Sarajevo,9th June 2023

**INVITATION TO EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
FOR CANDIDATE ENTITIES**

**TO BE ENTRUSTED WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF IPA 2021 SUPPORT IN THE SECTOR OF ENERGY:**

**“EU4ENERGY:**

**COMPONENT 1 - IMPLEMENTATION OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECTS/PROGRAMMES IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR**

**AND**

**COMPONENT 2 -IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE ENERGY PROJECTS/PROGRAMMES IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES”**

The European Union (EU) will support the energy sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) through a programme with the overall objective to contribute to the provision of affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy in BiH and contribute to the fulfilment of the obligations of BiH under Energy Community Treaty, Paris Agreement and other international agreements by implementing energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

In that respect, the Delegation of the European Union to BiH, building on the suggestions of BiH’s authorities, is looking into possibilities for indirect management with eligible entities to implement parts of IPA III instrument for pre-accession assistance annual action plan in favour of BiH for 2021, in view of potentially entering into formal negotiation leading to the signature of two Contribution Agreements in the course of 2023.

**Legal bases and considerations:**

The financial rules applicable to the Union budget, specifically Articles 62 (1) (c) and 154 of Financial Regulation (EU Euratom) No 2018/1046 from 18/07/2018, Regulation (EU) 2021/1529 from 15/09/20211, establishing an Instrument for Pre-Accession assistance (IPA III Regulation), Articles 1 (4) and 5 (4) of the Regulation No 236/2014 from 11/03/2014, laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union’s instruments financing external actions, allow for a for a possibility for the Union's financial assistance to be implemented indirectly by entrusting budget implementing tasks to among others, international organisations as well as their agencies and Member States agencies.[[1]](#footnote-1)

This request for expression of interest aims at identifying entities, which could be later on invited to exploratory talks on a potential subsequent entrustment of the Union's budget implementation tasks (BIT) in respect to specific actions of the IPA III 2021 Action Document 05 - EU4 Energy. The organisation does not commit itself in expressing an interest to this consultation. At the same time, the European Commission reserves the right to take its final decision on the delegated actions upon its discretion.

*A budget implementation tasks (BIT) means that the entrusted entities is responsible for:*

* *Implementation of grant award and procurement procedures*
* *Award decisions for grants and procurement – complementary decisions to reject the other applicants and tenderers;*
* *Implementation of contracts: signature of legal commitments, authorisation of payments and recoveries, audits and follow-up*
* *Implementation of financial instruments*
* *Treasury and accounting.*

**IPA III Action context:**

The overall objective of IPA III 2021 Action Document “EU4 Energy” with two components is to contribute to the provision of affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy in BiH and contribute to the fulfilment of the obligations of BiH under Energy Community Treaty, Paris Agreement and other international agreements through implementation of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. The specific objectives of this document are to achieve energy savings through energy efficiency projects/programmes, to reduce GHG emissions through sustainable pilot projects implemented at local level and to promote sustainable energy concept among the citizens and public institutions in BiH.

The foreseen Action will be implemented by the Entrusted entities (with its implementing partner(s) if any) which have the highest competences and specialisation in the area of this call of expression and has a proven track record in EU Member States, candidate and potential candidate countries.

**Responsibilities of the future entrusted entities:**

The entrusted Entities would be responsible for implementing the envisaged Actions described in the IPA III 2021 Action Document “EU4 Energy” which includes tasks described in Annex I (Component 1 and Component 2).

The entrusted Entities shall be responsible for the overall administration of all the tasks required to implement the above Action, among others, preparation, implementation and conclusion of procurement contracts, and management of corresponding expenditures, as well as providing for respective technical assistance. The entrusted Entities will also be responsible for lead coordination amongst its implementing partner(s) if any. It will participate in coordination meetings and other jointly organised common activities with the European Union.

In performing the Actions entrusted, the Entities may not carry out tasks involving a large measure of discretion implying political choices and it may not set nor modify the primary objectives of the activities as described in Annex I, without the consent of the European Union.

The entrusted entities (with its implementing partner(s) if any) are envisaged to directly provide technical assistance with its own staff. In case that the outsourcing would be needed, the entrusted entities (with its implementing partner(s), if any) will recruit local and where relevant, international experts.

The financing of the actions would be done by the European Union as prescribed in the Financing Decision. In case that the outsourcing would be needed, the entrusted entities (with its implementing partner(s) and/or sub-delegate(s), if any) will recruit local and where relevant, international experts. A flat rate of maximum 7% administrative cost is applicable to all Indirect Management Delegation Agreement contracts and will be subject to further discussions and negotiations

**Selection process:**

**Submission Requirements:** Interested entities are hereby invited to submit expressions of interest by replying to the questions mentioned under **Annex II and III.**

**Entities are required to specify the component they are interested to implement. Entities may express interest into two components, in that case 2 expressions of interest shall be submitted.**

The information should be sent by email to the following e-mail address: DELEGATION-BOSNIA-AND-HERZEGOVINA-CFP@eeas.europa.eu, **by 10th of July 2023, 24:00 o'clock, CET, the latest.**

**All additional questions related to this Letter should be addressed to the EU Delegation not later than 3rd of July 2023 12:00 o'clock, CET.**

All replies to the questions related to this Expression of Interest received within the deadline specified above, will be published on the website of the Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina, section "Tenders and funding", sub-section "EU Delegation tenders" under the link to this Expression of Interest.

The organisations that would respond to this Expression of Interest will be assessed along a transparent set of criteria mentioned below. The best-placed entities will be invited to start negotiations, potentially leading to a Contribution Agreement. The selection would be made from responses to this notification.

The selection of the entities under indirect management should not to be compared with, and does not constitute, a full competitive procedure. However, the present Request for Expression of Interest with all potentially eligible and interested entities ensures a transparent selection process on objective grounds.

The potential Contribution Agreements signature is expected in the course of 2023, following a negotiation procedure.

More information on the type of arrangements for managing the EU projects (referred to as ‘management modes’) is available on the EU website

https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/funding/about-funding-and-procedures/how-do-we-offerfunding\_en

**Annex I – Brief description of the Action “EU4 Energy”**

*The overall objective* of the IPA III 2021 Action Document “EU4 Energy” is to contribute to the fulfilment of the obligations of BiH under Energy Community Treaty, Paris Agreement and other international agreements through implementation of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

*The outputs are:*

1. Energy savings achieved through energy efficiency projects/programmes.
2. Emission of GHG reduced through sustainable energy pilot projects (refers to combination of energy efficiency measures and introduction of renewables - instalment of solar panels, replacement of boilers for the transition from fossil fuels to biomass, and alike) implemented at a local level.
3. Benefits of sustainable energy concept promoted among the citizens and public institutions in BiH

*Activities* related to the above outputs:

* Implement energy efficiency projects/programmes in the public sector under existing and new innovative, scalable financing mechanisms.
* Implement set of pilot projects in sustainable energy at a local level, such as energy-efficient public lightning, use of renewable energy sources in district heating systems, energy efficiency projects in the public sector using cleaner power fuels, community energy concept, consumer-prosumer concept, diversification of power fuels, the introduction of new technologies, e-mobility (charging electrical vehicles), etc.
* Inform public and private entities to promote the positive effects of renewable energy utilisation, the introduction of new technologies into existing conventional energy sources, the importance of energy source diversification – including natural gas and solar energy - and application of the energy efficiency measures.

**Rationale**

Main objectives of Bosnia and Hercegovina as outlined in the Framework Energy Strategy until 2035 are efficient usage of resources to ensure secure and affordable energy supply, energy efficiency, energy transition and environmental responsibility, development and harmonization of the regulatory and institutional framework. BiH adopted the above-named countrywide sector strategy in August 2018 providing a harmonized approach in transposition, implementation and enforcement of the relevant EU energy acquis.

BiH has already started preparing the National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP). The draft of NECP has been submitted to the Energy Community Secretariat and it was concluded that it can serve as a solid basis for the development of an ambitious final NECP. Parallel to the development of NECP BiH 2021-2030, entities energy and climate plans will be developed as well. NECP BiH will define targets for energy efficiency, renewable energy sources and emissions by 2030, as well as the necessary policies and measures to achieve them. This is the first time that BiH has applied an integrated approach where future energy development is monitored in line with climate change. It is planned to finalize these documents by the end of 2021. Renewable energy and energy efficiency represent two out of five main parts of the draft National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP). It is of paramount importance to meet targets defined within the adopted National Renewable Energy Action Plan up to 2020 (NREAP) and the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for BiH (NEEAP).

An important goal is to establish an attractive investment climate for renewable energy sources. A particular problem remains the promotion of renewable energy in the public sector as well as in transport, heating and cooling systems. It is necessary to promote and implement changes to all legal frameworks that directly affect the energy sector in order to enable greater investments in renewable sources and the application of new technologies in conventional energy sources. Other obstacles that can be targeted are administrative procedures for permitting, construction and licensing which are not coordinated and streamlined.

Public finance management in Bosnia and Herzegovina is decentralised and within the responsibility of each of the administration levels, except for the indirect taxes and the system of public procurements, which are being applied in the whole territory of BiH and are within the competency of the state-level institutions.

Bosnia and Herzegovina has no countrywide strategy for public finance management. The Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) with three-year general budget planning of institutions in BiH and general annual budget planning of institutions in BiH is in place. However, the MTEF for the energy sector in BiH has not been established. Ultimately, the budget will need to incorporate the priorities identified by the energy sector, linking budget expenditures in the mid-term period to the sector-wide programmatic and strategic goals.

Activities of the public utilities and service providers at the local level represent an important potential area for improvement of energy efficiency and utilisation of renewable energy for emissions reductions and energy savings. Due to the limited availability and access to existing information, as well as the lack of capacity of the relevant authorities, investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions are limited.

Therefore, support is needed to implement sustainable energy pilot projects at the local level and promotional activities that will raise awareness on the benefits of investing in energy-efficient measures and utilisation of renewable energy.

**Description of related tasks**

This action should be implemented in indirect management with entrusted entities which will be selected by the Commission’s services (**it is foreseen that each component 1 and component 2, will be implemented through a separate agreement**). The entrusted entities must be positively pillar assessed, including for the procurement of grants to ensure transparent management and coordination of the Action.

Component 1- Implementation of energy efficiency projects/programmes

Improved energy efficiency enables the reduction of energy consumption, and at the same time offers a wide range of benefits to end-users. In this area, BiH is guided by the EU pre-accession process, as well as the fulfilment of its international obligations. Pilot projects, such as the Pilot project for future Europe House that is located in the “Vječna Vatra” building in Sarajevo[[2]](#footnote-2) between Ferhadija Street, MM Bašeskije and Ćemaluša street will be implemented at a local level in BiH to show that the citizens that the government is becoming more aware of the benefits of implementing energy efficiency measures.

The output of component 1 are achieved energy savings through energy efficiency projects/programmes.

To achieve the output, the entrusted entities is required to:

Implement energy efficiency projects/programmes in the public sector (such as: public buildings and facilities, energy efficiency projects in the public sector using cleaner power fuels, energy-efficiency and use of renewable energy sources in district heating systems, energy-efficient public lightning, promote and implement energy-efficiency in public procurement, promote and implement energy-efficiency in supply and delivery chains, in rationalisation of urban public transport systems, promote and implement energy savings in urban planning) under existing and new innovative, scalable financing mechanisms.

Component 2 - Implementation of sustainable energy projects/programmes in local communities

Promotional programmes for sustainable energy utilisation in local communities, which include the aspects of energy efficiency, renewable energy and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) that are recognized as an important factor in the implementation of the strategic objectives of sustainable development of the energy sector in BiH.

The outputs of component 2 include reduction of GHG emissions through sustainable energy pilot projects (refers to combination of energy efficiency measures and introduction of renewables - instalment of solar panels, replacement of boilers for the transition from fossil fuels to biomass, and alike) implemented at a local level, and promotion of benefits of sustainable energy concept among the citizens and public institutions in BiH.

To achieve the output, the entrusted entities is required to:

1. Implement set of pilot projects in sustainable energy at a local level, such as energy-efficient public lightning, use of renewable energy sources in district heating systems, energy efficiency projects in the public sector using cleaner power fuels, community energy concept, consumer-prosumer concept, diversification of power fuels, the introduction of new technologies, e-mobility (charging electrical vehicles), community-based transport systems, incentive schemes to use non-fossil fuel mode of transports, etc.
2. Inform public and private entities to promote the positive effects of renewable energy utilisation, the introduction of new technologies into existing conventional energy sources, the importance of energy source diversification – including natural gas and solar energy - and application of the energy efficiency measures.

For a successful implementation of the Actions, capacity building is a key element at all levels in BiH. Good co-operation and co-ordination, as well as proactive involvement of all stakeholders including local communities in implementation of the Actions, are prerequisites for reaching the set objectives.

The entrusted Entities will establish the Steering Committee(s) at the start of implementation, whose role, amongst other will be to monitor the progress of Actions implementation, provide advice, and include main institutional stakeholders in accordance with common practice under the chair of the EU Delegation to BiH.

Before the start of implementation, the entrusted Entities will refine the matrix of indicators for the Action after undertaking the necessary research and data collection to define accurate baselines and realistic targets, and include it in the description of action. The matrix of indicators will be discussed with the EU

Delegation to BiH and approved by the Steering Committee(s). The monitoring arrangements (including data to be collected, responsibilities, tools and frequency of monitoring activities) will be detailed in the Implementation Manual to be developed at the start of the Action.

**Indicative Targets and Indicators**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Indicator** | **Baselines****(year)** | **Targets****(year)** |
| Achieved energy savings (ktoe) in all sectors. | Total Primary Energy Supply 7.247 ktoe (2015) | Total Primary Energy Supply 6.328 ktoe (the exact value will be known after adoption of the NECP BiH)(2027) |
| Share of renewable energy sources in the gross final energy consumption (%) / sector breakdown  | 40%(2020) | 43.75 % (the exact percentage will be known after adoption of the NECP BiH(2027) |
| Progress achieved in preparedness for fulfilment of the obligations of BiH under Energy Community Treaty through transposition of legislation and promotion of investments in sustainable energy.[[3]](#footnote-3) | Limited progress(2022) | Significant progress(2030) |
| Percentage of energy savings in public sectorPercentage of CO2 reduction | 0% (2022)0%(2022)  | 35%(2027)20% (2027) |
| Level of public awareness related to sustainable energy concept (measurement unit is % of respondents and their level of awareness before and after implementation of the promotional campaign).[[4]](#footnote-4) | 0%(baseline will be determined with first survey measurement)(2022) | 50% |

**Indicative allocation for this Action:** EUR 9 million:

Component 1: EUR 6 million

 Component 2: EUR 3 million

**Location:** Bosnia and Herzegovina countrywide

**Indicative implementing period:** Q2 2023 – Q2 2029

**Implementation arrangements**

This action should be implemented in indirect management with entrusted entities which will be selected by the Commission’s services, using the following selection criteria:.

1. operational capacity of the applicant for managing large scale interventions involving grants;
2. technical competence in the preparation and implementation of sustainable energy projects preferably gained in the Western Balkan region in the fields relevant to the Action such as renewable energy, energy efficiency, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions;

The entrusted entities, as well as its implementing partner(s, if any, **must be positively pillar assessed**, including for the **procurement of grants** to ensure transparent management and coordination of the Action.

The implementation by this entities entails a contribution to the fulfilment of the obligations of BiH under Energy Community Treaty, Paris Agreement and other international agreements through implementation of Component 1 and Component 2**. It is foreseen that each component 1 (EUR 6M) and component 2 (EUR 3M), will be implemented through a separate agreement**

If negotiations with the entrusted entities fail, that part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with other alternative entities which shall be selected by Commission services using the same selection criteria. In case the envisaged entities would need to be replaced, the Commission’s services may select a replacement entities using the same selection criteria given above. If the entities is replaced the decision to replace it needs to be justified.

For the proposed activities under this Action Document, the key institutional stakeholders at all levels of governance in BiH are:

State level:

* BiH Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations

Federation of BiH:

* Federal Ministry of Energy, Mining and Industry
* Federal Ministry of Physical Planning
* Environmental Protection Fund of Federation of BiH
* Canton Sarajevo/Sarajevo City Administration

Republika Srpska:

* Ministry of Energy and Mining
* Ministry of Spatial Planning, Civil Engineering and Ecology
* Fund for Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency

Brčko District of BiH:

* Government of the Brčko District of BiH

The Steering Committee(s), consisting of key relevant stakeholders involved in a specific Component, will be established at the beginning of the Action implementation. Mechanism for implementation of activities and criteria for selection of activities to be supported through this action should be set-up by the entrusted entities in cooperation with the key institutional stakeholders before start of the implementation of the action.

Steering Committee(s) will oversee the implementation of activities under this Action Document. Apart from Contracting Authority, Steering Committee(s) will include representatives from main stakeholders from all levels of authorities in BiH. The composition of the Steering Committee(s) will ensure equal representation of the interest of all key actors highlighting the effectiveness and efficiency of such body.

Also, the Action might be subject to external monitoring in line with the European Commission rules and procedures set in the Financing Agreement.

The Steering Committee(s) will be established to monitor implementation of the activities under this Action Document and will be composed of the main stakeholders: Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of BiH, Federal Ministry of Energy, Mining and Industry, Ministry of Energy and Mining of the RS, Federal Ministry of Physical Planning, Ministry of Spatial Planning, Civil Engineering and Ecology of the RS, Government of Brčko District of BiH, Elektroprenos-Elektroprijenos BiH, Independent System Operator in Bosnia and Herzegovina, State Electricity Regulatory Commission, Regulatory Commission for Energy of RS, Regulatory Commission for Energy in Federation of BiH, environmental protection funds, cantonal representatives, Directorate for European Integration (DEI), EU Delegation and other relevant institutions. The EU Delegation to BiH is to receive the final proposal for the PSC member institutions and will send official requests for nominations.

This action will be regularly monitored by EU Delegation BiH. Internal monitoring will be implemented through Steering Committee(s) meetings, EU Delegation quarterly Implementation reviews, on-the-spot checks, meetings with beneficiaries and consultant companies/contractors. Besides, the Action might be subject to external monitoring in line with the European Commission rules and procedures set in the Financing Agreement. That is subject to the DG NEAR's Thematic Support, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit. They assess EU support, over a significant period, looking at specific sectors/themes, country support, aid modalities, financial instruments. They help understand why, in a specific context, the policy dialogue and financial assistance have been successful or not and provide recommendations to decision-makers for future programming and implementation.

**Annex II - ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

1) ELIGIBILITY OF ACTORS:

Eligibility of the potential entities for a Contribution Agreement is conditioned to their Pillar Assessment, which is requested by the EU under the Financial Regulation (EU Euratom) No 2018/1046 from 18 July 2018. The potential entrusted Entities submitting the expression of interest should be:

1. An International Organisation as defined by Article 62 (c) (ii) within the meaning of Article 156 of the EU Financial Regulation [[5]](#footnote-5) whose pillars have been positively assessed for Budget Implementation Tasks (BIT) by the European Commission;

or

1. EU Member State organisations[[6]](#footnote-6)

The pillar assessed entrusted Entities (as a coordinator) may work with implementing partner(s)  *fulfilling the eligibility and selection criteria* to demonstrate the experience in the relevant sectors specified below.

2) SELECTION CRITERIA

a) Operational capacity of the applicant for managing large scale interventions involving grants;

b) Technical competence in the preparation and implementation of sustainable **energy projects** preferably gained in the **Western Balkan** region in the fields relevant to the Action such as **renewable energy, energy efficiency, and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions**

**The potential applicants which pass the eligibility and selection criteria will be assessed further as per selection criteria specified in Annex III.**

**Annex III – Standard template for assessing potential applicants responding to a consultation process for expression of interest**

1. **CONTEXT**
* **Introductory part not requested to be filled by the potential Delegated body:**
1. Country / Project/Programme Title: **Bosnia and Herzegovina/ "EU4 Energy”**
2. Sector: **Energy**
3. Short description of the project/programme and its general objectives: **Please refer to Annex I of this Expression of Interest**

**Component 1 - Implementation of energy efficiency projects/programmes in the public sector (EUR 6M) and Component 2 -Implementation of sustainable energy projects/programmes in local communities (EUR 3M)**

Components will be implemented through a separate agreement, entities must select one or two components. When applying for both components two different expressions of interest shall be submitted.

* **For the potential entrusted Entities– To be filled in by the entities replying to the expression of interest:**
1. Name of potential Entrusted entities and implementing partner(s)
2. Presentation of foreseen division of roles within the partnership between potential entrusted Entities, implementing partner(s) who covers which aspect of the Action's implementation and what the coordination chain would be, with the overarching responsibility of the potential Entrusted entities under and for the Action
3. Eligibility – Please provide relevant information to demonstrate eligibility as per criteria defined in Annex II of this document.
4. **ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

**For the potential Entrusted entities – To be filled in by the entities replying to the expression of interest on max 9 pages, in Times New Roman font 11:**

* Please draft your expression of interest strictly using the following structure:

**1. Methodology (weight 35%)**

* 1. *Please describe your methodology for implementation of the tasks indicated in Annex I with special emphasis on the following issues:*
1. *How would you see the implementation of the tasks described under Annex I? Please provide a brief methodology and a concept for implementation.*
2. *What is your approach to the definition of the pilot projects selection criteria (i.e. do you envisage any specific challenges) as well as to an achievement of the performance indicators?*
3. *Please identify, in you view, what are the main areas and key stakeholders for capacity building and awareness raising for a successful implementation of the Action.*
4. *How will implementation of this action contribute to the fulfilment of the obligations of BiH under Energy Community Treaty, Paris Agreement and other international agreements?*
5. *How do you plan to ensure coordination with other programmes and donors in the sector?*

**2. Technical capacity (weight 30%)**

* 1. *Please describe your experience in managing large scale interventions involving grants, as well as your technical competence in the preparation and implementation of sustainable energy projects preferably gained in the Western Balkan region in the fields relevant to the Action such as renewable energy, energy efficiency, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions;.*
	2. *Will the potential entrusted Entities, manage the funds and the procurement procedures itself and/or does it intend to work with implementing partners, and/or, exceptionally, through a sub-delegation to another entrusted body?*
	3. *The potential entrusted Entities should provide indications on its long-standing experience in the energy sector with a focus on renewable energy sources, energy efficiency sustainable energy pilot projects and promotional activities demonstrated either individually, or by working in the partnership.*
1. *In this respect, please summarise the relevant projects/assignments, by also referring to your familiarity/ concrete contribution to achievement of some indicative targets/ performance indicators from the Annex I of this document.*

**3. Professional capacity (weight 15%)**

* 1. *Please provide information of the profile of the potential entrusted Entities/ namely the organisation and staffing–internationally, in the Region, and in the country, where relevant. In particular, please specify the following:*
1. *The number of staff working in the field related to this expression of interest.*
2. *Will you implement the Action (both components) with your own staff or will you recruit? If the recruitment will be foreseen, please indicate profiles of experts (including whether local or international) and their positions/for which parts of the Action are envisaged.*
3. *Will you sub-contract any part of the Action? If sub-contracting will be foreseen, please indicate profiles of sub-contractors and for which parts of the Action are envisaged.*
	1. *Please indicate how you will ensure a country-wide coverage of the foreseen intervention.*

**4. Involvement in the beneficiary country (weight 10 %)**

* 1. *Please indicate your past and current involvement in the energy sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina, if any.*
	2. *Do you have sector related experience in the Western Balkans and if yes, in which countries?*

**5. Other (weight 10%)**

* 1. *Willingness to co-finance and/or complement this Action with your own resources would be an asset. How much do you plan to contribute from your side?*
	2. *Please describe your specific activities envisaged to guarantee the visibility of the EU funding (including reference to the Communication and Visibility requirements for EU External Action –January 2018 https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/comm-visibility-requirements\_en. In that respect, how do you plan to ensure that the EU is promoted and recognised as the main donor? Please provide an outline of your communication and visibility plan (to be developed in detail in negotiation phase).*

**Contact Sheet**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Full legal name of Lead Organisation/ Individual:** |  |
| **Name** (if different from above)**:** |  |
| **Country of Registration:** |  |
| **Address of registered office:** |  |
| **Postal address** (if different from above)**:** |  |
| **Telephone number (including country code):**  |  |
| **Fax number (including country code):** |  |
| **Main contact person for this assignment:** |  |
| **Main contact person’s position in the Organisation:** |  |
| **Contact person’s email address:** |  |
| **Alternate contact person:** |  |
| **Alternative E-mail:** |  |
| **Website of the Organisation:** |  |

**Further information about Agreements with pillar-assessed organisations, Contribution Agreements etc. can be found at** [**https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/working-partner-organisations\_en**](https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/working-partner-organisations_en)

**ANNEX IV – Evaluation grid**

**INVITATION TO EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
FOR CANDIDATE ENTITIES TO BE ENTRUSTED WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF IPA 2021 SUPPORT IN THE SECTOR OF ENERGY:**

**“EU4ENERGY - ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY PROGRAMMES IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA”**

**Name of the candidate, partner(s , (if any):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Component you are interested :**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **I. ELIGIBILITY OF ACTORS** | **Comments**  | **Assessment**  |
| The potential entrusted Entities submitting the expression of interest should be: |  |  |
| 1. An International Organisation as defined by Article 62 (c) (ii) within the meaning of Article 156 of the EU Financial Regulation whose pillars have been positively assessed for Budget Implementation Tasks (BIT) by the European Commission;
 |  | **Y/N** |
| 1. The EU Member States organisation.[[7]](#footnote-7)
 |  | **Y/N** |
|  **SELECTION CRITERIA** |  |  |
| 1. Operational capacity of the applicant for managing large scale interventions involving grants;
 |  | **Y/N** |
| 1. b) Technical competence in the preparation and implementation of sustainable energy projects preferably gained in the Western Balkan region in the fields relevant to the Action such as renewable energy, energy efficiency, and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
 |  | **Y/N** |
| **Eligibility assessment overall**  |  |  |
| **The potential applicants, which pass the eligibility criteria, will be assessed further as per selection criteria specified on the next page** |
| **II. ASSESSMENT CRITERIA** |  |  |
| **1. Methodology (weight 35%)** |  | **Max 35 points** |
| 1.1. Please describe your methodology for implementation of the tasks indicated in Annex I with special emphasis on the following issues:a) How would you see the implementation of the tasks described under Annex I? Please provide a brief methodology and a concept for implementation.b) What is your approach to the definition of the pilot projects selection criteria (i.e. do you envisage any specific challenges) as well as to an achievement of the performance indicators?c) Please identify, in you view, what are the main areas and key stakeholders for capacity building and awareness raising for a successful implementation of the Action.d) How will implementation of this action contribute to the fulfilment of the obligations of BiH under Energy Community Treaty, Paris Agreement and other international agreements?e) How do you plan to ensure coordination with other programmes and donors in the sector? |  |  |
| **2. Technical capacity (weight 30%)** |  | **Max 30 points** |
| 2.1. Please describe your experience in managing large scale interventions involving grants, as well as your technical competence in the preparation and implementation of sustainable energy projects preferably gained in the Western Balkan region in the fields relevant to the Action such as renewable energy, energy efficiency, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions;. |  |  |
| 2.2. Will the potential entrusted Entities, manage the funds and the procurement procedures itself and/or does it intend to work with implementing partners, and/or, exceptionally, through a sub-delegation to another entrusted body? |  |  |
| 2.3. The potential entrusted Entities should provide indications on its long-standing experience in the energy sector with a focus on renewable energy sources, energy efficiency sustainable energy pilot projects and promotional activities demonstrated either individually, or by working in the partnership.a) In this respect, please summarise the relevant projects/assignments, by also referring to your familiarity/ concrete contribution to achievement of some indicative targets/ performance indicators from the Annex I of this document. |  |  |
| **3. Admin/professional capacity (weight 15%)** |  | **Max 15 points** |
|  3.1. Please provide information of the profile of the potential entrusted Entities/ namely the organisation and staffing–internationally, in the Region, and in the country, where relevant. In particular, please specify the following:a) The number of staff working in the field related to this expression of interest.b) Will you implement the Action (both components) with your own staff or will you recruit? If the recruitment will be foreseen, please indicate profiles of experts (including whether local or international) and their positions/for which parts of the Action are envisaged.c) Will you sub-contract any part of the Action? If sub-contracting will be foreseen, please indicate profiles of sub-contractors and for which parts of the Action are envisaged. |  |  |
| 3.2. Please indicate how you will ensure a country-wide coverage of the foreseen intervention. |  |  |
| **4. Involvement of the potential Entrusted entities in the partner country/Bosnia and Herzegovina (weight 10 %)** |  | **Max 10 points** |
| 4.1. Please indicate your past and current involvement in the energy sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina, if any. |  |  |
| 4.2. Do you have sector related experience in the Western Balkans and if yes, in which countries? |  |  |
| **5. Other (weight 10%)** |  | **Max 10 points** |
| 5.1. Willingness to co-finance and/or complement this Action with your own resources would be an asset. How much do you plan to contribute from your side? |  |  |
| 5.2. Please describe your specific activities envisaged to guarantee the visibility of the EU funding (including reference to the Communication and Visibility requirements for EU External Action –January 2018 https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/comm-visibility-requirements\_en. In that respect, how do you plan to ensure that the EU is promoted and recognised as the main donor? Please provide an outline of your communication and visibility plan (to be developed in detail in negotiation phase). |  |  |
| **TOTAL SCORE** |  |  |
| Comments(strong/weak points) |  |  |

1. Specifically, Article 9 of IPA III Regulation prescribes that “Assistance under this Regulation shall be implemented in direct management or indirect management in accordance with the Financial Regulation through annual or multiannual action plans and measures, as referred to in Chapter III of Title II of Regulation (EU) 2021/947. In addition, Annex I to the same Regulation, prescribes that “IPA III will rely on a variety of partners, such as relevant EU Agencies, central and local authorities, Member States’ agencies and organisations, international and regional organisations, civil society organisations, and international and development financial institutions), in situations where they have a clear added value, building on the experience achieved and the lessons learned from the implementation of IPA and IPA II.” [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Project documentation with all necessary permits and consents from competent entities related to reconstruction of the facade, exterior joinery and roof of future Europe House that will be located in the “Vječna Vatra” building in Sarajevo between Ferhadija Street, MM Bašeskije and Ćemaluša street, will be available and delivered to the implementing partner. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. This indicator is linked to the already contracted part of the EU4 Energy programme (EU4Energy Component 1 - Technical Assistance in the energy sector of Bosnia and Herzegovina) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. This indicator is linked to the already contracted part of the EU4 Energy programme (EU4Energy Component 1 - Technical Assistance in the energy sector of Bosnia and Herzegovina) [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Defined as per Articles 62 (c) (ii) and 156 of the EU Financial Regulation: [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Defined as per Article 157 of the EU Financial Regulation [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Defined as per Article 157 of the EU Financial Regulation [↑](#footnote-ref-7)