



Call for Small Project Proposals 2024

Switzerland provides development assistance to Armenia through the implementation of the Swiss Cooperation Programme for the South Caucasus for the period 2022-25. The Programme defines four key areas of intervention: (1) Protecting and promoting civic engagement and space as well as cooperation in the region, (2) Strengthening democracy and public institutions, (3) Improving economic development and creating decent jobs (4) Strengthening climate resilience and sustainable resource management. Whereby Swiss supported interventions target gender equality and social inclusion and focuses of particular needs of women and men, youth, minorities and rural population.

In this framework, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC offers financing of small action projects, and is calling for **transformative proposals by youth and/or women-led Non-Governmental Organizations - NGOs**. The proposed project ideas should be focused on **empowering Armenian women, men and non-binary people on topics of their concern** and should be in line with the Swiss Cooperation Program's priority areas.

Projects should have either an intergenerational, and/or gender-inclusive and/or co-creative approach with a focus on **shifting social and gender norms and fostering women and youth leadership** through effective partnerships.

Geographical focus: projects should primarily be implemented in Armenia, outside and in the capital city Yerevan.

Duration of projects: maximum 6 months.

Who can apply?

Applicants can be youth or women-led Non-Governmental Organizations - NGOs which have been operational for at least one year at the date of the application. Applicants should not be linked to a political party, nor should their proposal have any relation or interaction with political activities.

Application requirements:

- Project proposal presented in the provided SDC format (narrative proposal and detailed budget templates)
- Registration certificate of the applicant/s
- Description of the relevant experience and two most recent references
- Indication of a lead NGO in case a consortium applies

Financial conditions/requirements:

- Maximum grant provided by the SDC is equivalent to max. 13'000'000 AMD per project. Co-financing of at least 20% from the applicant and/or other donor/sponsor in cash or in kind, is a **compulsory** requirement where both, higher percentage of contribution and cash co-funding, will be prioritised during the selection process. Information on co-financing is to be provided in the narrative proposal as well.
- Applicant shall be responsible for all taxes and social insurances of staff, in accordance with the relevant legislation.



- Grants shall **not** be used to finance solely:
 - Scholarships
 - Consultancy work, researches and studies
 - Study tours, residencies
 - Charity events
 - Air tickets
 - Infrastructure work (repairs and construction)
 - Sub-contractors of ongoing projects financed by the SDC
 - Organizations that have been supported by the SDC in Armenia in past 2 years.

Submission procedure:

Filled out narrative proposal and detailed budget templates must be submitted electronically in PDF format to yerevan.media@eda.admin.ch with the subject line "Small Project Proposal 2024" until 12.00, **02/10/2024**. Attachments' size should not exceed 10MB. Files provided with online storage links will not be accepted. Receipt of submissions will be acknowledged by e-mail; only selected applicants will be contacted at the latest by **18/10/2024**. No questions will be answered by phone or mail during the selection process.

Award criteria

Relevance of the objective(s), its potential transformative impact, as well as the originality, practicality, and innovativeness of the proposed project.

Weighting: 20%

Proposal Quality and Methodology: The overall design and presentation of the proposal, including a clear articulation of both the problem and the solution, with an emphasis on concrete results (products, services, processes,) expected within 6 months. Assessment of the methodology, participation of key stakeholders and partners, and the sustainability, including monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.

Weighting: 20%

Capacity and Experience of the Organization(s): Capacities of applicant's staff. Relevance of resources and stakeholders participation. Expertise and experiences needed for the project.

Weighting: 20%

Co-creation: Preference will be given to collaborative action.

Weighting 20%

Quality of Finance and Administrative Aspects

Weighting: 20%