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Call for Applications for Small Grants for Women’s Civil Society Organizations (CSO) and Women-Led CSOs under the ‘Strengthening civil society capacities and multi-stakeholder partnerships to advance women’s rights and gender equality in Turkey’ project implemented by UN Women

Advertisement No. TUR- SG –2021- 001

Issue date: 15 June 2021

Application deadline: 30 July 2021 by midnight Turkey local time

An information meeting for the potential applicants will be held on-line on 25 June 2021 between 14.00-16.00 Turkey local time. Please register for the meeting from the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwvdu2hrjMsE9Omj080f4nIDik1CYRAA4gX>

The link to the online meeting will only be provided to the registered participants.

Minimum budget: USD 2,500

Maximum budget: USD 30,000

Duration: Up to 12 months

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) Turkey Office plans to award Small Grants to eligible Civil Society Organizations (CSO) in the range of USD 2,500 to USD 30,000. Small Grants are intended exclusively to finance a limited range of eligible activities to support the development or strengthening of women’s civil society organizations (CSO) and women-led CSOs’ institutional capacities. UN Women invites eligible applicants to submit Small Grants applications for the eligible activities, as elaborated in this advertisement. UN Women will consider awarding several Small Grants.

This advertisement forms the basis for applying for Small Grants. It must neither be construed as a Small Grant agreement nor as a confirmation of a Small Grant awarded by UN Women to any entity. Consequently, UN Women is not liable for any financial obligations, or otherwise, incurred by any entity in responding to this advertisement. UN Women will not approve such costs as part of any Small Grant budget, and an awardee must not use the Small Grant to cover such costs.



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UN Women solicits applications for Small Grants from women's CSOs and women-led CSOs legally established and operating in Turkey.

Women-led civil society organizations are those CSOs which are managed and led by women and serve primarily the interests of women and/or girls.

The applications should target institutional capacity development or strengthening of the CSO for which the application is made. The applicants should be working in fields that pertain to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), in particular SDG Goal no 5 'Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.' and its related targets in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development¹. More specifically, the applicants should be operating in at least one of the following fields:

- Ending all forms of discrimination against all women and girls, including those facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination.
- Eliminating all forms of violence against all women and girls.
- Eliminating all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriages.
- Women's unpaid care and domestic work.
- Women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels.
- Women's economic empowerment.
- Women's access to enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology.
- Advocating for sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality, women's rights and women's empowerment.
- Women's access to justice.
- Male engagement in gender equality.
- Women's participation and leadership in sports.
- Women's poverty.
- Advancing women's and girls' leadership, participation and equally benefiting from all aspects of peace, security, disaster risk reduction, and humanitarian action.

The applications should exclusively address the development or strengthening of women's CSOs' and women-led CSOs' institutional capacities. Up to 15% of the total available budget for the

¹ Please visit <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/> for more information regarding the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Development Goals.



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Small Grants will be awarded to CSOs working to advance the rights and needs of Syrian women and girls under temporary protection or those seeking international protection. The requested amount of the Small Grant must be indicated in **Turkish Liras**.

This Call for Applications is launched in the context of the 'Strengthening civil society capacities and multi-stakeholder partnerships to advance women's rights and gender equality in Turkey' project implemented by UN Women Turkey with the financial support of European Union.

CSOs wishing to apply to this Call for Applications are requested to send their submission through email at the following address: turkey.procurement@unwomen.org by 30 July 2021 Turkey midnight time.

UN Women will not consider applications sent by any other means or to different addresses.



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1. Introduction and Background

UN Women (the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women), grounded in the vision of equality enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, 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, human rights, humanitarian action and peace and security. In Turkey, in line with its global [Strategic Plan 2018-2021](#), UN Women works towards three overarching goals: 1) Women lead, participate in, and benefit equally from governance systems; 2) All women and girls live a life free from all forms of violence; 3) Women and girls contribute to and have greater influence in building sustainable peace and resilience and benefit equally from the prevention of natural disasters and conflicts and humanitarian action.

The project ‘Strengthening civil society capacities and multi-stakeholder partnerships to advance women’s rights and gender equality in Turkey’ implemented by UN Women Turkey Office between April 2021 and March 2024 with funding from the European Union aims to reduce gender inequalities by enhancing the ability of civil society organizations (CSOs) to be agents of transformative change towards gender equality and women’s rights. The specific objective of the project is “Women’s rights groups, women-led CSOs and other relevant rights based CSOs, including those representing youth and groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization, more effectively influence the gender equality and women’s empowerment agenda at the national and local levels.”

One of the outputs of the project is that ‘Women’s rights/women-led CSOs and other relevant rights-based CSOs in Turkey have increased resources and capacities to advance the rights of women and girls in fields where gender gaps persist in line with Turkey’s national and international commitments and in consideration of COVID-19 impacts.’

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by all UN Member states in 2015 embody a roadmap for progress that is sustainable and leaves no one behind. Goal 5 ‘Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls’ sets targets for the elimination of all kinds of discrimination and violence against women and advancement of women’s status in terms of political participation/decision making, technology, sexual and reproductive health services and equality in unpaid care and domestic work.

Women’s civil society organizations are key for the achievement of SDG Goal 5 and related targets of the other SDGs, and to realise the principle of leaving no one behind, which is the central, transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The implementation



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efforts of the SDGs benefit from the knowledge, experience and leadership of women's rights and gender equality advocates at all levels. Recent developments across the world pose risks for women's CSOs with regards to access to funding, as well as their meaningful participation and leadership in the realization of the SDGs, advancing women's rights, gender equality and women's empowerment, in particular amid the Covid-19 pandemic. For example, the pandemic had profound effects on the operations of CSOs delivering specialist services for ending violence against women². The pandemic is expected to have a negative economic impact on the resources of civil society in the form of reduced donations³.

UN Women, as the global standard bearer for gender equality, born of civil society activism, has a unique relationship of deep mutuality with civil society and supports women's CSOs to stay relevant, and be agile, resilient and sustainable agents of change in ever-changing, complex contexts, as well as to expand and diversify constituencies for gender equality. UN Women in Turkey supports and engages with women's CSOs as key advocacy, knowledge and implementing partners in advancing women's rights.

Turkey has an influential, diverse and active women's movement, and a vibrant civil society, committed to leaving no one behind by involving and reaching out to diverse and vulnerable groups of women. Over the past years women's CSOs in Turkey have played a key role in strengthening the legal and policy framework on gender equality through engaging with both duty bearers and right-holders. However, as in other parts of the world, women's CSOs in Turkey are facing a number of challenges hindering their organizational capacities and spaces to operate.

In its latest Concluding Observation on the seventh periodic report of Turkey, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women specifically referred to the need for collaboration with civil society to educate the public and raise awareness of the negative impact of discriminatory stereotypes on women's enjoyment of their human rights⁴

Against this backdrop, in the context of the aforementioned project UN Women intends to provide Small Grants of maximum USD 30,000 to up to 30 women's CSOs and women-led CSOs operating in fields referred to under section 2 below, aiming at strengthening and developing their capacities.

² Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on specialist services for victims and survivors of violence in the Western Balkans and Turkey: A proposal for addressing the needs, UN Women 2020. <https://eca.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2020/05/impact-of-the-covid-19-pandemic-on-specialist-services-for-victims-and-survivors-of-violence>

³ UN Turkey, COVID-19 Socio-Economic Impact Assessment Report available at <https://turkey.un.org/en/126064-un-turkey-socio-economic-impact-assessment-report>

⁴ Concluding observations on the 7th periodic report of Turkey : Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/840825>



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The Small Grants will allow for the increased engagement and empowerment of CSOs of varying sizes and capacities, based in different locations and those that cannot access large-scale funding.

2. Who may apply?

The applicants must be a women's civil society organization or a women-led civil society organization legally established and operating in Turkey.

To be considered a "women's civil society organization", the organization must demonstrate that its core work is in the field of women's rights, gender equality or women's empowerment. The organization's official mission and vision statements must reflect its commitment to pursuing gender equality, women's rights or empowering women and girls.

Women-led civil society organizations are those CSOs which are managed and led by women and serve primarily the interests of women and/or girls.

The applicants should enclose copies of their statutes to their application.

The applicant may apply if it:

- is a registered CSO in operation for at least three years;
- is not on the Consolidated UN Security Council Sanctions List 5;
- is not being investigated for fraud, corruption, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or other wrongdoing;
- has not had funding received from UN Women entirely or partly written off by UN Women;
- is not currently engaged as an Implementing Partner (IP) or Responsible Party (RP) for UN Women;
- has not been engaged as an IP/RP for UN Women at any time after 21 November 2019;
- is not a government entity;
- is not a UN organization;
- is not an established CSO with the capacity to be engaged as an Implementing Partner/Responsible Party;
- has sufficient capacity to collaborate with various stakeholders;
- has sufficient financial stewardship, including having adequate financial policies and procedures in place to manage the Small Grant; and,

⁵ <https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/un-sc-consolidated-list>



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- past performance has been deemed satisfactory by UN Women (if it has received Small Grants previously or been engaged as an IP/RP before 21 November 2019).

The applicants must be operating in one or more of the following areas which are related to the targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 5 'Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls' and related targets in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:

- Ending all forms of discrimination against all women and girls, including those facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination.
- Eliminating all forms of violence against all women and girls.
- Eliminating all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriages.
- Women's unpaid care and domestic work.
- Women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels.
- Women's economic empowerment.
- Women's access to enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology.
- Advocating for sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality, women's rights and women's empowerment.
- Women's access to justice.
- Male engagement in gender equality.
- Women's participation and leadership in sports.
- Women's poverty.
- Advancing women's and girls' leadership, participation and equally benefiting from all aspects of peace, security, disaster risk reduction, and humanitarian action.

Applications should demonstrate in the applications their organizational approach to the principle of leaving no one behind and in addressing intersecting forms of vulnerabilities (women with disabilities, Roma women, rural women, migrant women, etc.).

3. Eligible activities

The applicants may apply for a Small Grant to cover the following activities:

1. introducing and improving organizational systems, tools, and processes;
2. training of workforce in technical and managerial skills;



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3. supporting with equipment such as copiers, scanners, printers, laptops and computers as long as the cost of such equipment is limited to 30% of the proposed Small Grant budget or USD 5,000, whichever is lower.

The purpose of Small Grants is not to finance the delivery of a programmatic or project activity.

Applicants should demonstrate how their proposal will address the organizational challenges faced due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

There is no geographical limitation regarding the location and base of operation of the applicants.

The implementation of the Small Grant must be completed within 12 months after signing the Small Grant Agreement for the purposes of this call.

The CSOs awarded with Small Grants will benefit from further capacity development support, experience sharing, networking, dialogue, solidarity and coalition building activities to be organized by UN Women.

4. Application

An application must contain all relevant information showing that the applicant and the proposed activities are eligible. **All applications must be submitted in English or Turkish.** The actual agreement and all mandatory annexes shall be in English. Hand-written applications will not be accepted.

Please use the attached application (Annex 1) form when submitting your application. The applicants should enclose:

- copy of their statutes,
- a registration certificate evidencing that the applicant is a registered CSO that has been in operation for three years.

The requested amount of the Small Grant must be indicated in Turkish Liras.

UN Women will reject any application that does not contain sufficient information to demonstrate that the application or the activities are eligible.



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UN Women will organize an information meeting open to all interested potential applicants. The meeting will be organized on-line on 25 June 2021 between 14.00-16.00 Turkey local time. Please register for the meeting from the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwvdu2hrjMsE9Omi080f4nIDik1CYRAA4gX>

The link to the online meeting will only be provided to the registered participants.

The application must be received by UN-Women via e-mail at turkey.procurement@unwomen.org not later than 30 July 2021 Turkey midnight time. UN Women will not consider applications sent by any other means or to different addresses. Applications sent by any other means or to different addresses are not considered.

5. Review Criteria

The applicant must:

- propose eligible activities that develop or strengthen the institutional capacity of the applicant and are consistent with this Call for Applications;
- not propose to use the Small Grant to provide an activity/output on behalf of UN Women, civil construction work, engineering work, purchases of vehicles or other tangible or intangible property, except for copiers, scanners, printers, laptops, and computers;
- not propose to use more than 30% of the Small Grant or USD5000, whichever is lower, to purchase copiers, scanners, printers, laptops, and computers;
- propose a timeline that is no longer than 12 months and eligible activities that are feasible to accomplish within 12 months, including political, security, logistical considerations;
- not propose to cover its indirect costs/support costs with the Small Grant;
- not make a direct profit from the Small Grant;
- not propose to cover costs incurred or committed prior to a signed Small Grant Agreement;
- propose eligible activities sustainably supporting the applicant;
- propose eligible activities where the applicant has the capacity to reach the target audience; and,
- propose a budget that is cost-effective given the eligible activities, the number of targeted beneficiaries, and the proposed location.



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6. Award

UN Women will evaluate applications that meet all the criteria. UN Women will award the Small Grants to the applicants that best contribute to the objectives referred to under this call. Successful applicants are informed in writing of UN Women’s decision to award the Small Grant. Prior to the award of the Small Grant, UN Women and the Small Grant awardee shall jointly prepare a ‘Small Grant Utilization Plan’. The award is conditional on the applicant agreeing to the terms and conditions set forth in UN Women’s Small Grant Agreement and the award is automatically rescinded if the applicant doesn’t agree to these terms and conditions.

Up to 15% of the total available budget for the Small Grants will be awarded to CSOs working to advance the rights and needs of Syrian women and girls under temporary protection or those seeking international protection.

7. Reporting Requirements

Awarded Small Grantees shall submit combined financial and progress reports indicating the expenditure and progress on the performance of the Small Grant Agreement.

If the amount of the Small Grant is USD 10,000 or less, the Small Grantee shall submit a combined financial and progress report at the end of the Small Grant Agreement.

If the amount of the Small Grant is above USD 10,000USD, the Small Grantee shall submit a mid-term and a final combined financial and progress report.

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Annex I Application Form

Advertisement No. TUR – SG - 2021-01

CSO/Applicant details	
Name and registration number	
Mandate of the CSO	
CSO staff focal point and alternate	<i>(Please insert full name, title, e-mail address, telephone number)</i>
Proof of registration enclosed	<i>Yes/No</i>
Statutes of the CSO enclosed	<i>Yes/No</i>
Application details	
Proposal title	
Small Grant Amount	<i>(Please provide the amount in Turkish Liras)</i>
Duration and proposed start date	<i>(Please state the duration in months, noting that the maximum duration is 12 months from the “Effective stating date”)</i>
Background	
Main objectives/Results to achieve	
Thematic Focus and Priorities	
Geographical area	



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Activities (list them 1.,2.,) and related expected timeframe	
How are the activities supporting the development or strengthening of the CSO's institutional capacity?	

Declaration by the Authorized Representative of the Applicant Organization:

Through submitting this application, I confirm that:

- a) The Organization is not on the Consolidated UN Security Council Sanctions List;
- b) The Organization is not being investigated for fraud, corruption, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or other wrongdoing;
- c) The Organization is not currently engaged as a Partner of UN Women through a Project Cooperation Agreement;
- d) The proposal for the small grant does not aim to cover the Support Costs of a project implemented by the Organization;
- e) The Organization will not make a direct profit from the small grant;
- f) The Organization is not proposing to cover costs incurred or committed prior to a signed Small Grant Agreement.

Date:

Name:

Stamp and signature: