

# CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

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## GRANTS

Amplifying Local Voices  
for Equitable Development





# Grants Scheme

## Call for Applications

### 1. Introduction

“Amplifying Local Voices for Equitable Development” (ALVED) is a UK-funded project implemented in South Serbia by People in Need (PIN), Peaceful Change initiative (PCi), and Gradjanske inicijative. The project has been providing support to civil society, youth, and local institutions in our three target local self-government units (LSGUs) – Bujanovac, Lebane, and Vranje – since September 2020. Forms of support include capacity building and funding for grassroots CSOs; facilitating inclusive planning and delivery of social services; and numerous programs to empower, engage, and inspire young people, such as training, civic actions, awareness raising, internships, etc.

According to a survey commissioned by PIN in December 2021 in the three LSGUs, less than half of young women (37%) and young men (40%) believe that young people have the ability and opportunities to participate in local decision-making. Nonetheless, the ALVED team has observed that young people, when given the opportunity and skills, are ready, eager, and able to contribute to making their communities better for themselves and all residents.

Building upon the goals of the ALVED project to empower and engage young women and men in South Serbia, **this grant scheme seeks to activate young people in Bujanovac, Lebane, and Vranje to promote or support positive change in their communities.**

Established in 1992, PIN is a non-governmental, non-profit, international organization registered in the Czech Republic providing humanitarian assistance and implementing development projects focused on transition to democracy, support of civil society and good governance, and addressing poverty and social exclusion in over 30 locations around the world.

*This grant scheme is supported by the UK Government’s Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF).*

### 2. Description of the grant scheme

#### a. Objective of the grant scheme



**This grant scheme will support initiatives that activate young people in Bujanovac, Lebane, and Vranje to promote or support positive change in their communities.**

All proposed project activities should target inhabitants of one (or more) of these three LSGUs, and the majority of activities should take place in those LSGUs.

**b. Types of initiatives that we are seeking to support:**

PIN will prioritize projects **that reflect identified needs and interests of young people in the target LSGUs in the following thematic areas:**



Applications requesting support for small business development and building of large infrastructure projects will not be considered for funding. Similar/the same projects implemented by the applicant in the past, whether supported by PIN or other donors, will also not be considered for funding.

**c. Eligibility of Applicants**

**This call for proposals is open to CSOs that are registered under the domestic legislation, applying singly or in partnership with other CSOs, associations, informal groups, or citizens' initiatives.**

The following types of CSOs are particularly encouraged to apply:

- run by or benefiting minority communities.



- run by or benefiting women and girls.
- run by or benefiting vulnerable groups.

Importantly:

- If the applicant is a single CSO (i.e., not applying in partnership with any other CSO, association, informal group, citizens' initiative, etc.), the applicant must be a registered CSO under the domestic legislation and based in Bujanovac, Lebane, or Vranje.
- If the applicant is applying in partnership with other CSOs, associations, informal groups, or citizens' initiatives, etc., the lead applicant must be a registered CSO under the domestic legislation and at least one partner must be based in Bujanovac, Lebane, or Vranje. In such cases, the lead applicant or other partners can be based in other parts of Serbia.
- A current memorandum of understanding (MoU) or similar agreement between the applying partners must be submitted with the application.

Applications submitted by public administration institutions, State institutions, State agencies, local authorities, regional authorities, political parties, or organizations affiliated with political parties are not eligible for this call.

#### **d. Funding limitations**

Funding for any individual grant shall not exceed **RSD 1,800,000**.

Staff costs must be 25 percent or less of the total project budget.

#### **e. Eligible expenditures**

Eligible costs are actual costs incurred by the selected grantee which meet the following criteria:

- They are incurred during the implementation period of the project;
- They are indicated in the submitted budget proposal of the project;
- They are necessary for the implementation of the project;
- They are identifiable and verifiable (supported by all accounting and other support documents);
- They are reasonable, justified, and comply with the requirements of sound financial management.



## **f. Co-funding**

The applicant is not requested to provide co-funding.

## **g. Non-eligible expenditures**

Expenditures that cannot be covered under this grant scheme are as follows:

- Repayment of borrowings/debts;
- Repayment of future expenses – salaries/fees, rent;
- Retroactive activities (costs related to activities implemented prior to signing the grant agreement);
- Purchase of land or property;
- Financing of undertaken obligations (for example-activities funded by other sources);
- Margins on staff costs;
- Personal expenses;
- Purchase of IT equipment for the applicant;
- Large infrastructure projects (constructing roads, bridges, buildings, etc.);
- Political or religious activities, campaigns, etc.;
- Environmentally harmful projects;
- Unless directly attributable to the programme, advocacy and campaigning, marketing and communications, policy, retainer fees, capital expenditure, land, bank charges and insurance (unless, by exception, explicitly agreed in writing in advance);
- Activities which discriminate against any group on the basis of age, gender reassignment, disability, race, colour, ethnicity, sex and sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief.

## **h. Duration of grant**

Projects will start near the beginning of June 2022 and may run through the end of December 2022, i.e., seven months or less.

# **3. Application process**

Applications can be submitted in Serbian, Albanian, or English.



Applicants should submit the completed application package: Annexes 1, 2, and 3, plus the other requested documentation listed in Annex 3. **Please read this call for applications and all annexes carefully before submitting your application.**

**Questions about this grant scheme?** You may submit them to:  
[alved.grants@peopleinneed.net](mailto:alved.grants@peopleinneed.net)

The application processing will respect the following timeline:

| Step   | Date  |
|--|---|
| On-line info session to discuss the objective of the call, tips for preparing applications, etc.                               | <b>12 April, 11:00 – 13:00</b><br><br>Zoom link:<br><a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82316108540">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82316108540</a><br><br><b>Follow the People in Need Serbia Facebook page for updates!</b> |
| Submission of application packages to PIN at: <a href="mailto:alved.grants@peopleinneed.net">alved.grants@peopleinneed.net</a> | <b>By 28 April</b>  |
| Pre-selected applicants contacted by PIN   | <b>By mid-May</b>   |
| Announcement of final list of grant recipients   | <b>Follow the People in Need Serbia Facebook page for updates!</b>  |

**a. Evaluation criteria**

All submitted applications will be evaluated by a transparent and impartial evaluation committee made up of staff from PiN and its consortium partners.

The projects will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

The basic criteria for pre-selection are:



- Applying singly or in partnership according to the conditions described in Section 2c of this call.
- Submission of the application package (Annexes 1, 2, and 3, plus the other requested documentation listed in Annex 3) by the deadline indicated in Section 3 of this call.
- Applications not exceeding the budget ceiling of RSD 1,800,000. Annex 2 should be presented in Serbian dinars (RSD).

The specific criteria for selection are:

| Evaluation Criteria           | Points           |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Strategic relevance        | 17 points        |
| 2. Approach to implementation | 7 points         |
| 3. Cost Effectiveness         | 6 points         |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>30 points</b> |

Geographic balance and diversity of thematic focus of applicants will also be taken into account when selecting the final pool of grant recipients.

Throughout the selection process, PiN reserves the right:

- to ask applicants to amend their applications based on the recommendations of the selection committee.
- to request additional information from applicants, and that such information be submitted within a specific deadline.
- to not award funding to any applicants.

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### **Annexes**

Annex 1: Grant Application Form

Annex 2: Budget Form

Annex 3: Application Checklist



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**All questions, suggestions, complaints** related to the PIN's activities and the staff behavior can be submitted via our confidential channels

► **Let us know!**

SEND AN EMAIL:

**feedback.balkans@peopleinneed.cz**



Your identity and feedback will be kept confidential