

**First Elements Euroconsultants Ltd in partnership with Euroconsultants S.A.
being the NGO Fund Intermediary for the Republic of Cyprus**

Announce

The Call for Proposals within the Fund for Non Governmental Organisations (NGO Fund) in the framework of the EEA Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2004-2009 for the Republic of Cyprus

1. Objective

The objective of the Fund for Non Governmental Organisations (NGO Fund) is to support the participation of civil society organisations in the reduction of economic and social disparities in the Republic of Cyprus by providing financing to NGO projects in selected priority areas. Furthermore, the aim of the Fund is that a minimum 20% of the funding is made available for bi-communal projects that would benefit both communities within the priority areas, with a view to encouraging bi-communal contacts.

2. Project duration

The maximum duration of projects submitted under this call is 12 months. No minimum duration is set.

3. Priority Sectors and possible Areas of Intervention

The NGO Fund shall provide funding in the priority sectors of Health and Childcare and Empowerment of Young People in Civil Society. The possible areas of intervention for carrying out eligible activities are the following (indicative and not exclusive):

- **Health and Childcare:** Support to women and children suffering from domestic violence; Awareness raising on public health and social well-being of young people; Improvement of Childcare Services and creation of equal opportunities for children; Development and improvement of services for empowerment and integration of underprivileged children and children with special needs; Provision of services to disabled children and their families; Awareness raising on domestic violence, child abuse and the well-being of children; Awareness raising on and prevention measures of sexually transmitted diseases; Awareness raising on and prevention measures of unwanted pregnancy and abortion; Awareness raising on and prevention measures of Trafficking of children and women; Extra-curricular activities for children in recreation, sports, arts etc with a view to enhancing bilateral and bi-communal contact and understanding; Flexible childcare services to adapt to working mothers' needs; Issues related to Child adoption; Improve the living conditions and social integration of children in state care; Integration of children with special needs in the educational system; Improvement of child protection services; Rights of children in decision making in the family; Combating of child poverty; Support for single parent families; Mental health in the family and

roles of family members; Increasing social awareness on modern family planning methods and mature parenthood standards; Therapeutic telemedicine systems and medical internet-based education and data collection systems; Support for young mothers on childcare; Reduction and prevention of life-style related diseases especially among children and teens; Reduction of mortality and spread of communicable diseases; Food safety measures.

- **Empowerment of young people in civil society** : Encouragement of young people's participation in social, cultural and political life of the country; Creating opportunities for healthy recreation and entertainment for all and especially for the youth in need e.g. by establishing/ running multi-purpose youth centres and culture centres; Promotion of intercultural dialogue and respect for diversity and ethnic heterogeneity, combating social exclusion and discrimination; Strengthening the opportunity to enter the labour market for school drop-outs and unemployed young people; Awareness raising on public health and social well-being of young people by young people; Measures against drug, alcohol and tobacco addiction and support for addicted youngsters through empowerment by young people; Intervention programmes, mediation and reconciliation services, guidance to young offenders and victims; Bringing to the fore youth issues such as youth problems, culture and creativity and making them more prominent in the Cypriot society; Awareness raising on democracy and human rights issues and the role of NGOs; Promoting and exchange of ideas on EU integration between youth of Cyprus and the Donor States; Awareness raising on the dangers of drunk driving and road safety; Reduction of road accident rates in youth ; Reduction of the digital divide of youth in rural communities; Reviving of rural life for young people; E-inclusion and equal opportunities to accessing information for youth in rural communities; Development of the culture of entrepreneurship among young people; Support for reconciliation through joint enterprise between the two communities; Increasing the culture of volunteerism in youth; Establishment of work-study and summer educational and recreational programmes for youth; Support of sports initiatives for youth at local/ communal level; Reduction of juvenile delinquency; Possible intervention of public educational professionals in the extracurricular activities of students; Combating racism in young ages; Support for multicultural dialogue; Promoting environmental awareness; Unemployment, career planning and development in young people; Communication of young peoples ideas at government level and their active involvement in decision making on issues that involve the young people;

Applicants should submit Applications for NGO projects provided that these address one or both priority sectors.

4. Eligible Activities

The type of activities to be funded are as follows:

- Public awareness activities
- Conferences/ seminars/ training
- Professionalisation of services supplied by NGOs, establishment and implementation of services standards
- NGO capacity building

- Exchange of information on good practices, strengthening of cooperation and networking, establishment of partnerships with the youth of the EEA/EFTA states
- Construction and expansion of facilities, acquisition of equipment, expert advice etc.

Eligible expenditures are defined according to the rules on eligibility of expenditure contained in the *Guidelines on detailed eligibility provisions – expenditures* available on www.eeagrants.org.

Furthermore, in the implementation of actions in the framework of bi-communal sub-projects financed under the NGO Fund, costs will be eligible provided that:

- (i) The rights of natural or legal persons including the rights to possessions and property shall be respected. In this context, the contracting parties shall act in accordance with the case law of the European Court of Human Rights. To this end, the written consent of the natural or legal person owning any property in the areas not under the effective control of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus potentially affected by project-related activities must be submitted together with the application for funding of bi-communal projects.
- (ii) For any actions financed under the NGO Fund involving travelling abroad, the legal points of entry and exit of the Republic of Cyprus, shall be used.
- (iii) Payments to beneficiaries shall only be made through legally operating banking institutions in the Republic of Cyprus.

5. Type of assistance and size of grants

The total amount to be disbursed under the NGO Fund is EUR 1.520.750. The assistance is provided in the form of grants for selected projects. The minimum amount of project grants is €15,000 and the maximum amount is €70,000. The grant rate will be up to 90 percent (90%) of eligible project costs. The NGO project promoters (end-recipients) are expected to contribute a minimum of ten percent (10%) as own contribution either in cash or in kind. In-kind contribution can constitute up to fifty percent (50%) of the end-recipients' own contribution. Budgets must be submitted in Euro.

6. Budget Allocation per Priority Sector

A maximum share of seventy percent (70%) of the funding will be made available to projects addressing the 'Health and Childcare' priority, and a minimum share of thirty percent (30%) of the funding will be made available to projects addressing the 'Empowerment of young people in the civil society' priority.

7. Eligible Applicants

NGOs falling within the scope of the definition below, constituted as legal entities in the Republic of Cyprus and operating in the public interest are eligible NGO-project Applicants.

- Voluntary, self-governing organisations not subject to direction by public authorities, independent of political control and established under the legal system

of the beneficiary state, in this case the Republic of Cyprus (e.g. foundations, associations, charities, societies, trusts, etc)

- Social partners (e.g. employers organisations and trade unions) and
- Certain independent organisations enjoying a specific legal status (e.g. the national Red Cross societies).

The above definition does not include political parties. The NGOs should be organisations functioning on a not-for-profit basis. Applicants may prepare proposals either on a sole basis, or in partnership with other NGO organizations.

8. Procedure for Submission of Applications

- Applicants must fill in the Application Form and the Budget Form in accordance with the requirements of the Guide for Applicants.
- Annexes and other supporting documents which are relevant to the projects submitted shall be attached to the application.
- The application must be submitted in English in 2 hard copies (1 original and 1 copy), as well as in electronic format (CD) which must be identical to the hard copy.
- The envelope containing the application must be marked " Proposal for the NGO Fund".

9. Deadline and address for submission of applications

Applications must 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 address indicated below and should bear the text exactly as indicated below:

Proposal for NGO Fund
 First Elements Euroconsultants Ltd
 57, Digeni Akrita Street
 Zahariades Building, Office 201&202
 CY 1070, Nicosia, Cyprus

All applications must be received at the above address at the latest by March 9, 2009 at 16.00 local time.

10. Reference Documentation

The main reference documentation for the present call for proposals is the Guide for Applicants and the Application Form which can be found at www.eeangofund.org.cy. Guidelines and additional documentation on the EEA Grants can be found at www.eeaqrants.org.

11. Contact Information

Questions may be sent through the archive *Frequently Asked Questions* section on www.eeangofund.org.cy, by email or by fax to the contact below.

First Elements Euroconsultants Ltd
Marilena Ioannidou – Manager of the NGO Fund
Phone: +357 22 875710
Fax: + 357 22 757080
Email: mioannidou@firstelements.com.cy

The Fund for Non Governmental Organisations is co-financed by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the EEA Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism (90%) and by the Republic of Cyprus through the Planning Bureau (10%)