

CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR DEMOCRACY COMMISSION SMALL GRANT PROGRAM

The United States Embassy acting through the Office of Public Affairs is pleased to announce the call for proposals for Democracy Commission Small Grant Program designed to support initiatives that promote civil society; free flow of information; (including support for independent media); transparency in government; public education and advocacy; association building; rule of law and legal reforms; conflict resolution; human rights; civic education; environment; market economy; anti-trafficking and anti-corruption awareness campaigns and training; ethnic, minority, and women's equality, and get-out to vote or other election issues.

Project proposals should not exceed \$50,000. The deadline for proposal submission to the Office of Public Affairs is August 8, 2011.

Program Summary:

The Democracy Commission Small Grants Program was initiated in 1994 as a flexible mechanism to enable embassies to support initiatives that contribute to more open and competitive political and economic systems and the protection of human rights.

The implementing body at each mission is the Democracy Commission, which is under the authority of the Ambassador and includes members of the Country Team, and other representatives as determined by each individual mission.

The Ambassador and DCM are responsible for approving all grant recommendations made by each post.

Grants are aimed primarily at indigenous NGOs and independent media. Grants are awarded on the basis of a competition or upon determination of need by the Commission.

The Commission may award grants of up to \$50,000 primarily to indigenous non-profit organizations and independent media. Most awards will be smaller.

Proposal Format

Proposals must:

- Not exceed six pages in length;
- Include a statement clearly identifying the problem to be addressed;
- Include an executive summary of the proposed program;
- Include a project description, including specific activities, desired outcomes and performance measures;
- Include a detailed budget of no more than \$50,000;
- Include a description of the recipient organization, including its technical and management capacity; and
- Not exceed eighteen months for the project's duration.

Proposal Evaluation Criteria:

Only NGOs that are based and legally registered in Bosnia and Herzegovina are eligible to apply. The call for proposals is open until August 8, 2011. All applications will be reviewed, ranked, and funded in order of merit.

Proposals will be evaluated based on:

- How effectively the proposal addresses the issue(s) described in the problem statement,
- Sustainability of program accomplishments.
- Capacity of the recipient organization to account for the funds and ensure that funds are spent for the intended purposes.
- Expected results.
- Priority will be given to proposals that describe a project that, if successful, would have the potential to be expanded to reach a broader community.

The main point of contacts:

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