FIRST OPEN CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE YOUTH INTER-CULTURAL ARTS FUND

Open to:	Civil Society Organizations, Municipalities, Cultural Foundations.
Funding opportunity:	Up to 7000 EUR per application/call
Implementation period:	June 2023 - May 2024
Submission deadline:	April 30, 2023

Guidelines for Grant Applicants

Building New Bridges

The Building New Bridges (BNB) project builds on the 2014-2021 Building Bridges Fund (BB) which introduced a model for integrated education in North Macedonia by supporting schools, municipalities and civil society organizations (CSOs) to pair children of different backgrounds and languages through joint curricular activities.

This new project further aims at building inclusive societies that cherish and take pride in cultural pluralism and respect for tolerance, dialogue and co-operation, in a climate of mutual trust and understanding as the best guarantees of social peace and security.

The BNB is currently supported by the Kingdom of Norway, the Republic of Poland and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

Objective of the Youth Inter-Cultural Arts Fund (YIAF)

The **overall objective of the Youth Inter-cultural Arts Fund (YIAF)** is to strengthen the capacity of youth across the ethnic divide to promote inter-ethnic dialogue, civic values and combat discrimination through arts-based activities and inter-cultural initiatives. The YIAF will distribute grants to selected CSOs working with boys and girls and cultural organizations with a strong track record in the areas of youth empowerment and the promotion of civic values through the arts and inter-cultural activities.

The **priorities of the YIA Fund** are:

1. To strengthen inter-ethnic relations and co-operation among youth of different language and cultural backgrounds through joint activities;

2. To instil mutual respect and combat ethnic stereotypes and prejudices by developing a sense of community and belonging;
3. To raise awareness about the importance of civic engagement as a tool for integration;
4. To promote the arts as a medium for cross-cultural communication and mutual understanding.

Eligible applicants include civil society organizations, cultural entities/foundations and municipalities.

Under the 1st call for proposals, the YIAF provides grants up to 7000 Euro for eligible CSOs/cultural entities and municipalities for project proposals implemented between June 2023 and May 2024.

The Application Package

The Application package can be downloaded through the site of the OSCE Mission to Skopje in Macedonian, Albanian and English languages. Applications must be submitted in English. A version in Macedonian and/or Albanian can be provided in addition to the English one. The deadline for the first open call is April 30th, **2023.**

Applications can be submitted directly to: **BNB.mk@osce.org**

Applications are firstly reviewed by the Executive Office of the BNB Fund to determine their eligibility. An independent advisory board will ultimately make awarding decisions.

For any questions regarding the open call you can contact our team:
If you find it difficult to fill in the pdf form you can request the application form in a word document file via email.
Emilija Simonovska |Tel: 070 358083
Fljorin Redjepi | Tel: 070 358298

Email: bnb.mk@osce.org

Youth Inter-Cultural Arts Fund (YIAF)

Eligibility Criteria

1. Eligibility of the Applicant

The YIAF will distribute small grants to selected CSOs, youth centres, cultural centres and other legally registered entities (e.g., municipalities) in the Republic of North Macedonia with a proven track record in the areas of youth empowerment and the promotion of civic values through the arts and inter-cultural activities.

Funded project proposals will be administered directly by awarded CSOs, contracted by the Mission as Implementing Partners and managed in accordance with OSCE administrative guidelines and regulations on Implementing Partners.

If funded, at the beginning of project activities each grant recipient is requested to carry out a baseline survey to measure the initial degree of social cohesion among participating boys and girls. Specifically, the survey is intended to measure perceptions of belonging, inclusion, tolerance and participation as important domains of social cohesion. The survey will be developed by the BNB Unit and carried out by grant recipients as implementing partners. Participants will be assured of confidentiality of the information provided in the survey. All data will be securely stored and maintained within the Mission's server. The findings of the baseline survey will feed into the final self-evaluation report.

2. Eligibility of Project Activities

Eligible activities should aim towards:
- Fostering common civic values;
- Encouraging inter-ethnic socialization;
- Promoting tolerance through the arts and cultural initiatives.

Possibilities are endless and no strict limits are set as long as project participants and beneficiaries with **different languages of instruction** are actively engaged and bridges are being built.

This seems most likely when activities (e.g., inter-cultural debates; workshops; campaigns; community actions, inspirational talks):

- ✓ Lead towards a mutually desired joint product (e.g., multi-ethnic rock band, theatrical performance, documentary film, graffiti mural art) resulting from frequency of contact and active engagement among participating youth;
- ✓ Are **truly "mixed"** with equal representation of youth from different languages of instruction; and encouraging co-operation between each other in events;
- ✓ Focus on activities that emphasize **actual interests** that all youth share, **not backgrounds that differentiate** them;
- ✓ **Equally involve boys and girls**, as well as those with **special needs. For all the students, below 18 year old, involved in the project activities, the applicants should obtain parents approvals.**
- ✓ **Exclude politics**;
- ✓ **Provide opportunities for minority and marginalized communities in places where the action will take place**;
- ✓ Are driven by **interests expressed by youth themselves** and not designed solely by CSO staff.

3. Budget

The **Building New Bridges Fund does not disburse money** but purchases the needed materials and/or services for the implementation of activities per OSCE Mission to Skopje's rules and procedures. The applicant must provide an estimate of the foreseen costs after which the Executive Office ultimately decides on eligible purchases. The grant will not cover any CSO operational costs (rent of office premises, utilities etc.). The Project is a co-funded activity, relying on the applicant's co-financing of cost, such as costs for office premises, utilities, in-house expertise, etc. The extent of the co-financing that the applicant will be able to provide will be one of the criteria based on which the Project will evaluate and award applicant/s.

Consultations with Youth

All project proposals must clearly demonstrate the participation of young people in the implementation of the activities. The purpose of this requirement is to ensure that proposals include activities fostering integration that youth themselves see as most feasible and interesting, as well as to support the development of a culture of open flow of ideas between the CSO staff and participating youth.

Advisory Board of the new BNB Fund

The Advisory Board of the new BNB Fund is the key body that evaluates applications and it is the decision-making body of the entire BNB funding scheme whose task is to evaluate project proposals and make award decisions. It is envisaged that the Board be comprised of the OSCE Mission to Skopje's Deputy Head of Mission, the BNB Project Manager (Head of the Human Dimension Department), the Senior Gender Officer/GFP (or the Deputy Gender Focal Point, or another representative from the Gender Unit), the National Programme Officer responsible for the youth portfolio, the Senior Democratization Officer and one representative from the Monitoring Unit.

Notification of Decision

Applicants will be informed via e-mail of the decision of the BNB Fund Advisory Board regarding their application. If the application is conditionally approved, the applicant will receive the comments and recommendations of the Board on how to effectively revise the application. If the application is rejected, the applicants will receive the justification for the negative outcome. Applications that are most consistent with the objectives laid out in these Guidelines, have the highest quality, expected impact, sustainability and cost-effectiveness will have the highest chance to be awarded.

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BUILDING NEW BRIDGES FUND

APPLICATION FORM

Project title			
Applicant			
I. Profile of the Applicant			
Full name of the applicant			
Name of the organization in English			
Abbreviation in ENG, MK or AL			
Legal status			
Address of the entity			
Community in which the entity operates			
Date when the organisation is registered			
Personal Identification Number (PIN)			
Unique Tax Number (UTN)			
Legal Representative(s)[1] Full Name		Phone number	
E-mail address			
Project Manager[2] Full Name		Phone number	
E-mail address			
(If relevant) Other people involved Full Name		Phone number	
E-mail address			
(Other people involved) Full Name		Phone number	
Email Address			
Web page of the organization/entity		Twitter Page	
Linkedin Page		Facebook Page	
Instagram Page		Other social media platforms	

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[1] If the applicant is not an organization, instead of providing the name of the Director please provide the name and contact of the responsible official.

[2] The project manager is the responsible person for successful implementation of proposed activities and for drafting and submission of the Final Narrative Report upon project completion

State the Operational level of the organisation				What are the key 3 priorities of your organisation/entity			
OPERATIONAL CAPACITY	2022	2021	2020	FINANICAL CAPACITY	2022	2021	2020
Number of staff				Annual revenues			
Number of members				Annual Expenditures			
Number of Volunteers							
Offices and Working Premises							
Name of the Partner if you plan to involve any				Website/social media of the partner			
Existing and/or previous joint activities with partner/s, if any							
note any existing and/or previous received any funding from OSCE				Total amount of requested funds in MKD			

II. Relevance of the project proposal

Please, describe the action you want to implement. Describe in brief all activities you propose. Do not go into much detail and do not state activities that have been implemented in the past.

Please briefly describe the current social and inter-ethnic environment/situation in your community/area in which you operate. Identify and outline the key problems and/or needs among boys and girls from diverse ethno-cultural backgrounds that you want to address through this project. Explain how this project is going to tackle these problems and what changes and impact (long term consequences) you want to achieve. *[Half page maximum]*

III. Overall Objective

Describe the aim of your project objective (the overall goal you want to achieve with this project). The objective should address the needs and problems identified above. It should be S.M.A.R.T. and underline a goal to be achieved. Please note that the objective should be in line with the overall objective of the Youth Inter-Cultural Arts Fund as described in the Guidelines.

IV. Results

In concrete sentences state the specific result to be achieved by the project. The result should be a concrete outcome delivered from your proposed activities. (e.g., theatrical performance, doc-film, graffiti mural art, etc.). Please provide concrete indicators that will measure to what degree the result is achieved.

V. Plan of Activities
V.1. Activities
Activities are actions associated with delivering project results in the fulfilling of the overall objective. Please provide a detailed description for each activity you are proposing to implement. Explain how the activity leads towards achieving certain results (methodology). Ensure that you have taken into account the gender and multicultural dimension in the description of your activities.

Guiding questions:
    (i)What (indicate the type of activity: e.g., debate, podcast, art workshop etc.);
    (ii)Who (describe who the beneficiaries of this activity are, and in what way they are involved);
    (iii)When (duration of the activity);
    (iv)Where (provide location where the activity is going to happen);
    (v)Why (explain the relation of the activity to the objectives and results of the activity) and
    (vi)How (your approach and plan to implement this activity).

Activity 1 (Name of the activity)

V.2. Who is involved?

Please, provide details regarding young people that will be directly included in project implementation.

Activity	Total number of young people involved	Number of project beneficiaries	Age of project beneficiaries	Gender representation Number of boys and girls	Representation of ethnic and/or cultural communities

VI. Inclusion of Youth in Designing the Project Activities

Does the proposed project contribute to realising the potential of individuals, allowing participating youth to be included in the designing and implementation of the activities? Will the activities contribute to the acquisition of new skills and the nurturing of the social and cultural capital? Describe how the activity produces new lasting friendships and collaborations. Please describe how you are going to ensure equal representation and inclusion of different groups in your activities.

VII. Visibility Plan

Please describe how you are going to ensure the visibility of your project activities (e.g. posts on your organization's website, dedicated Facebook page, etc.). Also specify the language(s) that you will be using to ensure the visibility of your project's activities.

VIII. Timeframe

[Just place an "X" in the field with the month when you plan to implement the activity.]

[The months are numerated as your proposal foresees implementation of activities.]

[If you have more activities than space below, insert more spaces. If you have fewer, delete the lines you do not need.]

Activity	Month												Location of implementation of activity
	Jun. 2023 (M1)	Jul. 2023 (M2)	Aug. 2023 (M3)	Sep. 2023 (M4)	Oct. 2023 (M5)	Nov. 2023 (M6)	Dec. 2023 (M7)	Jan. 2024 (M8)	Feb. 2024 (M9)	Mar 2024 (M10)	Apr 2024 (M11)	May 2024 (M12)	

IX. Sustainability

Financial sustainability: How will future integrated activities be financed and/or built on the results of this project once the BNB funding ends?

Institutional sustainability: What kind of structures/mechanisms for communication and co-operation built as a result of the fund will be at your disposal to further the outcomes achieved once the grant has expired? How will these mechanisms be used to plan and implement future joint activities?

Social sustainability: How will the established connections between the children and /or youth be nurtured and furthered in the future? What will be the role of the project beneficiary institution/organization in that nurturing? What kind of activities do you foresee implementing in the future to further these connections? Will social media platforms be utilized for future communication?

Synergy with other activities: Do you plan to co-finance or merge this activity with any other project/programme activities of your organization?

X. What do you need?

[Let us know what you need. Think of all the items you will need for successful implementation of activities. Think of equipment, purchases, services, fees, provisions, transportation etc. Be detailed and realistic. Do not leave anything out, because if the item is not in the requested budget we cannot provide additional funds for it.]

[If you have more budget lines than lines below, insert more rows. If you have fewer, delete the lines you do not need. Feel free to insert rows for sub-items under any item (ex. 3.1. Drawing activity; 3.1.3. Crayons)]

Please, state the activities in the same order as in V. Plan of Activities. Number the lines per activity. The materials needed for implementation of each activity should be stated under it (ex. for implementation of Activity 1 under V.1.6. Visit to Macedonian Opera and Ballet, you should include transportation costs under 2. Transportation, while the other costs such as admission tickets, refreshments, snacks etc. should be stated as 3.1.1., 3.1.2., 3.1.3…).]

Item	Unit	No, of units	Cost per item	Total cost
1.Human Resources				
Subtotal Human Resources				
2. Transportation				
Subtotal Transportation				
3. Activities				
Subtotal Activities				
4. Equipment				
Subtotal Equipment				
5. Other				
Subtotal Other				
TOTAL in MKD				