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Towards Prospering Villages

Call for Proposals

To support local rural development projects by (LAG name) in the territory of(LAG territory, village by village)

This Call for Proposals is announced by LAG , which is subsidized to implement rural development projects in frame of the LEADER measure of the EU-funded 'Support to Agriculture and Rural Development in ATU Gagauzia and Taraclia (SARD)' Programme, implemented by UNDP in the Republic of Moldova (2016-2018). UNDP Grant Agreement number:

1. Background

LEADER is an EU initiative, a method and programme instrument to support locally-driven rural development process to reinvent rural areas and create local jobs, since 1991. Since 2013, the LEADER method has been expanded to apply to coastal and urban, as well as rural, areas under the title '**Community-Led Local Development**' (CLLD). The method has been implemented also in EU pre-accession and neighboring countries with the aid of EU and other donor-financed programmes. The key actors of all local LEADER/Community-Led Local Development initiatives are the so-called Local Action Groups (LAGs) formed by local partners in a bottom-up way. The LAGs are responsible for local governance in development and represent local authorities, businesses and civil society. LAGs decide on the territorial delineation of their activities, establish formal partnerships, prepare and agree on integrated local rural development strategies, and identify and implement local development actions. The LEADER approach is based on specific principles: 'go local' by implementing the territorial, bottom-up and partnership approach; focus on integrated development, sustainability and inclusiveness. The development process is managed locally, and networking and cooperation ensure mutual benefit from the experience.



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The Support to Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD) Programme’s main components, implemented in a synergic and comprehensive way, aim to enhance community empowerment, develop local entrepreneurship and SMEs, encourage investment into small-scale infrastructure refurbishments and promote inter-municipal cooperation. Implementation of LEADER (a French acronym meaning *Links Between Actions for the Development of the Rural Economy*) and the Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) approach is an innovative, cross-cutting measure of the programme.

Local implementation of the SARD LEADER Measure started with an awareness-raising campaign aimed at mobilizing local partners in targeted regions. The result was the creation of eight local rural development partnerships, covering the greater part of the rural areas of ATU Gagauzia and Taraclia, and the rural municipalities of neighboring districts. Following LEADER principles, the eight local initiatives, including LAG, have formalized their Local Action Groups (LAGs), which are the first flagships in Moldova. They have approved their five-years strategic action plan, including economic, social, cultural and environmental actions.

2. Objective and purpose of the Call

The overall goal of this Call for Proposals is to support local rural development activities implemented by local actors in the territory of LAG, particularly contribution to financing the implementation of the first local projects, based on the prepared and approved strategic action plan of LAG

Based on first year action plan of LAG, supported local projects should be related to the following development measures:

-
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3. Eligibility

Proposals not meeting these criteria will not be funded.

The following potential beneficiaries are eligible to submit their proposals to answer this call for proposals:

- Public, civil society, non-governmental and business organizations, which have legal address in the territory of LAG
- Private persons, having local address in the territory of LAG
- Branches of regional or national organizations (public, civil society, non-governmental and business organizations), which have subsidiary in the territory of LAG....

Proposal must be officially signed by the legal representative of the given organization or, if the applicant is a private person, by the given person.

Please, note, that projects, which's expenses are covered by other donor(s) will not be eligible (double financing is not allowed).

4. Funding

LAG provides support to projects to be implemented within the time-frame, April 1 - September 30, 2018. Available fund ranges up to \$....., to support at least projects. Self-contribution of the recipient of the fund is a must. The self-contribution is % of the project budget for public, civil society and NGO beneficiaries and % for businesses. Self-contribution can be provided in cash and/or in kind. In kind contribution details should be included in the filled and submitted Application Form. See attached. The approved project funds should be applied to the following development measures and costs:

Development measures to be supported	Eligible local project activities (?)	Max amount of fund applicable for the given development measure	Eligible expenses
Total			\$



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5. Duration

Duration of the project implementation is 6 months, without the opportunity of extension. Draft final report should be provided to LAG by 8 October 2018. LAG Management Office is assigned to serve as contact point for local beneficiaries as Contractors.

6. Proposal review procedures

Proposals are evaluated by the LAG Selection Committee (SC) consisting of ... elected LAG members, with LAG ... management office acting as secretariat. The SC’s recommendations are approved by the LAG Council and forwarded to SARD Programme Office for final approval. Proposal should meet the Eligibility and Submission criteria as laid out in this Call for Proposals. Proposals not meeting these criteria will not be further evaluated and will not be funded. Submitted proposals will be evaluated from the perspective of: **relevance, expected results and impact, feasibility, sustainability and incorporation of local development principles.**

Overall evaluation criteria of the proposal (Weight in evaluation 40%)

- Is the submitted project proposal clearly described and the objectives clearly stated?
- Is the activity plan designed to be successfully completed within 6 months?
- Are outcomes, impact and deliverables specifically identified?
- Does the proposal meet LEADER/CLLD principles and basic crosscutting criteria (gender balance, sustainability and inclusiveness)?

Evaluation criteria relevant to the project impact (Weight in evaluation 30%)

<i>Results and Impact</i> - Direct, quick and broad impact for the community, its’ clear and measurable results and replicability potential
<i>Feasibility</i> - Selected measures’ technical, financial, social, environmental characteristics and institutional readiness
<i>Sustainability criterion</i> - Beneficiaries’ ability to maintain results, demonstrated continuity after completion of donor support and community contribution



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Criteria to evaluate the relevance of the project proposal with LAG 's participatory Strategic Action Plan, approved by SARD (Weight in evaluation 30%):

- Relevancy with the results of the local assessment and SWOT analyses included in the Strategic Action Plan (How does the given project proposal meet local needs)
- Relevancy with the Mission Statement and Vision of the LAG
- Relevancy with at least one of the Strategic Objectives
- Relevancy with at least one of the Strategic Priorities
- Relevance with the one-year action plan of the LAG, submitted to and approved by SARD
- Relevancy of the estimated budget to the planned measures and activities
- Innovativeness and multiplicativity of the project

7. Financial milestones and Reporting

LAG provides advanced fund to contracted beneficiary, up to 30% of the contracted amount. Reports on implemented activities should be provided by the beneficiary to LAG Management Body at reporting milestones: up to May 31, 2018; up to September 15, 2018; and up to October 20, 2018 (final report). Payments will be transferred by the LAG Accountable Body after reports' approval in three tranches: 30-30 % after approval of first and second report and, 10% after approval of the final report.

8. Submission criteria

Project proposals to LAG for financing local rural development activities, should include

- Filled and signed Application Form
- Technical documents to realization of the project, as in details (?):
.....
.....
.....
- Copy of the legal (registration) document of the organization, or ID card copy, if the applicant is a private person
- Detailed project budget



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9. Submitting proposals

Project proposals might be submitted electronically or, hard copy can be handheld (exceptional and justified cases) in the LAG ... office personally. Handwritten proposals are accepted. **The deadline for submission is 23:59:59 local time on 5th of March, 2018. Please, contact LAG Management Team** for questions or clarifications.

10. Information on further non-financial support of LAG to implementation of the finance projects

LAG Management Team provides expertise, training, mentoring and coaching to supported beneficiaries to ensure the success of the implementation of the approved projects.



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Application Form

**To support local rural development projects by (LAG name) in the
territory of(LAG territory, village by village)**

1. Applicants' data

Official name of the Applicant:	
Villages, communities covered by the activities of the organization/person in the territory of LAG:	
Contact person and contact details of the person:	
Official address of the Applicant:	
Name and position of the legal representative of the Applicant:	
Contact:	
Registration number of the Applicant (if any):	
Tax number of the Applicant (if any):	

2. Implementation plan and budget

Title of the planned project	
Overall description of the planned project (up to half page)	
Project's relevancy to the Action Plan of LAG	



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Description of the main project activities in milestones and timelines	Requested financial contribution from the LAG	Self-contribution	
		In cash	In kind
Sum			
SUM Total			

3. Expected project results

Description of the project milestones (max 3 milestones in relevant to the reporting deadlines)	Expected outputs
Expected overall outcome of the project (1/4 page)	



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4. Risk analyses

Potential risks of the project implementation	Suggested solutions

5. Submitted documents (checklist)

Name of the document	+/-
Filled, signed Application Form	
Copy of the relevant legal document of the organization or copy of the ID card of the applicant person	
Detailed project budget	
Relevant technical documents to support of the project contents, described in the Application Form	

Contacts of LAG

Address:

Post address:

Email address:

LAG managers' name and phone number: