**Q&A for information session in Kosovo:**

**Question:** *Is it permitted for two organizations to form a partnership for the implementation of the sub-grant?*

**Answer:** Guidelines for applicants do not forbid/limit the partnership, however since this is sub-grant, it is better to have only one organization implementing the sub-grant.

**Question:** *Can the project be implemented solely at the local level, or is implementation at the regional level also acceptable?*

**Answer:** Sub-grant must be implemented only within the territory where sub-grant is launched.

If you have further questions, please send them in writing to the following email: **info@kdi-kosova.org**.

**Q&A for information session in Bosnia and Herzegovina:**

**Question:** *If we are not the main applicant, is it a responsibility of the main applicant to get the VAT exemption or it is within subgrantees?*

**Answer:** When we draft the grant contract for the subgrantees we will put a paragraph with all needed information for the project in order to help the grantees to get the certificate for VAT exemption.

If you have further questions, please send them in writing to the following email: **info@ti-bih.org**.

**Q&A for information session in North Macedonia:**

**Question:** *Is co-financing a requirement?*

**Answer:** Co-financing is not a requirement.

**Question:** *Are we required to maintain a separate account that is exempt from VAT?*

**Answer:** As this is a small grant project, it is not necessary to open a new account. You may continue to use your existing account. Since our project is registered for tax exemption, and with the support of TI Macedonia, you will be provided with the appropriate documentation regarding VAT exemption for your own project.

**Question:** *Is an organization that works with persons with disabilities/imperatives suitable for this application?*

**Answer:** As mentioned, all organizations registered in Macedonia are eligible to apply; however, applicants must adhere to the objectives of the call and ensure that the proposed activities comply with the eligibility criteria specified in the call documentation.

**Question:** *Should 'Registration Certificate' be understood as the official registration decision, and not the extract of current status? It is likely that what is meant is a current status extract issued within the past 6 months?*

**Answer:** For applicants, it is not mandatory to have registration certificate issued within the last 6 months. Certificate older than 6 months are acceptable, and your registration will be accepted without any issue, even if it is older than 6 months.

If you have further questions, please send them in writing to the following email: **konkurs@transparency.mk**.

**Q&A for information session in Serbia:**

**Question:** *Could you please clarify what type of outputs are expected? For example, should the outputs be in an open-source format, written documentation, or another form?*

**Answer:** Please refer to the objectives of the call when drafting your proposal. The scope is relatively broad, and organizations are encouraged to propose diverse activities. We have identified two main categories of activities which are fully described in the Guideline for Applicants as listed below:

* Knowledge generation and dissemination.
* Advocacy and visibility actions.

Since the topics are clearly defined, applicants have flexibility in proposing a wide range of activities within the areas of political finance, public procurement and lawmaking as stipulated by the sub-granting call for applications.

If you have further questions, please send them in writing to the following email: **ts@transparentnost.irg.rs**.

**Q&A for information session in Türkiye:**

**Question:** *We have already started some projects that are currently ongoing. Does the scope of this subgrant cover ongoing projects, or should it be a completely new project?*

**Answer:** The subgrant should support a completely new project. However, it may be possible to integrate or align certain activities with ongoing initiatives. When we draft the grant contract, we will provide specific guidance on how the project should be structured.

**Question:** *Could you please clarify the Value-Added Tax (VAT) rules once again?*

**Answer***:* In general, some donors, in this particular case the EU, do not allow VAT to be included as an eligible cost. Local regulations must be followed. We have also observed that CSOs in Türkiye are exempt from VAT expenses when implementing the EU funds. However, different countries have different policies in regard to tax exemption. Further clarification you may find on your national legislation.

**Question:** *Will you share the presentation with the participants?*

**Answer:** Yes, we will share the presentation file and Q&A file in social media and in TI Türkiye’s website as well as websites of other project partners.

**Question:** *In which platform we can send our questions if by any chance we think of any additional?*

**Answer:** Please send to the following TI Türkiye’s email: **info@seffaflik.org**.

**Question:** *Our organization works on gender equality. We support women leaders, run awareness campaigns, and follow up on gender equality reports. As you already mentioned, the scope of the call includes also youth and women community, which I believe aligns well with our work and objectives. We are not heavily engaged in political integrity work, as that is not part of our mission, however since woman in leadership are very low in number, I believe it can fit well.*

**Answer:** The main strategic objective of the call is political integrity. However, political integrity is a broad concept, and there is certainly room to propose activities that incorporate gender mainstreaming. We believe there is space to design relevant initiatives within this framework. The project and its sub-grants include specific provisions to support CSOs that promote the rights of marginalized groups. You are strongly encouraged to propose activities related to public procurement, legislative processes, or other relevant areas, particularly in light of the upcoming local or national elections. Given the broad scope of topics covered by the call, there is considerable flexibility to design and implement a wide range of meaningful and impactful activities.

**Question:** *Is a partnership required, or not? And would the partner organization be subject to the same eligibility criteria?*

**Answer:** Partnerships are not prohibited under our guidelines. However, since this is a sub-grant with a relatively small amount of funding and a short implementation period, it may be more practical for organizations to apply individually. That said, if you do choose to apply with a partner, please note that the partner organization will also be required to meet the same eligibility criteria.

**Question:** *Are we allowed to select a governmental organization as our co-partner under this call?*

**Answer:** No, only civil society organizations (CSOs) and media organizations that are registered as NGOs are eligible to be co-partners under this call.

**Question:** *Can we send questions to the email address you shared?*

**Answer:** Yes, you may send your questions to the following email address ***info@seffaflik.org***.

**Question:** *There are often several calls for funding. Is this the only call for proposals under this project, or will there be additional sub-grant opportunities?*

**Answer:** Yes, this is the only call for proposals under this project. There are no other sub-grant opportunities foreseen in this project.

**Question:** *Is it mandatory to submit interim reports if the subgrant is disbursed in installments? If so, could you please clarify the schedule and conditions for these installment payments?*

**Answer:** You will be informed in due time. If you are awarded for the subgrant, you will be notified in the grant contract regarding all necessary information.

**Question:***Should all communication, such as updates or questions, be directed via email to the implementing team?*

**Answer:** Yes, feel free to share your questions in the given email address **info@seffaflik.org**.

**Question:** *Is the annual budget of the applying organization considered a selection criterion?*

**Answer:** No, the annual budget of an applicant organization is not a selection criterion.

If you have further questions, please send them in writing to the following email: **info@seffaflik.org**.