

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

For national consortia of community organizations to implement the Regional Program “Money Can Buy Health If You Budget For It”

This Call for Proposals establishes rules and procedures for an open tender for the country consortia of community organizations under the regional project “Money Can Buy Health If You Budget For It”, implemented by the Eurasian Regional Consortium.

Regional project “Money Can Buy Health If You Budget For It”

The project supported by [Robert Carr civil society Networks Fund](#) (RCNF) is implemented by the Eurasian Regional Consortium which brings together three regional networks: [Eurasian Harm Reduction Network](#) (EHRN), addressing needs of people who use drugs (PWUD); [Eurasian Coalition on Male Health](#) (ECOM), addressing needs of gay men and other men who have sex with men (MSM), and of transgender people and the [East Europe and Central Asia Union of People Living with HIV](#) (ECUO), addressing the needs of people living with HIV (PLWH). While EHRN is the general project lead for the donor, ECOM is as the internal lead agency for the project in 2017.

The consortium collaborates with and builds capacity of inadequately served populations (ISP) communities in EECA to advocate governments and donors to invest in services along the HIV care continuum that ISP prioritize themselves.

The consortium has built the capacity of ISP community-based organizations via learning-by-doing approach to assess and prioritize HIV services and to estimate current and required expenditures for the HIV response. Such assessments that were carried out by the communities are the key to follow up community-driven budget advocacy for resource allocation and spending, which will be launched in the second year of the project and enhanced through on-going technical support and peer-to-peer exchange of best practices. ISP in countries through small grants have carried out assessments in year 1 of the project, and will advocate and monitor budgeting of services that they prioritize in years 2 and 3. The consortium will advocate for resource mobilization and accountability of HIV spending at the regional and global levels.

*This Call for Proposals is aimed at identifying consortia of community organizations from **Estonia, Armenia, and Kyrgyzstan** that are the target countries of the regional project “Money Can Buy Health If You Budget For It”.*

Each consortium is expected to be comprised of three community based organizations in each country. In each consortium, one organization should represent PWUD, one should represent community of PLWH and yet another - community of MSM and/or transgender people. One joint consolidated application should be submitted from an applicant consortium (see application form).

Applications from national consortia will be reviewed by an independent expert group selected by the three organizations forming the Eurasian Regional Consortium. This group will recommend consortia proposals for funding. The Eurasian Regional Consortium will approve the recommendations for selecting national consortia.

Expected Activities of National Consortia

Activities of the proposed consortia projects shall fall under two main objectives of the project:

Objective 1: To develop the capacity of communities of PWUD, PLWH, and MSM and transgender people to advocate for the availability and sustainability of services that meet their needs.

Objective 2: To advocate for strategic, sufficient and sustainable investments in responses to HIV, which address needs of PWUD, MSM and transgender people and PLHIV.

Selected consortia of local partners – community organizations – will be responsible for:

- Support, both within the program and after it ends, of **advocacy by the community** of PWUD, PLWH and MSM and transgender people for **sufficient, strategic and sustainable investments in HIV care continuum services** in their country.
- **Building capacity** of community groups to enhance their potential to advocate for access to HIV care continuum services
- Build **advocacy capacity** and **regular communication** within community organizations and initiative groups.

The main difference of this call with the first round of small grants is that we ask to establish in each country a formal consortium from the three community organizations representatives and increase coordination and cooperation between them. These organizations often target the same national or regional stakeholders, but lack strategic vision on joint advocacy needs for achieving access to and sustainability of HIV service continuum for communities' members.

We define the following activities as the scope of work of national consortia:

- **Translate services and investment assessment reports into new advocacy strategies / or add to existing ones;**
- **Create and coordinate in country community coordination platforms;**
- **Implement joint and individual member advocacy initiatives to improve access to and sustainability of HIV care continuum services.**

Activities of the national consortia within the Regional Program “Money Can Buy Health If You Budget For It” should not duplicate but complement existing and/or beginning advocacy initiatives in the countries.

That is why while coordinating your advocacy priorities within national consortia, you can refer to the national documents that already exist or are being developed (e.g., results of consultations on national community advocacy plans).

As we have chosen learning-by-doing approach, soon after selection of consortia, kick off meeting and budget advocacy training will be offered to the participating consortia and grantees will receive methodology on how to plan and conduct budget advocacy process.

In addition, technical assistance will be provided by ECOM, EHRN and ECUO throughout project life.

National consortia's work plan and timeline

№	Grant activities	Deliverables	Timeline
1	Establishing regular community follow up meetings and group communication	Consortia of community organizations establish a plan of regular meetings and other forms of communication (e.g. mailing lists, groups in social networks and so on)	April, 2017

2	Participate in a kick off meeting (starting prior to budget advocacy training)	Consortia of community organizations participated in a kick off meeting and are aware of project modalities and work plans.	April 2017
3	Participation in the training on budget advocacy	Consortia of community organizations participated in the training and are able to analyze and articulate new knowledge and narrative around budgeting and allocation of funding and social contracting	April, 2017
4	Creation/update of advocacy action plan to improve access to HIV service continuum	Recommendations from national and regional reports are translated into/added to advocacy strategy/ies	April-May, 2017
5	Creation/maintaining of communities platform - alliances between communities to pursue stronger community voice in decision-making process	Relevant Consortia of community organizations form platform and participate in decision-making to achieve aligned positions while voting in decision-making bodies	May-June, 2017
6	Development of joint position papers/statements on financing of services to PLHIV and ISPs.	Joint positions/statements are developed, publicized and delivered to decision-making bodies	June, 2017 – December 2017 and onwards
7	Implementation of Joint activities within consortia and/or organizational activities by each consortium member to pursue the recommendations to improve access to HIV service continuum for PLHIV and ISPs	Joint or supported initiatives of community platforms to influence transitioning from donor to domestic funding (where applicable) and sustainability of community services in national programming on HIV service continuum.	July, 2017 – December 2017 and onwards
8	Following up on community mobilization and advocating for access to HIV service continuum	ISP Communities are empowered and possess instruments to advocate for a better access to HIV care continuum	Sept 2017, - December 2017 and onwards
9	Monitoring of access to HIV service continuum by ISPs	Community members are actively involved in monitoring access to HIV services continuum in their respective communities	Sept 2017, - December 2017 and onwards

Who can participate in the Call for Proposals?

Only the following types of organizations may participate in the Call for Proposals:

1. Consortia of community organizations representing PWUD, PLWH, and MSM and transgender people: members of consortia shall be legally registered non-governmental nonprofit organizations.
2. The activities of member organizations of these consortia within the grant will furthermore be focused on protecting the health and rights of PWUD, PLWH, and MSM and transgender people. The focus of the organizations' work will have a track record.

Selection criteria

Applications will be selected based on the following criteria:

Necessary:

- Experience in advocacy for political support of HIV care continuum services on local, national and international levels;
- Experience in national and local advocacy for national or municipal healthcare funding;
- Existing partnerships with relevant country organizations: organizations or action groups of PWUD, MSM and transgender people, and PLHIV, human rights organizations, national and local governmental organizations and state agencies (e.g., AIDS Centers), coordination committees (including CCM) and other relevant organizations.
- Adequate development and quality of the organization's management structures, including community involvement in organization's operational and financial management;
- Applicant's resources and equipment: suitable office space, necessary computer, copying and other equipment, Internet access and telephones, etc.;
- Ability to receive funding in USD

Desirable:

No less than 50% of organization's staff and/or members/board members are people who belong to the mentioned groups of key affected population, provided that they are entitled and capable to meaningfully participate in the decision-making process regarding strategic and operational aspects of the organization's business.

Grant budget

The total budget of the Call for Proposals for a consortium of 3 organizations (sub-recipients) in each of the three target countries is about 30,000 USD (10,000 USD for one organization) per year.

PLEASE NOTE: While budget is equally distributed among consortium members, one organization is expected to act as a lead. All members of consortia will be providing financial report directly to the organization who transferred grant instalment. The lead organization on the other hand will be in charge of compiling narrative report. At the day to day implementation level, lead organization will take care of coordination between the members. It is expected that consortia members will have joint activities planned in their proposals. The budgets for conducting consortium level activities shall also be distributed between consortium members in a way that foresees hosting role by different organizations and equitable distribution of the budget. Apart from consortium level activities, organizations are free to budget activities pertaining to the work with their respective ISPs.

Budget example (to be filled in the Application Form).

No.	Budget line	Total, amount for payment in the budget line	Comments
1.	Human resources (expenses in this budget line should not exceed 6,000 USD)	Example: total amount for human resources 4,300 USD	List the projected number of people, share of workload, positions, salaries, work duration in months. Example: 4 employees 1. Coordinator (50 % workload) – 300 USD* 7 months=2,100 USD, 2. Accountant (30 % workload) – 100 USD* 7 months=700 USD, 3. Specialist in community work (responsible for analysis of collected data) 100 % workload – 300 USD * 3 months = 900 USD, Specialist in community work (responsible for questionnaire collection) 100 % workload – 200 USD * 3 months = 600 USD
2.	Administrative expenses (a limit of 1500 USD)	Example: 100 USD * 9 months = 900 USD	Office rent, communications, stationary, etc.
3.	Equipment and furniture (a limit of 1,000 USD)	1,000 USD one- time payment	Two computers, chair, desk, drawer
4.	Programmatic activities (at least 1500 USD)	Example: 3,500 USD	List of planned activities (please number according to proposal): Coffee/tea for meetings, printing leaflets, infosheets, transportation costs, Presents for the interview participants
5.	Total requested amount: (it should not exceed 10,000 USD)	9,700 USD	

Period of the Consortium Grant

April 2017 – Dec 2017

Application Set

- 1) A document confirming the legal status of the organization specifying the date and place of its registration;
- 2) Filled in application form.
- 3) Cover letter clearly **summarizing** organizations' experience as it pertains to the scope of the small grant.
- 4) CV of the key project staff who will participate in service assessment

Stages of the Call for Proposals

The overall timeframe of the Call is from 15 to 31 March 2017. The Call will be conducted in three stages:

(1) *Application submission* At this stage, ECOM staff will check the applications to make sure they meet the requirements. Only applications that meet the requirements of this Call for Proposals will be accepted and registered (the full list of documents needed is provided in the *application forms*). The application form can be filled in one of the following languages – Russian or English. The filled application has to be accompanied by all additional documents listed in the application form.

(2) *Application selection*
Recipients shall be selected by the Expert Group composed from the three networks participating in the project: ECOM, EHRN and ECUO.

(3) *Negotiations and contract signing*

- 7 April 2017 – announcement of results
- 7-13 April 2017 – detailed negotiations on contract terms will be conducted – contract terms, work plan and budget for the consortia grant recipients, contract signing.
- End of April 2017 – kick-off meeting and training in budget advocacy for selected consortium grant recipients.

Application procedure

Fill in the application form and relevant annexes that are part of this call for proposals.

Only complete application sets will be accepted (see the list of documents in the application form);

All additional documents shall be submitted in scanned form (as ".pdf" or ".jpg" files);

ECOM reserves the right to request from applicants to provide further documents and information to substantiate or to clarify the information listed on the application.

If you have questions related to selection criteria and community-related requests, please contact:

- For PLWH community organizations: Andrey Agafonov, ECUO, at agafonov@ecuo.org
- For community organizations of MSM and transgender people: Paata Sabelashvili, ECOM, at paata@ecom.ngo
- For PWUD community organizations: Daniel Kashnitsky, EHRN, at daniel.kashnitsky@harm-reduction.org

Technical questions regarding the filling out of the application shall be sent to ECOM's Grant Manager Olga Chemiia olga@ecom.ngo

Application deadline is 31 March 2017, 23:59 EET.
Applications should be submitted at olga@ecom.ngo



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