



**FOUNDATION FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
THE BULGARIAN ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP FOUNDATION**

**ANNOUNCES A SECOND CALL FOR PROPOSALS  
WITHIN THE NGO FUND – BULGARIA 2008-2010 UNDER THE EEA FINANCIAL  
MECHANISM**

**1. SCOPE AND OBJECTIVE**

The NGO Fund in Bulgaria is part of the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism. The goal of the NGO Fund in Bulgaria is to strengthen civil society in the country by supporting projects under the priority areas described below. The main objective of the EEA Financial Mechanism is to support economic and social development of Bulgaria as a member of the European Economic Area in line with the national priorities and the agreements with the EU.

**2. TYPE OF ASSISTANCE AND SIZE OF GRANTS**

The assistance under the NGO Fund is provided in the form of grants for eligible projects. The total amount to be distributed under the NGO Fund until 2010 is EUR 1 858 000. The total amount available for this call is EUR 868 893.

*Size of grants under the second call for applications*

Priority area 1: **10 000 – 75 000 Euro;**

Priority area 2: **10 000 – 50 000 Euro;**

Priority area 3: **10 000 – 50 000 Euro;**

**3. DURATION OF PROJECTS**

The maximum duration of projects submitted under this call is 15 months.

**4. PRIORITY AREAS**

Grants shall be available for projects falling within the priority areas listed below as one application should relate to only one priority area. Applications must refer to at least one focus area within the respective priority area. An applicant may submit only one application per call. Organizations funded under the first call for proposals within the NGO Fund are not allowed to submit project proposals under the second call. The same is valid for project partners funded under the first call for proposals within the NGO Fund.

**Priority area 1: Protection of the environment and promotion of sustainable development**

Budget available for this priority area under this call is **EUR 334 447.**

**1.1. Conservation of biodiversity of species and their habitats**

Prevention and reduction of biodiversity loss and conservation and management of habitats and protected areas. Improvement of the status of habitats through development and implementation of management plans for the territories, improved coordination between NGOs, state administration

and business representatives. Sustainable management of water basins, wetlands and river systems; prevention and early warning and management of the risk of natural disasters.

### **1.2. Use of alternative energy and transport sources**

Promotion of sustainable energy (efficiency) practices and implementation of measures, stimulating RES and energy efficiency in public buildings. Sustainable use of energy resources and promotion of alternative energy sources. Promotion of sustainable transport and transport systems (e.g. carpool, development of sustainable transport plans at local level and their implementation), etc.

### **1.3. Biological agriculture, cattle breeding and fishery**

Promotion of practices of biological agriculture, cattle breeding and fishery through certification and encouraging autochthonous breeds and traditional sorts, use of biological methods of production, promotion of agrienvironmental measures among farmers and cattle breeders. Promotion and revival of local sorts.

## **Priority area 2: Provision and development of social services, such as in health and childcare**

Budget available for this priority area under this call is **EUR 316 171**.

- 2.1. Introduction and development of multidisciplinary and multi-institutional approach to decision-making in delivery of social services for vulnerable groups;
- 2.2. Development of complex social services such as medical, professional and social rehabilitation for people with mental and physical disabilities (including children);
- 2.3. Inclusion of children with disabilities in natural environments with peers without disabilities;
- 2.4. Prevention of child abandonment and placement in institutions,
- 2.5. Reduction and prevention of lifestyle-related diseases;
- 2.6. Development and delivery of services for children and adolescents with antisocial and risk behavior aimed at reducing aggression in the community and handling age-related problems;
- 2.7. Actions to improve mental health

## **Priority area 3: Development of civil society and protection of human rights**

Budget available for this priority area under this call is **EUR 218 275**.

- 3.1. Mechanisms for civic influence and control over activities of public administration;
- 3.2. Involving citizens in policy formulation and application and decision-making on issues of community importance;
- 3.3. Encouraging the respect for and observance of human rights and freedoms including their protection;
- 3.4. Prevention of trafficking in women and children;
- 3.5. Securing access to information and communication technologies, legal advice and fair trial for victims of human rights violation;
- 3.6. Development and application of conflict resolution techniques and methods aimed at combating all forms of discrimination

## **5. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**

Eligible applicants are NGOs registered in Bulgaria. In respect of the EEA Financial Mechanism, the EEA EFTA states use the term NGO to include:

- a) voluntary, self-governing organizations not subject to direction by public authorities,

- independent of political control and established under the legal system of the beneficiary state (e.g. foundations, associations, charities, societies, trusts, etc.);
- b) social partners (employers organizations and trade unions); and
  - c) certain independent organizations enjoying a specific legal status (e.g. the national Red Cross societies).

The definition does not include political parties or churches. The NGOs should be organizations functioning on a not-for-profit basis.

**This definition includes:**

- All non-governmental organizations registered under the national Law on Non-Profit Legal Entities;
- The Community centers (Chitalishta), registered under the Law on Narodni Chitalishta;
- The Bulgarian Red Cross

**6. CO-FINANCING CEILINGS**

The applicants must provide minimum 10,00 % and maximum 50,00 % co-financing (financial and in-kind) as of the total project eligible costs. In-kind contribution must not exceed 50,00 % of the co-financing and 20,00 % of the total eligible costs.

**7. PROCEDURE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS – FORMAL REQUIREMENTS:**

- 7.1. Applicants must fill in an Application Form and Budget Form in accordance with the requirements of the Guidelines for Applicants. The application package is available on <http://ngofund.flgr.bg>.
- 7.2. Supporting documents which are relevant to the priority areas and type of projects shall be attached to the application. The list of necessary supporting documents can be viewed at and downloaded from the above mentioned website.
- 7.3. The application must be submitted in Bulgarian in 3 hard copies (1 original and 2 copies), as well as in an electronic format (CD) identical to the hard copy.
- 7.4. The envelope containing the application must be marked “NGO Fund – call for proposals 2009”.

**8. DEADLINE AND ADDRESS FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS**

Applications shall be submitted in a sealed, intact envelope/box as letter/parcel by registered or express mail, by courier, in person or by post to the relevant address indicated below:

**For projects under priority area 1:**

Bulgarian Environmental Partnership Foundation  
13 “Felix Kanits” Str.  
1612 Sofia, Bulgaria

**For projects under priority areas 2 and 3:**

Foundation for Local Government Reform  
1 Mladost, “Yerusalim” str., bl. 51, entr. B  
Business building, fl.2, office 2  
1784 Sofia, Bulgaria

Applications sent by any other means (e.g. by fax or by e-mail) will be rejected.

All applications must be received at the respective offices by **June 19, 2009 (17.00 local time)**.

## **9. REFERENCE DOCUMENTATION FOR THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

The main reference documentation for the call for proposals is as follows:

- Guidelines for Applicants (NGO Fund - Bulgaria) as of April, 2009

General Guides for the EEA Grants:

- Good Governance and Anticorruption Policy and Guide
- Gender Equality Policy and Guide
- Sustainable Development Policy and Guide
- Publicity Guidelines

The above documentation can be found at: <http://ngofund.flgr.bg> and [www.eeagrants.org](http://www.eeagrants.org)

Additional documentation on the EEA Financial Mechanism is also available on the web site of the EEA Financial Mechanism Office: [www.eeagrants.org](http://www.eeagrants.org).

## **10. APPLICABLE CURRENCY**

Budgets must be submitted in euro.

## **11. CONTACT INFORMATION**

For further information and clarifications you can contact FLGR and BEPF.

Questions may be sent through the Frequently Asked Questions section on <http://ngofund.flgr.bg>, by e-mail or by fax to the contacts below. Phone consultations are not allowed. Reply will be sent within 5 calendar days. An archive of FAQ and answers can be found at <http://ngofund.flgr.bg>.

### **FOUNDATION FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM**

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