Southeast Europe - Together Against Corruption (SEE-TAC)

## Call for Proposals for Anti-corruption Public Awareness Initiatives

## **Call for Proposals for Anti-corruption Public Awareness Initiatives**

The Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative (RAI) is pleased to announce its grant program *The Best Anti-Corruption Public Awareness Initiatives*, executed in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and funded by the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC), under auspices of the Regional Programme *Southeast Europe Together Against Corruption (SEE-TAC)*. This Call for Proposals (Call) is open to civil society organizations (CSOs) and CSO networks based and operating in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo\*, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia.

The grant program aims to support <u>short-term CSO efforts</u> in raising awareness about the implementation of United Nations Convention against Corruption (<u>UNCAC</u>) and its thematic areas, as well as about other anti-corruption thematic areas, while strengthening partnerships with local public institutions and the private sector to form CSO-public-private partnership.

Applicants may form a co-partnership/consortium with other CSOs registered in the same target jurisdiction in order to successfully implement the project.

Mobilisation and engagement of the public around anti-corruption topics, especially those related to the UNCAC, will be fostered through the implementation of initiatives that would require establishment of partnerships between the civil society, public institutions and the private sector.

The grant program will support at least 7 CSOs-led anti-corruption awareness raising initiatives, at least one per each jurisdiction from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo\*, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia.

<u>Grant amounts</u> per project will range from EUR 7,000 to EUR 9,500, with at least 20% co-financing by the applicant.

<u>Implementation</u> of projects should start as soon as possible, but not later than March 1, 2022.

<u>Duration</u> of projects shall range from 8 to 12 months

Proposals may focus on one or more of the following priority areas:

- Raise awareness about the implementation of UNCAC;
- Promote and demystify corruption-prevention mechanisms;
- Educate the public about the whistleblower protection;
- Raise awareness on impact of corruption on gender equality;
- Corruption and its environmental impact.

<sup>\*</sup> This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

Project proposals with transformative effect, demonstrating a high level of innovation and sustainability will be given a priority.

For details on eligibility, application requirements and guidelines for applying, please consult the **Grant Manual**.

This call for proposals will remain open until the available funds are used up or until the relevant projects have been identified in line with set indicators and other requirements. Submitted project proposals will be evaluated at least once at the end of each one-month calendar period. The first deadline for submission of full project proposals is September 30 2021 (23:59 CEST), as evidenced by the date of receipt of the submission email. The following cut-off dates for evaluation of received applications will be October 31, 2021 (23:59 CEST) and November 30, 2021 (23:59 CET) as the final deadline for submission of project proposals. Any application submitted after the deadline will be automatically rejected.

<u>Information on remaining eligible jurisdictions and focus areas shall be updated after every</u> evaluation round.

Selection Committee comprised of RAI Secretariat and the UNODC Civil Society Unit will review received applications based on the requirements and content, and grade each application in accordance with the scoring system established in the Grant Manual.

Applicants will be notified by RAI Secretariat in writing of the decision concerning their application. Notice of decision will not be given before the whole assessment process is finalised.

## About the implementing partners:

**RAI** is an intergovernmental regional organization comprised of nine member countries from South East Europe (SEE): Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania and Serbia; and three observers: Poland, Georgia and Slovenia. RAI's mission is to lead regional cooperation to support anticorruption efforts by providing a common platform for discussions through sharing knowledge and best practices. RAI acts as a regional hub through which governments of the region combine their efforts to help curb corruption in the SEE.

<u>UNODC</u> is a global leader in the fight against illicit drugs, transnational organized crime, terrorism and corruption, and is the guardian of UNCAC. To support States parties' efforts to fully implement UNCAC, UNODC delivers technical assistance in various corruption-related thematic areas, such as prevention, education, asset recovery, integrity in the criminal justice system, etc.

<u>ADC</u> supports countries in Africa, Asia, South Eastern and Eastern Europe in their sustainable development. The Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs plans the strategies. The Austrian Development Agency (ADA), the operational unit of ADC, implements programmes and projects together with public institutions, civil society organisations, as well as enterprises.