

## Request for Proposals (RFP)

RFP#005

Small Grants Program

Target Province: Herat

**Announcement Date: 11 September, 2024**

**Closing Date: 20 September, 2024**

### Introduction:

The Small Grants Program seeks to support community-driven initiatives that foster dispute resolution, community cohesion, and sustainable development. Our program emphasizes peacebuilding, social inclusion, and the empowerment of marginalized groups. Eligible organizations are encouraged to submit proposals that align with our core objectives.

### Program Objectives:

1. **Conflict Resolution:** Promote peacebuilding and reconciliation within communities through effective conflict resolution, mediation.
2. **Community Cohesion:** Support cultural, educational, and recreational programs that enhance social cohesion, including community dialogues and forums addressing local issues.
3. **Support for Local Civil Society Organizations:** Strengthen the capacity of local civil society organizations by funding initiatives focused on advocacy, capacity building, and addressing local needs.
4. **Sustainable Development:** Fund projects that promote environmental sustainability, including sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, and conservation efforts.
5. **Empowerment of Marginalized Groups:** Support projects that empower vulnerable populations by promoting access to justice, skills training, economic empowerment.

**Note:** The priority will be given to the proposals with the hard components.

### Enriched Idea Generation Model for Small Grants Program:

The Idea Generation Model is an essential part of the Small Grants Program, aimed at ensuring that community-driven initiatives are not only identified but also developed in a way that resonates with the community's needs and aspirations. This model prioritizes active engagement and collaboration with local leaders and community talents, fostering a sense of ownership and shared purpose. Here's a more relatable and community centered description of each step in the model:

1. **Community Engagement:** Start by reaching out to the target community with genuine interest. Building trust and rapport is essential; it's about listening and understanding the

unique dynamics and needs of the community. This foundation is crucial for fostering meaningful participation and ensuring that everyone feels valued.

2. **Identification of Leaders and Talents:** Look for key community leaders and local talents who can advocate for and support the initiatives. These individuals often possess invaluable insights into the community's challenges and strengths, and their involvement can support the proposed initiatives.
3. **Focus Group Discussions:** Organize focus group discussions that invite a variety of voices from the community. These sessions should aim to explore pressing issues and brainstorm potential solutions, ensuring that everyone's perspective is heard and respected. This inclusive approach helps to create a sense of belonging and shared responsibility.
4. **Presentation of Peace-Building Initiatives:** Develop a tailored menu of potential peace-building initiatives that resonate with the community's needs. When presenting these ideas, emphasize how they can effectively address local conflicts and foster a sense of unity. This helps the community see the relevance of the initiatives to their daily lives.
5. **Brainstorming Sessions:** Facilitate brainstorming sessions that encourage creativity and collaboration among community members. These sessions should be lively and open, allowing participants to express their ideas freely. The goal is to generate innovative solutions that reflect the community's hopes and aspirations.
6. **Documentation of Ideas:** Carefully document the ideas generated during the brainstorming sessions. This record will serve as a valuable reference when developing project proposals, ensuring that community input is woven into the planning process. It's important that community members see their contributions acknowledged and valued.
7. **Community Approval:** Finally, seek the community's approval for the proposed initiatives. Gaining community buy-in is crucial for the success and sustainability of any initiative. When community members feel a sense of ownership and commitment to the initiatives, they are more likely to engage actively and support the efforts.

#### **Eligibility Criteria:**

1. **Applicant Profile:**
  - Registered Non-Profit Organizations, Community Groups, or Local Civil Society Organizations operating in the target provinces.
  - Demonstrated commitment to community betterment, conflict resolution, and social cohesion.
2. **Project Relevance:**
  - Alignment with program objectives of an access to justice project.
  - Clearly defined goals and measurable outcomes.
3. **Impact Potential:**
  - Potential for significant positive impact on the community.
  - Projects should include metrics for success and sustainability.
4. **Innovation and Creativity:**
  - Proposals should demonstrate innovative solutions to local challenges and have the potential for scalability or replication in other communities.
5. **Collaboration and Partnerships:**

- Projects must engage local stakeholders and form partnerships that enhance project effectiveness and sustainability.

#### **Application Process:**

##### **1. Proposal Submission:**

Applicants must submit a complete application form, along with a detailed project proposal outlining the project's objectives, methodology, budget, and timeline. Proposals can be submitted in Dari, Pashtu, or English. Supporting documents, such as proof of organizational registration, should also be included.

##### **2. Capacity-Building Support:**

AWEC will offer capacity-building support to selected organizations in project management, financial management, and monitoring and evaluation to ensure successful implementation.

##### **3. Review and Evaluation:**

- Proposals will undergo an initial screening for eligibility.
- A selection committee will conduct a detailed evaluation based on the criteria outlined above.

##### **4. Interviews and Site Visits:**

Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed, and site visits may be conducted for projects with significant community involvement or logistical considerations.

#### **Timeline:**

- **Submission Deadline:** 20<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024

#### **Grant Details:**

- **Budget Allocation per Project:** 1,000 - 3,000 Euro, Equivalent to 75,000 - 227,000 AFN.
- Funds will be disbursed according to the agreed schedule, following the signing of a grant agreement.

#### **How to Submit:**

Please send your application to [logistic@awec.info](mailto:logistic@awec.info) and CC [abdullah.alishangi@awec.info](mailto:abdullah.alishangi@awec.info)

#### **Contact Information:**

For any questions or assistance during the application process, please contact us on below phone numbers:

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