



EUROPEAN UNION



CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

For participation in the activities of the project

“Developing innovation-driven and sustainable civil society in Azerbaijan”

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The European Union (EU) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) value a dynamic civil society environment, which fosters pluralism and contributes towards sustainable development and inclusive growth. The organisations recognise the important role of the civil society in support of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development. The EU and UNDP have developed long-term partnership realized through a number of initiatives that promote a conducive environment for civil society organisations (CSOs), foster meaningful participation of CSOs in policy formulation, local development, service delivery as well as strengthen CSOs’ internal capacities.

To further support engagement of the civil society in the national development process, EU and UNDP have launched a new 3-year project “Developing innovation-driven and sustainable civil society in Azerbaijan”. The project is designed as a multi-dimensional response to accelerate the development and growth of the civil society sector in Azerbaijan through building capacities, promoting social entrepreneurship and stimulating social innovation.

The project’s overall development objective is to contribute to building conducive environment for a vibrant, sustainable and innovation-driven civil society in Azerbaijan. The project pursues two **specific objectives**:

- To increase CSOs capacities to engage in policy-making and foster local development;
- To build an enabling ecosystem and capacities for social entrepreneurship and

This project is funded by the European Union and implemented by UNDP.

social innovation.

The project's objectives will be achieved through the delivery of the following **Expected Results**:

- Capacities of the CSOs for policy engagement around development issues are strengthened.
- Essential capacities of the region-based CSOs as actors in local development processes are built.
- Conducive ecosystem and enabling opportunities for boosting the start and development of social enterprise are improved.
- Social Enterprise Platform is established and promoted.

The project will support activities around the following **priority themes**:

- 1) Gender equality and women empowerment
- 2) Climate change and environment
- 3) Animal rights
- 4) Response to COVID-19 pandemic

The project is expected to benefit the following **civil society groups**:

- a. CSOs with long and proven work history and advanced capacities based in Baku and regions of Azerbaijan;
- b. Small-sized CSOs or community-based organisations outside Baku;
- c. CSOs with blended financial sources (funded by traditional grants and profits from social business).

AIM OF THE CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

This Call for Expression of Interest is launched identify national civil society organisations interested to participate in the activities of the project “Developing innovation-driven and sustainable civil society in Azerbaijan”.

CSOs that will be selected through the Call for Interest will be invited to participate in the following project activities:

- 1) Capacity needs assessments
- 2) Trainings and Webinars
- 3) Tailored-made coaching and mentoring programmes
- 4) Networking events

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- 5) Small Grant Programmes
- 6) Social Entrepreneurship Platform activities

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

All CSOs interested to participate in the project should fill out the **CSO Profile Form** enclosed to this invitation. The **Cover Letter**, signed by the head of the organisation, should confirm the interest to participate in the project activities as described above. Applications will be reviewed by a panel committee and applicants will be notified accordingly. UNDP may contact a CSO if more information is required. CSOs can send their questions to: info.az@undp.org no later than 16 April 2021 18:00 local time. Responses to the questions will be posted at UNDP Azerbaijan website.

The **Cover Letter** and completed **CSO Profile Form** should be sent to info.az@undp.org no later than **19 April 2021, by 18:00 by local time.**

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) Profile Form

Contact details

Name of Organisation:	
Address:	
Key/Contact person:	
Back-up contact person:	
Telephone:	
E-mail:	
Website/Facebook page/Other social media: <i>(Please, add the links)</i>	

Background Information

1	When was the organisation established?	
2	Who are the founders? <i>(Attach copy</i>	

	<i>of registration and statute, if available)</i>	
3	Governance structure: Management / Executive Board/other bodies and their role.	<i>Maximum 50 words</i>
4	What are the sources of funding (grants, profit from social business, membership fees, other)? List main donors of your organisation's activities.	
5	What is the objective/mission of the organisation?	<i>Maximum 50 words</i>
6	What are the main thematic areas of focus?	<i>Maximum 100 words</i>
7	What is the size of the organisation (number of staff -permanent and temporary)?	
8	Where is the organisation based and does it have branch offices? <i>If yes, please indicate the location.</i>	
9	Who are the organisation's target groups?	<i>Maximum 100 words</i>
10	What is the geographic coverage of the organisation's activities?	<i>Maximum 50 words</i>
11	List up to three main projects the organisation implemented in recent five years; describe the partners, major activities, target groups and geographic coverage of each project	<i>Maximum 250 words</i>
12	List up to three projects with the largest budget that your organisation has implemented. Please indicate the budget amount of each project and years of implementation.	
13	Do you have experience in implementing projects/initiatives in any of the priority themes below (please, check all that apply): (a) Gender equality and women empowerment <input type="checkbox"/> (b) Climate change and environment <input type="checkbox"/> (c) COVID-19 pandemic <input type="checkbox"/> (d) Animal rights <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, please provide brief description of each project in this section (<i>maximum 150 words per project</i>).	
14	List major partners from civil society,	<i>Maximum 100 words</i>

	government and private sector, and international organisations that your organisation cooperates with.	
15	<p>Which of the following factors affect the sustainability of your organisation's activities / programmes?</p> <p>(e) Access to funding <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(f) Staffing <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(g) Outreach <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(h) Community acceptance <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(i) For other, specify</p>	
16	<p>Do you have any experience in conducting research/ studies / assessments? Has your organisation contributed to policy discussion and policy formulation at the national and/or local level?</p> <p>If yes, please provide short description (<i>maximum 150 words per activity</i>).</p>	
17	<p>What are the major concerns and/or challenges of your target groups and communities that you could address through your work?</p> <p>What activities would support you to address the challenges you define?</p>	<i>Maximum 250 words</i>
18	Other relevant information	<i>Maximum 100 words</i>