

Support to local organizations/groups of citizens/CSOs in their *ad hoc* actions/activities in the fight against corruption

within the framework of the project PACT against corruption (Partnership against Corrupt Tendencies)

GUIDELINE FOR APPLICANTS OF ACTIVITY PROPOSALS



1. INTRODUCTION

The project **PACT against corruption (Partnership against Corrupt Tendencies)** aims to enhance the functional rule of law and increase the level of accountability of the authorities in Montenegro by addressing the corruption issue. More specifically, the project aims to strengthen institutional and alternative mechanisms for detecting and suppressing corruption among public officials, while at the same time strengthening the citizens' awareness of various forms of corruption and the harm caused by its tolerance, especially in areas such as **education, health, local government, security,** and **justice**.

Despite certain, although limited, steps taken in the direction of improving the legislative and institutional framework for combating corruption, corruption remains widespread in Montenegro. The implementation of existing mechanisms to fight corruption remains weak, often inversely proportional to the promising narrative about the need to suppress corruption. Noticeable are the double standards and the lack of effective and impartial application of anti-corruption measures. The high level of perceived corruption in Montenegro further erodes trust in institutions. Therefore, this persistent challenge represents a significant obstacle in the process of democratization and Europeanization of Montenegro, highlighting the need for a decisive and systemic approach, as well as multi-sectoral action in which all citizens can make a significant contribution.

The CfP is announced as part of the PACT Against Corruption project (Partnership Against Corruptive Tendencies) project, supported by the Embassy of the United States of America in Montenegro, the Bureau of the State Department Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement (INL).

2. OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF THE CALL

The **overall objective** of the Call is to encourage and strengthen the activism of citizens, by providing financial and technical support to local organizations/groups of citizens/CSOs in their *ad hoc* activities in the fight against corruption in the fields of *education, health, local government, security,* and *justice*.

3. PRIORITIES AND ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

The Call will support specific actions/activities that address current challenges in the fight against corruption in five key fields - **education**, **health**, **local government**, **security**, **and justice**. This includes all those activities that will address or solve individual problems from one of the five mentioned fields and which (in)directly affect the lives of citizens. These activities must align with real needs, but also with pressing problems, which can be contributed through this type of support. Individual activities should aim for a higher degree of involvement of citizens in their implementation, and applicants have the opportunity to design the actions/activities that they consider most effective.



This Call will not support individual sponsorships, scholarships, activities of political parties, activities of religious organizations, activities that discriminate against individuals or groups, and activities aimed at making a profit. Additionally, retroactive activities cannot be supported through this Call.

4. FINANCIAL ASPECT OF THE CALL

A total amount of **€12,000.00** will be allocated through this Call.

Proposed actions/activities will be supported by various amounts, ranging from a minimum of **€500** to a maximum of **€2,500**, as long as the planned amount is fully utilized.

5. RULES OF THE CALL

5.1. Who can apply?

The right to participate in this Call have the local organizations/groups of citizens/CSOs of a non-profit nature, which will be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the supported actions/activities.

5.4. Implementation place

The place of implementation of *ad-hoc* actions/activities must be **Montenegro**, and local organizations/groups of citizens/CSOs are encouraged to include less developed areas of Montenegro.

5.6. Duration of implementation of ad-hoc activities

Supported actions/activities can last from 2 to 4 months.

5.7. How to apply?

Those interested are obliged to submit a filled **application package**, which consists of an application form and a budget proposal in an **electronic version**, to the address <u>info@cgo-cce.org</u>, with the subject "**THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS - PACT against corruption**".

Incomplete proposals for ad-hoc actions/activities, proposals submitted on inappropriate forms, or in some other way not prescribed by this Call, will not be taken into consideration.

5.8. Deadline for submitting applications

The Call is permanently open with the indication that received proposals will be reviewed quarterly.



<u>The first review</u> of received proposals and decision-making – the end of March 2024 <u>The second review</u> of received proposals and decision-making – the end of June 2024 <u>The third review</u> of received proposals and decision-making - the end of September 2024 <u>The fourth review</u> of received proposals and decision-making – the end of December 2024

5.9 Additional information on submitting applications

If necessary, additional information can be obtained by sending questions to <u>info@cgo-cce.org</u>, with the subject of the e-mail: "THE CALL - PACT against corruption _question".

Note: To ensure equal treatment of applicants, the CCE cannot give an opinion on the content of the project proposal.

Questions that may be relevant for other applicants of ad-hoc actions/activities, together with answers and important notes for applicants, will be published on the CCE website, after receiving an adequate number of questions and processed in the form of *Clarifications*.

6. EVALUATION AND APPLICATION SELECTION PROCESS

The evaluation of applications for proposals for ad-hoc activities will take place in **two phases**.

<u>The first phase</u> of the process will include an administrative check of the received documentation with established criteria. Ad-hoc activities that pass the administrative review phase will go to <u>the second</u> <u>phase</u>. The second phase includes the evaluation of applications by the Managing Board, according to the **evaluation table**, which is part of this Guide.

Evaluation table

Section	Maximum points
1. Relevance of the action	23
1.1 Is the <i>ad hoc</i> action/activity relevant to the overall objective defined by the Call?	8
1.2 How clearly are the target groups and final beneficiaries defined? To what extent is the ad-hoc action/activity in line with the needs of the target groups?	10
1.3. Is the <i>ad hoc</i> action/activity based on a robust assessment and analysis of the problem it addresses?	5
2. Objectives and results	5
2.1 Are the objectives and results of the <i>ad hoc</i> action/activity clearly defined and aligned with the objectives of the Call?	5
3. Feasibility	5
3.1 Is the proposed ad hoc activity adequate, feasible, and in line with the objectives of the Call?	5
4. Technical and operational capacities	10
4.1 Does the applicant have the capacity to implement <i>ad hoc</i> actions/activities?	5
4.2 Does the applicant have the capacity for administrative management?	5



6. Budget	7
6.1 Is the ad-hoc activity appropriately reflected in the budget?	4
6.2 Is the ratio between estimated costs and estimated results satisfactory?	3
Maximum total score	50

Once all the ad-hoc actions/activities proposals have been assessed, up to five of those with the highest scoring will be supported during each decision cycle.

The list of supported ad-hoc actions/activities will be published on the website <u>www.cgo-cce.org/</u>.