

**Grant Provider:** Partners Albania for Change and Development

## **CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

### **Guidelines for Applicants**

## **RESILIENT BALKANS FUND SUB-GRANTING SCHEME**

**Deadline for submission of Expression of Interest**

**13 January 2025**

## NOTICE

This is Call for Proposals for **individual activists and/or social movements** in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosova, Montenegro, and North Macedonia.

In the first step of the application, only the **expression of interest** will be checked by the Grant Provider. Thereafter, the **full proposal** will be evaluated for the pre-selected applicants. The instructions described in this document will help all applicants to successfully submit their applications.

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## RESILIENT BALKANS FUND SUB-GRANTING SCHEME

### 1.1 Background

Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosova, Montenegro, and North Macedonia has witnessed significant social and political changes over the past decades, shaped by conflict, post-conflict recovery, democratization efforts, and aspirations for EU integration. Social movements in the region have emerged as a response to these transitions, often driven by the need to address national issues, corruption, human rights abuses, and socio-economic inequalities.

In response to these growing challenges, Partners Albania for Change and Development (hereinafter referred to as "Grant Provider"), will manage the **Resilient Balkans Fund Subgranting Scheme** to strengthen and enhance the efficacy of individual activists and/or social movements in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosova, Montenegro, and North Macedonia.

The Resilient Balkans Fund Subgranting Scheme is launched in the frame of Powered by the People (PxP) initiative, a global 5 years project (2023 – 2028), implemented by Partners Global (*leading a consortium of 28 organisations from Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Eastern Europe and Eurasia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Middle East and North Africa*) and funded by USAID.

The overall goal of the PxP Program is to provide direct and accessible support that addresses the needs, opportunities, and challenges identified by activists and other allied civil actors engaged in nonviolent collective actions. In addition, through needs-based, demand-driven capacity building and helpdesk service, individual activists and social movements can access relevant resources and support in real-time. These components will contribute to empowering them with skills and knowledge essential for the implementation of their actions. The PxP Program fosters **relationship-building and networking** by creating opportunities for exchange among activists and defenders. **Regional Organizing Collectives (ROCs)** are dedicated to facilitating connections across these areas, ensuring a robust, interconnected network. The program sponsors **spaces for exchange and reflection on prioritized topics**, enabling deep dives into critical issues.

### 1.2 Specifications of the Call for Expression of Interest

**The Resilient Balkans Fund Subgranting Scheme aims to:**

1. Strengthen and enhance national and regional initiatives that are currently active but require additional support to increase their impact and sustainability, and
2. Support the development of new initiatives that address emerging or underrepresented issues.

**The expected results are:**

1. Sustained existing actions and/or social movements through the supported actions.
2. Catalyzed new mobilizations in the areas of Democratic Space, Human Rights, Anti-corruption, Environment and Climate Justice, Health, Education, Social Justice and Inclusive Development; and
3. Created impact by strengthening advocacy, driving change, and fostering sustained community engagement on societal challenges.

### 1.3 Financial Allocation provided by the Grant Provider

The Grant Provider will provide the following support:

1. Financial support to **individual activists and/or social movements** (informal groups) at the **national level**.
2. Financial support to **individual activists and/or social movements** (informal groups) at the **regional level**

The sub-granting scheme will support actions according to the significance and priorities they address, without distinguishing between national and regional initiatives. The Grant Provider reserves the right to not award all available funds.

Size of Sub-Grant: Any grant requested under this call for proposals must fall between the following amounts:

- Individual Actions: **up to 5,000 USD**
- Social movement actions: **up to 10,000 USD**
- Co-financing **is not required**.

Duration: The duration of the project awarded may be **up to six (6) months**.

Location: Action may take place in **one or more** of the following countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, and North Macedonia.

## 2. HOW TO APPLY

Applicants are required to submit the **Expression of Interest**, according to the following instructions:

1. Click the [APPLY NOW](#) link.
2. Enter your email address where the Add address is indicated, when prompted to create an account.
3. You will receive an email with a link asking you to verify your email. Click it!
4. You will be asked to create a password. Save it carefully!
5. At the same link APPLY NOW you will have to sign in with the email and password created.
6. You will be directed to the platform where you can prepare your Expression of Interest, which will be submitted entirely ONLINE. You will select Apply in the Funding Scheme named: Resilient Balkans Fund.
7. Fill all the required fields accordingly and submit your expression of interest by clicking the SUBMIT button. **\*Mandatory nature of the data requested.** Please be informed that once you have submitted the application, you will not be able to edit it.

*Embedded in its core mission, the Grant Provider firmly values and respects the right to privacy and is committed to processing relevant personal data in accordance with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). In the absence of communication of mandatory personal data, we will not be able to respond to your request.*

## 3. EVALUATION OF THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Grant Provider will evaluate the Expression of Interest based on the following criteria:

Criteria	Maximum score
<b>1. Specific issues or needs addressed:</b>	50 points
Are the specific issues or needs well-articulated and relevant to the program's objectives?	
<b>2. Expected results:</b>	50 points
Are the expected outcomes clearly defined, realistic, and likely to create a meaningful impact?	
<b>MAXIMUM TOTAL SCORE</b>	<b>100 points</b>

Next steps:

Applicants whose Expressions of Interest successfully pass the evaluation stage will be invited to submit a **Full Application**. Successful applicants will not only receive grant support but will also gain access to the Global Help Desk Service of the PxP Initiative, offering timely assistance on legal and digital security matters

The deadline of the Call for Expression of Interest is **13 January 2025**