**"Alliance for Better City Governance"**

**A Guidline to Granting Local Green Deal Initiatives**

**About the "Alliance for Better City Governance" project**

Contribute to sustainable urban management in Vanadzor and Gyumri communities by regulating policies and procedures in that area, improving the quality of services.

* Improve the sustainable urban management, policies and tools of Vanadzor and Gyumri cities,
* Support the cities of Vanadzor and Gyumri in creating a clean environment and providing improved urban management,
* Introduce a "smart" system of "green" public transport management,
* Implement a GIS/ GIS system,
* Improve the capacities of the staffs of Vanadzor and Gyumri municipal governments,
* Install a plastic recycling line in each community,
* Implement public initiatives aimed at environmental protection.

Residents and CSOs will be involved in policymaking and participatory urban planning process-"placemaking" through Local ''Green Deal Initiatives". Due to public awareness and education campaign, the resident, including schoolchildren will be informed on the adverse effects of plastic waste and public transport emissions on health and environment. Operating eco-buses and plastic recycling production lines will reduce harmful emissions and ensure a cleaner living environment for the residents of target cities.

**Objectives of the sub-grant component of the project:**

Participatory management is a core of the sustainable urban governance. The ABC.GoV will ensure that residents of Vanadzor and Gyumri have direct say on how their neighborhoods and native cities should look like, which conditions and amenities should be created to make the lives of families, children, neighbors and co-citizens more comfortable and the cities - more economically viable. To this end, the residents of the target cities in collaboration with CSOs and municipalities will implement Local ''Green Deal Initiatives" to prevent and reduce greenhouse gases and carbon emissions to make the cities a better place to live by:

* Change residents behavior on environment protection and waste management
* Public awareness campaign
* Facilitate the development of new improved functional models that tap into emerging trends
* Creation of audio visual and IT products related to projectscope
* Improvement of small backyards.

The operation is planned to be carried out from June 2023 to February 2024.

**To achieve the goal, the following actions are planned**

* Announce a tender for an organization or expert providing the implementation, management and monitoring of Local ''Green Deal Initiatives" (June 2023);
* Local "green deal initiatives" will be implemented (August 2023- February 2024).

a) In selected districts of Vanadzor and Gyumri communities,

b) In public areas of Vanadzor and Gyumri communities.

* Through a series of neighborhood meetings, residents will discuss and present their Local ''Green Deal Initiatives"(for neighborhoods and cities) using a new participatory concept for Armenia, "placemaking", which will be presented as well as during environmental education, awareness campaigns conducted by ABC.GoV. It should be noted that, as of May 2023, awareness campaigns were carried out for 1,500 citizens in Vanadzor and 1,300 in Gyumri.
* Conduct ideaharvesting through neighborhood meetings (within 1 month: July-August 2023), after which residents will elect their representatives (5-6 from each neighborhood: women, men, youth, elderly, minority, etc.) who will undergo appropriate 3-day training on writing, applying and implementing grant projects. Participants who have completed the course can submit their projects.

Projects that are in line with the objectives of the ABC.GoV Project, contain innovative approaches and solutions, and are involved in environmental awareness campaigns will be encouraged.

Organizations that can apply for grants are as follows:

* Legal person
* Established in Armenia
* Directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary

**Evaluation and award criteria**

The final ideas will be approved by a city jury (within 1 month: July-August 2023).

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| **Criteria** | **Points** |
| Compliance ofproject budget and objectives | 25 |
| Relevance and importance of the project | 30 |
| Project effectiveness and feasibility | 25 |
| Continuation of the project | 10 |
| Financial and operational capacity of the applicant | 5 |
| Compliance with the project objectives | 5 |
|  | 100 |

The city jury will select the Local ''Green Deal Initiatives" costing minimum 20000 EUR and maximum 60,000 Euro both in Vanadzor and in Gyumri and will propose projects for awarding contracts. EachLocal ''Green Deal Initiatives"in the districts and public places of Vanadzor and Gyumri communities will be implemented within 6-7 months. The ABC.GoV project team will oversee the implementation.

**Beneficiaries**

The main beneficiaries of the project are the residents of Vanadzor and Gyumri communities and CSOs, who will be directly involved in the participatory process of urban development ("placemaking").

**The procedure for submitting the grant application**

The successful participants agree to participate in a 1-day discussion program with the representatives of the project and the organization providing the service of implementation, management and monitoring of the initiative, in order to receive expert, including financial, advice on the ongoing implementation of the sub-grants.

Legal entities applying for a sub-grant application must submit the following documents:

* Copies of statutes
* Copies of the state registration certificate, including copies of all inserts
* Application form (number of applications per principal applicant should be 1)
* Budget reference
* A copy of the taxpayer registration number (TAN)
* Certificate from the bank about the existence of a bank account of the managing organization
* CVs of members of the core team implementing the sub-grant project

Residents should present passport and declaration of residence.

All documents are required to submit in Armenian. If necessary, the sub-grant commission may request additional documents from the applicants.

The project reserves the right not to award all available funds.