

# Manila, call for bids for FY 2022/23: media freedom

## **Objectives**

The UK supports the global Media Freedom Coalition and aspires to support efforts in promoting media freedom locally as a global public good and be more proactive in defending and supporting journalists in the Philippines. The British Embassy Manila is seeking a proposal which supports the following objectives:

- strengthen the legal and regulatory environment in which freedom of the press is protected and respected on a national and/or regional scale
- empower and increase access to justice and legal support of journalists to ensure media safety and promote an inclusive media sphere

All bids should be in pounds sterling (GBP). We are accepting bids from a minimum of £15,000 to a maximum of £40,000 to support projects in this area. Proposals covering more than one objective are welcome. Please keep bids within the limits set out above.

## **Approval process**

Project bids will be shortlisted and approved by the British Embassy Manila's programme Board. To apply for funding, interested organisations must submit a concept note to the Programme manager (details below). The concept note should provide the information required to enable the programme team to make an initial assessment of whether the bidder will be able to qualify for the second round of selection.

If the concept note is successful in the first stage, the implementer will be asked to submit a full proposal and an activity-based budget (ABB). There is likely to be a short turnaround time for this. The full proposal will then be submitted to the Embassy Programme board and the FCDO in London.

## **Managerial and financial aspects**

- any organisation can apply for funding. We do not accept project bids submitted by individuals
- please note that payment will be made in arrears. We cannot make pre-payments; successful bidders should make payments and be reimbursed by the Embassy. The implementer must have an active bank account in the name of the organisation to which we can transfer reimbursements electronically
- organisations must prove that they are able to manage the project sum in a satisfactory manner; the embassy may request reports by auditors

## **Exemptions**

We regret that we are unable to fund:

- academic courses
- charitable activities
- commercial activities
- infrastructure or construction projects

## **Co-financing**

A partnership framework to support the broader engagement of a project is welcome and can strengthen your bid. Please make sure to specify your other source(s) of funding in the concept note.

## **Evaluation of project bids**

The aim of the project should be concise, feasible and sustainable. The expected outcomes should be measurable and the target group should be clearly defined and involved in project implementation.

The assessment criteria will include the following:

- financial and operational capacity
- relevance
- methodology
- sustainability
- value for money
- impact

## **Reporting**

The embassy will require monthly financial reports and quarterly project progress reports (narrative and financial) from implementers. The first payment will be made upon the receipt of a monthly financial report. When the project has been completed the implementer shall prepare and send a final report to the Embassy within the period specified in the contract.

## **Timeline**

Deadline for submission of concept note is 31 July 2022.

Successful applicants will implement their project until 28 February 2022. All payment requests and reporting should be finalised by 15 March 2022. You are advised to plan project activities accordingly.

Completed concept notes should be sent by email to [Cara.SanPedro@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:Cara.SanPedro@fcdo.gov.uk). Please include reference number of the call in the subject line. If the project concept note is successful in the first stage, the applicant will then be asked to submit a full proposal and an activity-based budget (ABB).

Successful applicants will be informed of the result in the week commencing 8 August 2022.