

## **GRANT AWARD NOTICE**

### **CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

Ref No: 2021-09/CEB/TAM/P/LD

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## **HOUSING AND EMPOWERMENT FOR ROMA (HERO) PILOT PROJECT**

**BULGARIA, ROMANIA AND SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

## 1. Background information

The Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) has been entrusted by the European Commission in March 2021 to manage the implementation of the Housing and Empowerment for Roma (HERO) Pilot Project in Bulgaria, Romania and Slovak Republic. HERO is a pilot project funded by European Parliament and overseen by the European Commission.

HERO aims to test an innovative social investment model addressing the socio-economic exclusion of disadvantaged communities, such as marginalised Roma. The project takes a multi-pronged approach with interventions in several integration areas, supporting access to micro-loans and capacity building in the form of training, coaching and mentoring services to support access to housing, employment and education. The project will employ social innovation to empower Roma communities and promote community-led development.

HERO is implemented according to a common methodology in three countries: Bulgaria, Romania and Slovak Republic.

The HERO budget amounts to €2,980,000, including a €200 000 contribution from Spain through the Spanish Social Cohesion Account, a CEB-managed trust fund. €2,090,000 are to be disbursed in direct grants as follows:

- Component for Bulgaria: EUR 490,000
- Component for Romania: EUR 580,000
- Component for Slovak Republic: EUR 1,020,000.

## 2. Selection procedure

On 15 July 2021, the CEB launched an open Call for Proposals for the selection of implementing partnerships composed of social organisations and financial intermediaries in each target country. In response to this Call, two applications were received: one from Slovak Republic and one from Romania. No applications were received from Bulgaria. Following the evaluation of the received applications, CEB decided to award a grant for the Slovakia component.

Pursuant to the General Rule No. 01/2020 laying down the CEB's competitive procedures to award grants, the CEB proceeded with a direct grant award for Bulgaria and Romania components given the unsuccessful outcome of the Call for Proposal.

# **1. Grants awarded without a call for proposals in 2023**

Contract number	Beneficiary(ies): name & address	Nationality (ISO code)	Country/region where the action takes place (ISO code)	Action title	Action location	Action duration (in months)	Grant amount (in EUR)
7302	TRUST FOR SOCIAL ACHIEVEMENT FOUNDATION, Bulgaria	BGR	BGR	Housing and Empowerment for Roma (HERO): Country component for Bulgaria	Bulgaria	10 months	490,000