Criteria for the selection of representatives of civil society organisations

The following criteria agreed between the EBRD and Regional Environmental Center (REC) will be used for the selection of a limited number of representatives of civil society organisations (CSOs or NGOs) who will receive financial support to enable their participation in public consultations on EBRD’s revised Public Information Policy. Selected NGO representatives will receive funding for travel and accommodation, along with any associated expenses incurred, such as the obtaining of visas.

Those persons applying for financial support should meet the following criteria:

- Be a citizen of and represent an active NGOs in the region/sub-region or a country where EBRD operates (Central and Eastern Europe, EECCA countries);
- Demonstrate experience and interest in EBRD’s Public Information Policy under review;
- possess familiarity with subjects such as access to information, transparency, anti-corruption and good governance;
- Be willing to examine the revised policy in advance of the meeting and provide comments at the meeting;
- Justify need for financial support.

Further selection criteria for financial assistance:

- Only one representative from an organisation can be supported financially.
- The EBRD seeks a wide range of opinions; thus representatives from as many geographical areas as possible in the Bank’s region of operations will be selected, taking into account the level of EBRD investment in these regions.
- Interest or involvement in EBRD-funded projects will be taken into account.
- Gender balance will be respected.
- Since the primary focus of the public meetings is on the revision of the Public Information Policy, the majority of support will be provided for NGOs focusing on access to information issues.
- Funding will be allocated for two meetings in the region: i.e., Moscow and London.
- Participants should have working knowledge of English (for the London meeting) and Russian (for the Moscow meeting) languages. An ability to understand and read English is an advantage for the latter, as the revised policy will be available in English.

The registration, consideration of applications, selection of participants, arrangements for travel and accommodation and any associated transfer of funds are the responsibility of the REC. Any questions and communications, including complaints, should be brought to the REC’s attention at the earliest available opportunity.

The REC, being responsible for organising the meetings and selecting funding for participants, reserves the right to reallocate funds if not enough applications are made from a category of interest, country or geographical area to another category for which more applications may have been submitted.