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PUBLIC CALL FOR PARTICIPATION OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT UNITS IN BiH Call III

Call number:	15.02.0-N2.3-15247
Call title:	Support to marginalized groups of women in developing businesses
Call issued on:	3/ 2/ 2020
Application deadline:	2 March 2020 (latest acceptable data on the postal seal)



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Public Call for participation of local self-government units

Marginalized Populations Support Activity (**USAID/PPMG**) of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is inviting all local units of self-government in Bosnia and Herzegovina to apply to the Public Call for supporting the implementation of the component for **Support to Marginalized Women Developing Businesses**.¹

Local self-government units are applying for funds provided by USAID/PPMG, who will match their contribution to the **Entrepreneurial Fund for Women** (for 1 BAM given by the local self-government units USAID/PPMG will give 1 BAM).

All inquiries about the Public Call are submitted exclusively to the following email address: prijava@ppmg.ba (subject/predmet: *15.02.0-N2.3-15247, Upit*).

The text of the Public Call and the application form are available at the website www.ppmg.ba.

The local self-government units are required to apply to the Call **by March 2, 2020** by sending their application or submitting it in person to:

USAID/PPMG, Ul. 4. viteške brigade 34-36, 71210 Ilidža (the envelope must state the following: *15.02.0-N2.3-15247 Prijava na javni poziv – Ne otvarati prije zvaničnog otvaranja prijava*).

Applications not submitted as described in the Call will not be taken into consideration.

USAID/PPMG will inform all the local self-government units about the outcome of the Public Call in writing.

Note: Local self-government units that cooperated with USAID/PPMG through Public Call I or II on Supporting businesses owned by marginalized women are not eligible for this Call.

Marginalized Populations Support Activity (USAID/PPMG) is a USAID program that supports activities of local organizations that advocate for the rights and dignity of underrepresented social groups in BiH, and builds the capacities of local NGOs, BiH institutions and USAID's implementation partners for reaching this goal.



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Background

For women between 15 and 44, worldwide, violence is one of the main causes of death or disability. More than 80% of human trafficking victims are women. More than 130 million women and girls alive today were victims of genital mutilation. Violence against women is not only a gross violation of human rights, it comes at a social and economic cost, and undermines the contribution women give to development, peace and security. It is a serious threat to the implementation of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

This position in the BiH society puts women at a disadvantage in entrepreneurship, economy and business. There are relatively few women in the business sector, and successful women are struggling to overcome the obstacles placed in their path by the still stereotypical BiH society.

Women are a significant but underutilized force in the economy of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The obvious lack of research on women in the private sector indicates that their problems and contributions are not acknowledged. Positive changes include the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the adoption of key legislation on women's rights, including the Law on Gender Equality, Family Law and Law on Protection From Domestic Violence. Despite positive legislation and political progress, women are still economically disadvantaged and they do not contribute to the economy as much as men do. The marginalization of women is evidenced by the higher unemployment rate for women, which is 18.8% compared to 13.6% for men. At 44.6%, the unemployment rate is significantly higher for men, compared to 26.7% for women, according to the latest Labor Force Survey from 2019.

Economic empowerment of women contributes to development by creating economic and social opportunities that benefit individuals, communities, countries and the world. Achieving this calls for stronger cooperation among relevant institutions, organizations and the international community in BiH, and BiH diaspora organizations.

Framework

Marginalized Populations Support Activity (USAID/PPMG) of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is inviting all local units of self-government in Bosnia and Herzegovina to apply to the Public Call for supporting the implementation of the program providing support to marginalized women developing businesses, issued by USAID.

USAID/PPMG, is issuing a Public Call for local self-government units interested in participating in the implementation of the program for supporting the development of micro, small and medium-sized businesses and agricultural households of women victims of violence, single mothers, unemployed young women under 35, women with disabilities or with children with disabilities, and otherwise marginalized women, all in order to contribute to the competitiveness of local economies and create opportunities for employing hard-to-employ categories. USAID/PPMG and the local self-government units will join their funds to create an **Entrepreneurial Fund for Women**.



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USAID/PPMG, in cooperation with all selected local self-government units will prepare a common framework concept which will be used as the model for providing support. After that, USAID/PPMG will support local self-government units in implementing the defined model. In each of the local self-government units, USAID/PPMG will hold workshops on writing business plans, filling out the applications and instructions for the target group.

Application criteria and procedures

All local self-government units in Bosnia and Herzegovina are eligible if they meet both of the following criteria:

- Local self-government units will secure funds for the Entrepreneurial Fund for Women in the amount equal to or higher than what they requested from USAID/PPMG, with the proviso that the amount of their own contribution, i.e. the amount requested from USAID/PPMG is at **least 25,000 BAM and at most 50,000 BAM**.
- Local self-government units are willing to **apply the model for providing support** (which was developed previously in cooperation with other local self-government units, and will be improved further), issue a public call for the aforementioned target groups, and provide budget funds for the Entrepreneurial Fund for Women, for supporting selected businesses during 2020.

Local self-government units apply for taking part in the program by filling out and submitting the **APPLICATION TO PUBLIC CALL**. The application form is available at: <http://ppmg.ba/ba/grantovi/otvoreni-pozivi>.

Local self-government units will ensure that eminent representatives of the local business sector are included in the process of selecting businesses of women who applied to the call of the local self-government units, and will be prepared to provide advisory support to women during the process of supporting businesses.

A representative of USAID/PPMG will be included in the committee for selecting businesses to be supported in the program.

The process of managing funds, monitoring the implementation of business plans and reporting will be defined in cooperation between the selected local self-government units and USAID/PPMG.

The minimum amount local self-government units can request from USAID/PPMG is 25,000 BAM and the maximum is 50,000 BAM.

USAID/PPMG will conduct a financial review and audit of the funded businesses.

USAID/PPMG will sign grant agreements with the selected local self-government units in March 2020, and local self-government units will be required to issue a public call for businesses owned by women within 45 days of signing the grant agreement.



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All **inquiries** about the Public Call are submitted exclusively to the following email address:
prijava@ppmg.ba (subject/predmet: *15.02.0-N2.3-15247, Upit*).

Note: Local self-government units selected during the Public Call I and Public Call II for supporting marginalized women developing businesses are not eligible for this Call.

Application deadline

Interested local self-government units are required to send their application by **March 2, 2020** (latest acceptable date on the postal seal), or deliver it themselves to the following address:
USAID/PPMG, Ul. 4. viteške brigade 34-36, 71210 Ilidža (the envelope must state the following:
15.02.0-N2.3-15247 Prijava na javni poziv – Ne otvarati prije zvaničnog otvaranja prijava).

Applications not submitted as described in the Call will not be taken into consideration.
Applications submitted after the stated deadline, and applications using inadequate forms will not be taken into consideration.

Public Call outcome

After the Commission evaluates and scores all the applications, USAID/PPMG will notify all the local self-government units about the outcome of the Call.

The applications that receive positive evaluations will enter negotiations, followed by signing a contract.