CEP) invites civil society organizations (CSOs) in Macedonia to apply for Strategic Support Grants (SSGs).

CEP is a five year USAID-funded program that contributes to achieve two objectives: (1) strengthened influence of CSOs on policies and programs related to priority issues of citizen concern; and (2) increased and sustained youth engagement in public life in Macedonia. CEP is implemented by East West Management Institute, Inc. (EWMI), in partnership with four local CSOs: the Foundation for Internet and Society “Metamorphosis” (Metamorphosis), the Association for Democratic Initiatives (ADI), the Foundation Open Society - Macedonia (FOSM), and the National Youth Council of Macedonia (NYCM). SSGs will be managed by Metamorphosis.

SSGs’ aim to support CSOs, including think tanks, that work in the following **priority areas**:

- 1) Good Governance
- 2) Local Economic Development
- 3) Environment
- 4) Community Development
 - a. Civic Engagement/Community Involvement
 - b. Citizens’ participation in planning and assessing public services

The Project plans to award up to **8 (eight) grants** resulting from this RfA. The maximum grant award for each proposal is **120,000 USD** covering activities that may last up to 3 (three) years, and not less than 30 (thirty) months.

More specifically, this RfA seeks to support the following **illustrative activities** under the above listed priority areas:

- i) **Establish innovative mechanisms to ensure regular feedback from citizens** regarding their perception of and trust in public institutions at the central and local government level;
- ii) Contribute to public services’ improvement by **strengthening or introducing mechanisms for public participation and community development**, to create long-term solutions for citizens’ priority concerns;
- iii) **Increase civic engagement** through community development and beautification activities;
- iv) Support the **promotion and development of vocational and non-formal educational programs** that lead to job placement for youth and vulnerable groups, including orphans, victims of domestic violence, disabled people, ethnic minorities, and LGBTI people; and
- v) **Support the development and implementation of effective laws, regulations, and state programs** in the priority areas mentioned above.

To download the application form, and the Budget Template for the SSGs, please go to www.metamorphosis.org.mk or write to Ms. Qendresa Sulejmani, at qendresa@metamorphosis.org.mk.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS: 16:00, OCTOBER 31, 2017

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