

Call for Proposal (CFP)
Economic Empowerment of Rural Women
CFP No. 2018-03 GEF

Section 4: UN Women Terms of Reference

I. Introduction

UN Women is grounded in the vision of equality enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. UN Women works for the elimination of discrimination against women and girls, the empowerment of women and the achievement of equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of development. Placing women's rights at the centre of all its efforts, UN Women leads and coordinates United Nations system efforts to ensure that commitments on gender equality and gender mainstreaming translate into action throughout the world. It provides strong and coherent leadership in supporting national priorities and efforts, building effective partnerships with civil society and other relevant actors.

Through its programmes and projects, UN Women is providing technical assistance to national partners (governmental and non-governmental) in the implementation of existing international and national commitments to women's rights and gender equality, it facilitates networking and exchange of good practices and advocates for women's rights and gender equality in all areas of life.

In 2018, UN Women Programme Office in Serbia works towards selected development results in the framework of several projects to effectively coordinate and promote accountability for the implementation of gender equality commitments and advancing gender responsive policies and budgeting in Serbia. UN Women places a special focus on the position of vulnerable groups of women and is investing efforts in advocacy for their rights.

UN Women Programme Office in Serbia is implementing a three-year Project "Support to Priority Actions for Gender Equality in Serbia" (March 2018 – February 2021) that supports the Government of the Republic of Serbia in effective implementation of the EU Gender Equality Acquis and the National Strategy for Gender Equality 2016-2020 by contributing to the specific measures of the National Action Plan for Gender Equality 2016-2018 and through support to women CSOs. The project will address the Serbia EC Progress Report 2016 recommendation for the sustainable institutional set up for gender equality through support to the Coordination Body for Gender Equality to establish administrative structures and management systems that are needed for implementation and oversight of National Strategy for Gender Equality. Project plans a support to the Ministry of European Integration and institutions involved in programming of EU funds to include gender perspective in planning, and programming of assistance. The programme is funded by the European Commission within the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) II. UN Women will implement the Project in close cooperation with the Coordination Body for Gender Equality, the Ministry of European Integration, the EU Delegation in Serbia and other partner institutions and women's organisations.

Under the Result 3, The Project will support the implementation of the National Action Plan for Gender Equality 2016- 2018 (NAP) by contributing to the implementation of specific measures on the empowerment of women at the labour market, women entrepreneurship, and the empowerment of rural

women, through awarding grants to women's civil society organisation. This will be achieved through provision of technical assistance for ensuring that proper management and administration of grants is in place. Capacities of women's CSOs for implementation of awarded projects will be increased through organization of trainings and provision of technical assistance. The project will support, through granting mechanism, the women's civil society organisation in three programmatic areas of the National Action Plan for Gender Equality: a) women at the labour market; b) women entrepreneurship and c) rural women. Combining the exchange of knowledge and the implementation of the grants scheme, this action will capacitate women's CSOs to participate in community development in general, and to support targeted initiatives.

II. Description of required services/results

UN Women plans to engage Responsible Parties (women Civil Society Organizations/networks/ professional associations or agriculture cooperatives) to work towards the achievement of the Result 3 of the “Support to Priority Actions for Gender Equality in Serbia” Project, through implementation of measures on economic empowerment of rural women, in line with the NAP Specific Objective 2.5. *Women and men in rural areas actively and equally contribute to development and have equal access to development results.*

More specifically, organizations are expected to submit proposals with clear and specific statement of what the proposal will accomplish, description of approach and methodology and other details as per requirements stated in Annex B2-3 to this Call for Proposals (Template). Proposals are expected to show clear contribution to the implementation of one or more of the following measures and related activities envisioned by the NAP 2016-2018:

- Ensure that women have equal access to agricultural production resources (2.5.1.)
- Support rural women to develop entrepreneurial initiatives in the agricultural and non-agricultural sectors (2.5.2.)

Indicative areas of intervention under this call may include (list not exhaustive):

- Development, diversification and promotion of economic clusters and small and medium-sized business in rural areas;
- Provide support for rural women’s business start-ups and support improvement of rural women economic position through provision of equipment and small-scale items;
- Support establishment of rural women’s cooperatives and associations;
- Propose and implement measures to support rural development in Serbia to contribute to the better quality of life in rural areas;
- Support to green economy, organic farming, agri-tourism etc.;
- Support capacity development of rural women related to their social and economic rights and gender equality, and trainings on entrepreneurship and innovation in agricultural production;
- Support gender analysis of policies, incentives and measures to improve position of rural women, and increase capacities of rural women to apply for these programmes and funds through training and mentoring;
- Implementation of communication strategies, awareness raising and campaigning aimed at overcoming the stereotypes in relation to the roles of rural women, raise awareness on importance of property ownership etc.;
- Etc.

Proponents should clearly indicate an activity in the workplan with indicative budget to organize and/or participate in at least one event dedicated to discussion on the implementation of measures from the NAP and provide support for networking and exchange of best practice in the implementation.

III. Timeframe

The proposals are expected to cover a period of minimum 1 year/12 months to maximum 2 years/ 24 months.

IV. Budget Request

The proposed intervention size and budget request per project must fall between a minimum indicative amount of EUR 20.000 and a maximum amount of EUR 30.000. Budget proposal should be submitted in the local currency, Republic of Serbia Diner. All currency exchanges should be calculated using the UN Operational Exchange Rate as per the date of submission of proposal available at: <https://treasury.un.org/operationalrates/OperationalRates.php>

V. Competencies

a. Technical/functional competencies required;

Requirements of Project Manager:

- Education: Degree in gender studies, law, economy, management, international relations, political sciences, social sciences, or others;
- Work experience: At least 3 years on experience in management of projects related to economic empowerment of women and/or gender equality;
- Language: Serbian. Knowledge of English.

b. Other competencies, which while not required, can be an asset for the performance of services:

- Good knowledge of gender equality and women's rights issues, as well as needs of vulnerable and multi-discriminated groups of women;
- Knowledge on Serbian legal framework related to gender equality;
- Previous experience working with United Nations.