**“PARTNERSHIP FOR INNOVATIONS – P4I”**

**NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

The Civil Society Development Association “ARGO” jointly with Public Organization “Fidokor” announces a grant competition for public organizations (POs) and public initiative bodies (PIBs) carrying out their activities in the Tojikobod and Lakhsh districts, Tajikistan. The grant competition will be held as part of the “Partnership for Innovations – P4I” program. The program is implemented with the financial support of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

**Program Goal:** Strengthen civil society in Central Asia to influence their respective governments on all aspects of local, national, and regional debate and policy making, representing the voices of their beneficiaries and constituents.

**Goal of the grant competition:** Empowerment and expansion of access of vulnerable women and their families’ members from Tojikobod and Lakhsh Districts to economic and social resources.

The grant program is not limited to supporting the below mentioned activities and encourages any other constructive, innovative approaches and activities aimed at addressing economic problems and social empowerment of vulnerable women and their family members.

Within the grant competition support will be provided to POs and PIBs whose projects may include, but not limited to, the following activity:

* creating opportunities for the promotion of social entrepreneurship models for economic and social empowerment of vulnerable women through innovative:
	+ business trainings,
	+ creating models of social businesses to benefit the target groups
* facilitating access to subsidized loans from microfinance organizations;
* mobilizing women self-help groups (SHGs), community foundations, and other income generating and group economic development initiatives;
* other initiatives of women’s SHGs.

**Note:**

* cooperation with local authorities is welcomed;
* an additional advantage of the project is contributions of third parties (donors, local authorities, etc.) to achieve the project goal.

**Requirements:**

1. Applications are accepted from POs and PIBs from the Tojikobod and Lakhsh Districts, Tajikistan;

2. Only one application will be accepted per PO or PIB;

3. The project implementation period is from 6 to 9 months.

**List of documents required:**

1. Copy of legal entity certificate of registration,
2. Copy of the Charter,
3. Completed application form in the format provided,
4. Budget in electronic form (in Excel format according to the template).

If selected, the organization(s) must provide the following documentation:

1. Certification of absence of tax debt;

2. Proof of bank account.

**Application evaluation criteria:**

Prior to consideration by the Selection Committee, all applications will be reviewed for compliance with the grant competition requirements.

Applications will be evaluated according to the points system described below:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| # | CRITERION | POINT |
|  | The project activity is aimed at promotion of social and economic empowerment of vulnerable women from tojikobod and Lakhsh districts | 25 |
|  | The project relevance, validity and social significance; the project goals and objectives’ being realistic | 20 |
|  | The project budget feasibility and justifiability of expenditures planned for the project implementation | 15 |
|  | Sustainability of the project results  | 15 |
|  | Attainability of the planned project goal within the prescribed period of time  | 10 |
|  | Innovativeness and uniqueness of the project  | 10 |
|  | Contribution of third parties’ additional resources (donors, local authorities, etc.) | 5 |

**Submission of applications:**

Applications start date: April 09, 2019

Applications closing date: May 05, 2019

Deadline for questions: April 30, 2019

Grant implementation period: is from 6 to 9 months

Grant amount: up to $5 000

Applications in Russian or Tajik with the required attachments will be accepted for review by email: grants@argonet.org, marked “Grant competition for BPIs of Tajikistan”. The application deadline is 6:00 p.m. (Dushanbe time, Tajikistan), May 05, 2019.
**The email size shall not exceed 2MB. If a total size of files exceeds the specified size, the message is to be split into 2 messages and up.**

Any questions concerning this NFO should be submitted in writing to the email at grants@argonet.org. Answers will be posted at <http://cso-central.asia/grants-program>. The deadline for submitting questions is 6:00 p.m. (Dushanbe time, Tajikistan), April 30, 2019.