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ANNEX 2

of the Commission implementing decision on the Multi-Annual Action Programme for years 2018, 2019, and 2020 “Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities” to be financed from the general budget of the Union

ACTION DOCUMENT 2
CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS (CSOs) AS ACTORS OF GOVERNANCE AND
DEVELOPMENT
WORK IN THE FIELD²

Information for Potential Grant Applicants - Work Programme for Grants

This document constitutes the work programme for grants in the sense of Article 128(1) of the Financial Regulation (Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012) in the following sections, concerning calls for proposals: 5.3.1.; concerning grants awarded directly without a call for proposals: 5.3.2; and EU Trust Funds in the section 5.3.3.

1. Title/basic act/ CRIS number	Support CSOs development work in the field CRIS number: 2018/040-919 Financed under the Development Cooperation Instrument	
2. Zone benefiting from the action/location	Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin-America and Caribbean, and Neighbourhood countries	
3. Programming document	Multiannual Indicative Programme for the Thematic Programme “Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities” for the period 2014-2020 ³	
4. Sector of concentration/ thematic area	Democratic participation and civil society	ODA
5. Amounts concerned	Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 485.033.270 from the general budget of the European Union , including EUR760,495 from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) as contributing donor. for an amount of EUR 155.484.077 for 2018, for an amount of EUR 160.828.175 for 2019, for an amount of EUR 168.721.018 for 2020,	

² In complementarity with the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR)

³ Commission Implementing Decision of 18.07.2018, C(2018) 4569 final.

	subject to the adoption of the relevant budget and appropriations.																																												
6. Aid modality(ies) and implementation modality(ies)	Project Modality. Direct management: grants – call for proposals; grants – direct award; procurement of services. Direct management: EU trust funds																																												
7 a) DAC code(s)	15150 - Democratic participation and civil society																																												
b) Main Delivery Channel	20000 – Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Civil Society																																												
8. Markers (from CRIS DAC form)	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>General policy objective</th> <th>Not targeted</th> <th>Significant objective</th> <th>Main objective</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Participation development/good governance</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aid to environment</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gender equality (including Women In Development)</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Trade Development</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <th>RIO Convention markers</th> <th>Not targeted</th> <th>Significant objective</th> <th>Main objective</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Biological diversity</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Combat desertification</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Climate change mitigation</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Climate change adaptation</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aid to environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender equality (including Women In Development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trade Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective	Biological diversity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Combat desertification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Climate change mitigation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Climate change adaptation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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9. SDGs	Relevance of the programme to goals 11, 16 and 17. This Action also supports the meaningful participation of CSOs in the achievement of all SDGs.																																												

SUMMARY

The 2012 EU Communication on Civil Society in external relations set three objectives for EU support, which are fully relevant at country level for the 2018/2020 period:

- *"To enhance efforts to promote a conducive environment for CSOs in partner countries;*
- *To promote a meaningful and structured participation of CSOs in domestic policies of partner countries (...)*
- *To increase local CSOs' capacity to perform their roles as independent development actors more effectively."*

Building on this Communication, the Overall Objective for this Action is to enable Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to engage as actors of governance and development at country level.

The Action rolls out the EU support to country-level CSO initiatives aimed at implementing priorities reflected in the new European Consensus on Development which allows for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Those priorities are: climate change; gender equality; youth; root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement; and crisis and fragility. Delegations will implement them whenever applicable, and will have to select at least one of these priorities for this Action.

In particular, the second EU Gender Action Plan seeks to achieve sound progress in third countries. This implies concretely that 85% of the projects under this Action need to include a gender component or approach.

Likewise, the EU commitment to respond to the challenges and investment needs related to climate change requires dedicating at least 20% of the EU budget to climate change mitigation and adaptation actions. The support is also expected to help CSOs play their role in contributing to the goals of the Paris Agreement and the implementation of the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction.

This Action document foresees support to all of Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and Caribbean, and Neighbourhood countries. This worldwide coverage allows for the adaptation of the programme to the specific needs of each country. For instance, it also supports CSOs as actors of governance in countries that have graduated from traditional development assistance, and in fragile countries.

This Action Document reflects the added value of the CSO-LA thematic programme at country level, in complementarity with the EIDHR and other instruments, in particular the bilateral programmes that include support to civil society.

1 CONTEXT

1.1 Thematic area

Activities conceived and implemented by CSOs from EU partner countries will be given priority, in order to empower them, invest in capacity development and facilitate their access to funding.

The initiatives foreseen under this Action Document will be managed mainly by European Union Delegations, and European Commission Headquarters when appropriate.

The Action will be implemented in the 114 EU partner countries listed under section 5.4.

Attention will be paid to the following aspects:

- Supporting genuine and equitable partnerships between European and partner countries actors, where opportune;
- Supporting multi-stakeholder approaches and testing of innovative partnerships that facilitate optimal synergies and best use of different stakeholders' experiences and capacities;
- Promoting innovative forms of interactions between CSOs and Local Authorities in local public policy-making, aiming at good governance and development outcomes through joint efforts.

1.1.1 EU Policy Framework

Policy orientations adopted in 2012^[1] proposed an enhanced and more strategic EU engagement with CSOs in partner countries, with a particular focus on local civil society organisations. The Communication outlined a new approach to supporting CSOs with regards to the promotion of inclusive and sustainable growth, as well as in social service delivery. And it also called for a more strategic joint approach of the EU and Member States at country level through the development of EU country roadmaps for engagement with CSOs, in order to improve the impact, predictability and coherence of EU support.

These policy provisions^[2] are implemented by the thematic programme “Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities 2014-2020” operationalised by the 2014 Annual Action Programme 2015-2017 and 2018-2020 Multi-Annual Action Programme (MAAP).

The objective of this programme is notably to strengthen civil society organisations in EU partner countries. This objective is reinforced by the evolving international context of the 2030 Agenda and the newly adopted policies such as the Global Strategy for the EU’s Foreign and Security Policy⁴ (2016) and the new European Consensus on Development⁵ ('the Consensus) (June 2017). The Consensus values the participation of CSOs in development, promotes civil society space and recognises the need for support for building the capacity of CSOs. In addition, the programme takes into account the EU Gender Action Plan, "Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Transforming the Lives of Girls and Women through EU External Relations 2016-2020".⁶

1.1.2 Stakeholder analysis

1.1.2.1 At global level

As part of the public consultation on the draft evaluation reports of the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)^[7], DEVCO, EEAS, FPI and NEAR organised a technical workshop with over 180 participants from the European Parliament and EU Member States on 27-28 March 2017.

In addition, the draft evaluation report was presented at a meeting with the Working Party on Development Cooperation (CODEV) of the Council of the European Union on 23 February 2017, and at the Policy Forum on Development Meeting on 23 March 2017. The meeting

^[1] The roots of democracy and sustainable development: Europe's engagement with Civil Society in external relations: Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee of the Regions, (COM(2012) 492)

^[2] Framed by the overarching goals of the Regulation (EU) No 233/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation (DCI) for the period 2014-2020, Regulation 233/2014 of 11th March 2014: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2014:077:0044:0076:EN:PDF>

⁴ Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe, A Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, June 2016.

⁵ Council Conclusions on the European Consensus on Development, 19 May 2017.

⁶ Commission Staff Working document, Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Transforming the Lives of Girls and Women through EU External Relations 2016-2020, SWD(2015) 182 final.

^[3] See the complete external evaluation consultation results, p. 213 to 225: https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/draft-evaluation-report-external-financing-instruments-development-cooperation-instrument-dci_en

brought together Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Local Authorities (LAs) from the European Union and partner countries.

Confirmed during the open public consultation, the majority of contributions provided a mainly positive assessment on the CSO part of the DCI, and in particular when enabling the EU to project its principles and values is concerned: *"Some contributions explicitly mentioned the crucial role of the CSO-LA component to work in this area. (...) But, "while progress has been noted (especially in relation to the CSO-LA programme), several factors, mainly at EUD level and in relation to CSO involvement have been identified that have hindered progress" as the "need to improve sectoral dialogue in partner countries and strengthen partnerships" or the "limited use of its civil society and democracy roadmaps to support this objective." (...)*

Additional written comments noted that due to the strong involvement of civil society in DCI, the EU succeeds in relaying its principles and values (...) By contributing to the capacity building of non-state actors, the instrument promotes the participation of the population in the economic and social development of beneficiary countries (...)

In the area of democratic governance and human rights, the link between the geographical DCI, particularly where the modality of budget support is chosen, the CSO-LA programme, and the EIDHR, deserves to be improved in a number of cases. The political leverage effect of funding in this area should therefore be further strengthened."

The staff working document on the DCI^[8], based on this mid-term external evaluation states more globally that *[partner countries sometimes gave less weight to certain EU/global values such as the participation of CSO-LAs in domestic policy/cooperation processes.]* In response, the staff working document confirms that *[the EU should make more effort to develop multi-actor partnerships (including with CSO-LAs) and further dialogue with partner countries to increase commitment to these values.]*

1.1.2.2 At country level

The direct beneficiaries are, at country level, the civil society organisations and their networks and/or platforms. In principle, all activities should be based upon an initiative of local Civil Society Organisations; their active involvement during all stages of implementation should be ensured.

The final beneficiaries are all citizens (women and men, boys and girls) of the different partner countries. They will benefit from CSO work on advocacy for better reforms and development, monitoring of governance in line with the Consensus and direct implementation of aid by CSOs.

This Action Document will be mainly implemented by EU Delegations. Specific priorities should be chosen through dialogue and in consultation with local Civil Society, where deemed necessary also in consultation and coordination with central and local authorities.

1.1.3 Priority areas for support/problem analysis

Despite the increasing recognition of CSOs as partners in development, they still face significant constraints, hampering their capacity to effectively contribute to governance, development, and ultimately poverty reduction.

^[8] Evaluation of the Development Cooperation Instrument, accompanying the report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the Mid-term review of the External Financing Instruments, SWD (2017) 600 final.

1.1.3.1 Overarching objectives

The priorities set in the 2012 Communication⁹ on civil society in partner countries are as follows:

- *"To enhance efforts to promote a conducive environment for CSOs in partner countries;*
- *To promote a meaningful and structured participation of CSOs in domestic policies of partner countries (...)*
- *To increase local CSOs' capacity to perform their roles as independent development actors more effectively."*

Conducive environment

CSOs' ability to contribute to development depends first and foremost on the **environment** they operate in. They need a set of guarantees that ensure rights and opportunities to operate, act and perform. It entails a conducive legal and policy environment and/or institutional and capacity development. The absence of enabling conditions often constrains CSOs' ability to address and respond to development challenges.

Meaningful and structured participation of CSOs in domestic policies

Inclusive and **participatory** policy-making is a complex and often delicate exercise, new to many EU partner countries. It requires political will and leadership, adequately structured mechanisms, space for interaction and operating rules, specific skills and analytical capacities and competences, both on the side of public authorities and on that of citizens. In the absence of the above, the impact of CSOs' participation in policy dialogue is very limited.

Local CSOs' capacity to perform their roles

CSOs are often unable to significantly influence policies and budgets as well as to define their own development plans, in ways that respond to local communities' demands (planning, project management, financial management, service delivery). Information is not always available and when it is, local stakeholders may lack the **capacity** to analyse it, to provide evidence-based input and to negotiate. CSOs face challenges in relation to their own governance and accountability, which can substantially hamper their credibility and effectiveness.

Overall, capacity constraints can be considered a major cross-cutting challenge faced by CSOs, affecting their efforts to operate effectively in their various areas of work. This is particularly true in the realm of governance and accountability processes (notably in policy dialogue) and responsiveness to citizen's needs (planning, project management, financial management, service delivery).

These priorities need to be addressed in the country roadmaps. There are currently 107 roadmaps on civil society in partner countries.

⁹ The roots of democracy and sustainable development: Europe's engagement with Civil Society in external relations: Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee of the Regions, (COM(2012) 492) final.

The Roadmaps are currently being implemented and cover the period 2014-2017. The updated or revised country roadmaps for 2018/2020 will continue to provide the important strategic framework to guide the EU Delegations in their engagement with civil society, and notably for the implementation of the CSO-LA thematic programme.

1.1.3.2 Dedicated priorities

The Action rolls out the EU support to country-level CSO initiatives aimed at implementing some of the priorities reflected in the EU Consensus for development adopted in June 2017, which addresses the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as the Paris Agreement on climate change and the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction. Those priorities are: climate change; gender equality; youth; root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement; and crisis and fragility. Delegations will implement them whenever applicable, and will have to select at least one of these priorities for this Action, although the full allocation does not have to be spent on one or more of these priorities. Delegations can address also this through mainstreaming or using these priorities as thematic areas amongst others, in line with the priorities identified in their country Roadmap. Women and girls are specifically negatively affected in each of the other priority areas listed here below, and gender specific approaches to these issues should also be considered in actions addressing them. Climate change or environmental management issues should be integrated in other priority areas.

Climate change

The EU has a long-term commitment to international efforts to tackle climate change and supporting partners in implementing their Nationally Determined Contribution under the Paris Agreement. Environment and climate policies and strategies are areas where CSOs are major players in EU international cooperation as advocates of ambitious measures, providers of expertise and support to local action, contributors to dialogue mechanisms and monitors of progress on the ground. The CSO-LA programme will contribute to the EU's commitment to dedicate at least 20% of the total expenditure to climate change mitigation and adaptation actions.

Gender equality

Despite progress, women's rights remain unfulfilled and are not respected throughout the world. Gender inequalities are a major barrier for human development. All too often, women and girls are discriminated against in health, education, political representation and the labour market, and suffer brutal forms of violence. This limits their freedom of choice and their ability to achieve their full potential and contribute to their societies and local communities. CSOs play a critical role in reinforcing women's roles as actors of change. Women's organisations and CSOs working on gender equality issues face specific challenges and barriers to their operation. It is essential that efforts are made to ensure they have opportunities to participate in policymaking and mainstream gender across policies in partner countries. The CSO-LA programme in partner countries will contribute to the EU's commitment of having 85% of the projects including a gender component or approach.

Youth

Creating sufficient good quality jobs for young people remains a key challenge. CSOs promote young people's rights, facilitate their engagement in social, civic, political and economic life, and ensure their contribution to inclusive growth and sustainable development. Young people should also participate in democratic processes and assume leadership roles.

Root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement

As part of the EU's overall response to migration, addressing the root causes of irregular and unsafe migration and of forced displacement is crucial. Civil society organisations have an important role to play in this context. Through this component, the EU strives to strengthen CSOs' capacities and support CSO initiatives in contributing to address the root causes of irregular migration, in order to strengthen the positive synergies between migration and development while mitigating any negative impacts. CSO initiatives may include strengthening local governance and conflict prevention; contribute to broad-based inclusive growth, supporting participatory and inclusive approaches through intra- and intercommunity dialogue and trust building mechanisms.

Crises and fragility

Countries in situations of fragility or affected by conflict deserve a specific approach. The EU recognises an essential role for CSOs in the peace and security agenda, particularly in conflict prevention, peace-building and state-building, as well as in strengthening resilience.

2 RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

Risks	Risk level (H/M/L)	Mitigating measures
Environment not conducive for CSOs to operate independently with the EU funding	M or H (depending on the country)	EU Delegations take measures to mitigate this risk and allow CSOs to participate in local Calls for Proposals and to benefit from EU related funding. Among others, measures could include policy dialogue with relevant public authorities facilitated by the EU Delegations.
Weak CSOs' capacity to engage in dialogue with public authorities	M or H (depending on the country)	EU Delegations to provide CSOs with specific training and assistance on this matter as well as to create structured dialogue spaces to enhance trust and competencies.
Limited operational and financial capacities of CSO staff to manage EU-funded projects	M	EU Delegations to organise demand-driven capacity development training in favour of CSOs in order to improve their project cycle management capacities.

CSOs could be confronted with fragile, crisis and risk-prone situations	M or H (depending on the country)	EU Delegations to tailor assistance in a way that allows CSOs to contribute to the resolution of problem.
Environment not conducive for CSOs working on gender equality and human rights issues; Weak capacity of women's organisations and restricted possibility to engage in dialogue on human rights and gender equality with public authorities; limited financial capacities of women's organisations.	M or H (depending on the country)	Awareness raising on gender equality and human rights issues and the importance of supporting women's organisations and CSOs working on gender equality and human rights; Priority given to a certain number of women's organisations and CSOs working on gender equality.
<u>Assumptions</u>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existence of enabling conditions to allow Civil Society Organisations (to register and perform). - Existence of transparent and accountable Civil Society Organisations in the partner country where the action shall take place. 		

3 LESSONS LEARNT, COMPLEMENTARITY AND CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

3.1 Lessons learnt

Several studies and reports, assessments, exchanges of best practices and independent evaluations have allowed lessons to be drawn from the implementation during the 2014-2017 period. They have been determining in re-defining and adapting the guiding principles and the objectives of this Programme as well as its monitoring and evaluation provisions¹⁰.

In particular, the Mid Term review of the DCI, several rounds of consultation with CSOs and LAs on the New Consensus for Development (October 2016), during the annual seminar of CSO and LA Focal Points in EU Delegations (January 2017) or the Policy Forum for Development (March 2017), have highlighted a few key lessons.

The programme has allowed strategic achievements such as the establishment of 107 EU Roadmaps for engagement with Civil Society at country level, and also such as tactical answers to situations of fragility and (un)foreseen crises. Roadmaps have been designed with civil society and jointly adopted with EU Member States. Whenever they agreed, host countries and other donors have also joined the process.

¹⁰ There are available at www.EU4civilsociety.eu

These roadmaps present a comprehensive, coherent and shared EU analysis of the civil society landscape, its enabling environment and the obstacles, constraints and opportunities faced by CSOs. By identifying long term and strategic objectives for EU cooperation with CSOs, these Roadmaps translate the ambition to support CSOs into concrete strategic steps in each country.

Nevertheless, there are still in the CSO-LA programme too many dispersed priorities involving too many actions without a unified approach and impact, often with CSOs acting more as traditional implementers of aid rather than as actors of development policy. While it is important to keep a field- and demand-driven approach, it is equally important that the programme focusses more on clearer priorities and added value.

Since 2014, the space for civil society has shrunk. Civic freedoms are reportedly under threat in more than 100 countries and CSOs are regularly the subject of violent crackdowns or physical attacks. It is therefore essential that the EU support for CSOs integrates this increasing challenge and the constraints it entails, and continues to reinforce and further adapt its support to creating and maintaining an enabling operating environment for CSOs.

One important lesson is that the strong focus of the programme on supporting CSOs as actors of governance instead of providers of assistance needs to be reinforced in graduated countries, and also in states affected by fragility, where crucially dialogue needs to be further strengthened.

3.2 Complementarity, synergy and donor coordination

The Action will be carried out in complementarity with other Programmes and Instruments benefitting Civil Society and/or Local Authorities, namely the European Instruments for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR), the Thematic Programme on Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) and notably its components dedicated to the Action focus areas such as Human Development and Climate Change, the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP), the Partnership Instrument, the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI), the Pan-African Programme, and projects supported by bilateral or regional cooperation, including the European Development Fund (EDF). In fragile, crisis and risk-prone situations, synergies will be explored with CSOs operating in the fields of emergency and humanitarian aid.

The CSO-LA programme should support country strategies such as the National Indicative Programme (NIP) in a comprehensive manner to achieve coherence with EU priorities in each country. Particular attention will be paid to involving Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities in the delivery of Budget Support programmes. To ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of assistance, funds will not be used to top up or duplicate activities funded under those Programmes.

EU Delegations will continue to coordinate the implementation of the Action with Member States and other Development Partners in the framework of the Roadmaps for EU engagement with Civil Society, as considered in the Communication ‘The roots of Democracy’ above referred and in subsequent Council Conclusions and European Parliament Resolution¹¹.

¹¹ European Parliament resolution on local authorities and civil society: Europe’s engagement in support of sustainable development, .2012/2288(INI).

In 107 Delegations, the EU and the Member States have developed and are implementing country roadmaps which improve the impact, predictability and visibility of EU actions, and ensure consistency and synergies throughout the various sectors covered by EU external relations. These roadmaps lead to concrete gains on synergies, collective impact and division of labour. EU Delegations will update and revise the Roadmaps to ensure they are valid until 2020, and will continue to coordinate the process locally.

3.3 Cross-cutting issues

This Action includes crucial cross-cutting issues such as governance, rule of law, human rights, gender equality, environment and climate change. All actions under each objective should be **gender sensitive and rights-based**.

The action will contribute greatly to governance, democracy and the rule of law through support to CSO initiatives contributing to the accountability of public authorities and the participation of all citizens, notably young people and women, in development policy dialogue.

Human rights will be fully considered, in complementarity with EIDHR, since the initiatives supported will have to integrate the Rights based approach.

Gender equality will be one of the main focuses in the Action so as to support the critical role of CSOs in reinforcing women's role as actors of change.

Climate change mitigation and adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change are also areas of focus. CSOs will be supported as advocates, providers of expertise, contributors to dialogue mechanisms and monitors of progress on the ground.

More globally, environment protection and sustainable management of natural resources will have to be particularly taken into account in the implementation of supported initiatives.

At local level, a specific focus has to be given to the Territorial Approach to Local Development (TALD.) The TALD is a dynamic bottom-up and long-term process based on a multi-actor and multi-sector approach, in which different local institutions and actors work together to define priorities, as well as to plan and implement specific strategies to generate incomes and promote well-being, and to increase the resilience of populations living in a given territory. The territory is indeed defined as a localised set of community, social, natural and private resources and capacities.

The Action will aim at piloting multi-actors processes for achieving inclusive, sustainable economic development in specific territories. It will support the mobilisation of different local actors for joint efforts for inclusive and sustainable growth. In particular, Civil Society Organisations will be encouraged to establish local multi-actor partnerships (Local Authorities, enterprises, cooperatives, fair trade organisations) in support to low carbon and climate resilient development or green economy initiatives.

Including capacity development and community mobilisation in supported initiatives is strongly encouraged, in order to enable the targeted population to acquire an increased understanding and ability to address the challenges they face in improving their livelihoods.

4 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

4.1 Objectives/results

The overall objective of the action is to enable Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to engage as actors of governance and development at country level. It corresponds to the objectives identified in the 2012 EU Communication on Civil Society in external relations:

- "To enhance efforts to promote a conducive environment for CSOs in partner countries;
- To promote a meaningful and structured participation of CSOs in domestic policies of partner countries (...)
- To increase local CSOs' capacity to perform their roles as independent development actors more effectively."

Those objectives will have to be reflected in the revised Country Roadmaps for EU engagement with Civil Society for 2018/2020.

This programme is further relevant for the 2030 Agenda. Its focus on participation, partnership and multi-stakeholder dialogues reflects core values of the 2030 Agenda. Though the relevance of the programme to goals 11, 16 and 17 is particularly obvious, it also supports the meaningful participation of CSOs in the achievement of all SDGs. This does not imply a commitment by the countries benefiting from this programme.

While supporting the actions detailed below, particular attention should be devoted to ensuring that initiatives funded by this Programme add value and complement support provided within bilateral, regional, and other thematic actions in the same areas or sectors.

In that framework, the five priorities identified above (selected among those of the new consensus) have been translated into specific objectives: climate change; gender equality; youth; root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement; and crisis and fragility. Delegations will implement them whenever applicable, and will have to include at least one of these priorities in their calls for proposals.

The expected Specific Objectives and outputs are:

- *Specific objective 1: Increase the participation of CSOs in tackling climate change and mitigating its adverse effects*
Output 1: Strengthened CSOs' capacities and engagement on climate change mitigation and adaptation
- *Specific objective 2: Women's participation in decision-making increased*
Output 2: Strengthened women's CSOs capacities and engagement for participation in decision making
- *Specific Objective 3: The voice of youth in society is increased*
Output 3: Strengthened CSOs' capacities and engagement on youth inclusion
- *Specific objective 4: Increase the participation of CSOs in addressing irregular migration and forced displacement*
Output 4: Strengthened CSOs' capacities and engagement on addressing irregular migration and forced displacement
- *Specific objective 5: Increase the participation of CSOs in preventing, addressing and/or mitigating risks and vulnerabilities in fragile and conflict affected countries*

Outputs will be monitored through a **combination of indicators** (see the logframe p. 29 of this Action Document).

All actions supported by this programme should not give rise to a profit.

4.2 Main activities

The main types of activities will include:

Specific objective 1: Increase the participation of CSOs in tackling climate change and mitigating its adverse effects

The CSO-LA programme will contribute to the EU's commitment to dedicate at least 20% of the total expenditure to climate change mitigation and adaptation actions, notably through CSO activities contributing to:

- promoting the design and implementation of climate-related strategies in key sectors, such as agriculture, energy, urban development, within the framework of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement through multi-stakeholders approaches;
- promoting the involvement of local stakeholders in climate action ("think global, act local"), including in the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy;
- enabling the transition to a climate-resilient, low-emissions, circular economy through i.a. resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production, including the sustainable management of chemicals and waste;
- decoupling economic growth from greenhouse gas emissions and environmental degradation;
- helping to build capacity to mainstream climate change, disaster risk reduction and environmental sustainability and the pursuit of green growth into national and local development strategies;
- making better use of science, technology and innovation to promote climate action and environmental sustainability;
- promoting ecosystem or nature-based approaches with a view to offering sustainable solutions to cope with climate change mitigation and adaptation challenges, using ecosystem services to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to conserve and expand carbon sinks, as well as to enhance resilience to the impacts of climate change;
- promoting the use by partner countries of the comprehensive data and information available through research programmes and institutions, and technological centres, including European and international Earth observation programmes, to support evidence-based decisions that take into account the state of the climate and the environment.

Specific objective 2: Women's participation in decision-making increased

The CSO-LA programme in partner countries will have to contribute to the EU's commitment of including a gender component or approach in 85% of projects, notably supporting CSO actions aimed at promoting gender equality such as:

- strengthening policy dialogue on gender equality, human and women's rights to empower women and girls;
- promoting women and girls' role as agents of development and change, for instance:
 - promoting their economic and social rights and empowerment;
 - strengthening their voice and participation in social, economic, political and civic life;
 - ensuring their physical and psychological integrity;
 - promoting women's equal access to - and control over – resources, productive employment, decent work, equal pay and financial services;
- increasing targeted action towards gender equality;
- involving men and boys' associations, women's organisations, faith based organisations, youth organisations, and media in the transformative process of engendering social change, in particular by challenging stereotypes;
- deepening multi-stakeholder partnerships, i.e. including "non-usual" stakeholders (who have been less involved until now) in processes: trade unions, media, financial actors etc.;
- including the gender perspective in all "other" relevant debates, policies and initiatives: environmental protection, resilience, economic development, urban planning, migration, youth empowerment...
- strengthening the capacity of CSOs to carry out gender-responsive budgeting and planning;
- capacity building and training for women's organisations and CSOs working on gender equality (on financial and administrative issues, improved access to procurement and calls for proposals etc.);
- Support CSOs working on gender equality and women's empowerment in engaging in policy dialogue in order to advocate for gender sensitive policy making, alignment and respect of international frameworks on human rights and gender equality; and
- ensuring the active participation of women and women's organisations in decision-making processes at all levels.

Specific objective 3: The voice of youth in society is increased.

The Programme will support CSO actions to meet the specific needs and aspirations of youth according to their age, particularly young women and girls, such as:

- support to monitor, advocate and pilot more effective and inclusive youth employment strategies and decent work opportunities;
- support to monitor, advocate and pilot reforms, making it easier for youth to become self-employed or start a business;
- support to monitor, advocate and pilot more relevant education, vocational training and skills development strategies offering youth better chances for (self-)employment;
- strengthen the rights of young people and their empowerment and involvement in public affairs, including by promoting their participation in local economies, societies and decision-making, notably through youth organisations;
- protect young people including vulnerable adolescents, from abuse, sexual, labour and other forms of exploitation, and hazardous and indecent working conditions;
- support the promotion of sexual and reproductive health and rights¹²;

¹² in accordance with ICPD and Beijing PoA.

- support social protection measures such as maternity and disability benefits, employment injury protection and unemployment support.

Specific objective 4: Increase the participation of CSOs in addressing irregular migration and forced displacement

The Programme will support CSO actions to address the root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement, in particular in emigration-prone regions, such as, *inter alia*:

- promoting investment, trade and innovation in partner countries to boost growth and employment opportunities for potential migrants;
- stimulating policy innovation and improving responsiveness of economic policies to populations' needs;
- improving participation in multi-actor partnerships with the private sector and public authorities;
- supporting socio-economic initiatives aimed at wealth and job creation, targeting populations with limited opportunities for economic empowerment;
- reinforcing service provision for productive activities and access to productive resources (e.g. business support, market access, opportunities for integration of the informal economy, micro credit), to populations with limited access to such means;
- supporting, inclusive social and education systems
- supporting good governance, including through strengthened local governance, conflict prevention and participatory and inclusive approaches.

Specific objective 5: Increase the participation of CSOs in preventing, addressing and/or mitigating risks and vulnerabilities in fragile and conflict affected countries

The Programme will support CSO actions aimed at preventing, addressing and mitigating risks and vulnerabilities in fragile and conflict affected countries, such as actions to:

- strengthen resilience, particularly of the most vulnerable populations, for example in the face of environmental and economic shocks, natural and man-made disasters, conflicts and threats to health;
- ensure that individuals, communities, institutions and countries can better prepare for, withstand, adapt to, and quickly recover from stresses and shocks without compromising long-term development prospects;
- develop complementary actions between development and humanitarian actors, building on a shared analysis of risks and vulnerabilities;
- promote the participation of individuals and communities to take an active role in managing and resolving conflicts at all levels to contribute to achieving peaceful and inclusive societies.

Particular attention will be paid to ensuring that support to CSOs is conflict-sensitive and that it will not contribute to incitement to violence, hatred, racism or xenophobia¹³.

¹³ as defined in Article 1 of the EU framework Decision 2008/913/JHA on combating certain forms and expression of racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law

5. IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Financing agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the partner countries, referred to in Budget Article 184(2)(b) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

5.2 Indicative implementation period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 4.2 will be carried out, is 114 months from the adoption of this Action Document, subject to modifications to be agreed by the responsible authorising officer in the relevant agreements.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's authorising officer responsible by amending this decision and the relevant contracts and agreements; such amendments to this decision constitute technical amendments in the sense of point (i) of Article 2(3)(c) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014.

5.3 Implementation modalities

The envisaged assistance to Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cape Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros (Union of), Congo (Republic of the), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gabon, Sao Tomé and Príncipe, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea-Conakry, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius and Seychelles, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, Barbados and Eastern Caribbean Islands, Belize, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burma/Myanmar, Cambodia, China, Korea (DPRK – North), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Maldives, Thailand, Vietnam, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Fiji, Papouasie Nouvelle Guinée, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Iraq, Iran, Yemen, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Russia, Tunisia, Ukraine is deemed to follow the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU¹⁴.

5.3.1. Grants: call for proposals (direct management)

(a) Objectives of the grants, fields of intervention, priorities of the year and expected results

The overarching objective shall be the enhancement of Civil Society Organisations' participation in partner countries' public policies and programmes as a pre-condition for a more equitable, open and democratic society focussing on five priorities identified above and among those of the new consensus: climate change; gender equality; youth; the root causes of migration; and crisis and fragility.

¹⁴ https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/8442/consolidated-list-sanctions_en

(b) Eligibility conditions

The initiatives to be financed shall be initiated and directly implemented by Civil Society Organisations (as defined in Annex II.B of the DCI Regulation). In limited cases and where appropriate, in order to ensure their effectiveness, initiatives may be carried out by other actors for the benefit of the civil society organisations concerned.

Priority will be given to supporting CSOs from partner countries in order to strengthen their capacity, in line with the overall objectives of the action. Should it be considered more effective, EU Delegations could envisage broadening the eligibility to applicants from other eligible countries (mentioned below). In those cases, projects proposals should be based on local initiatives and genuine involvement of CSOs from partner countries should be ensured at all stages.

As applicant: non-profit making CSOs and their associations from the following countries shall be eligible for funding under the CSO-LA Programme:

I. the EU partner country where the action takes place;

If considered relevant for the effectiveness of the action, eligibility can be extended to:

II. other EU partner countries, as follows:

(a) countries eligible for Union funding under the European Neighbourhood Instrument established by Regulation (EU) No 232/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council (the ‘European Neighbourhood Instrument’) including the Russian Federation;

(b) developing countries and territories, as included in the list of ODA recipients published by the OECD-DAC (‘list of ODA recipients’), and overseas countries and territories covered by Council Decision 2013/755/EU;

(c) countries eligible for the European Development Fund;

III. Member States, beneficiaries listed in Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 231/2014, and contracting parties to the Agreement on the European Economic Area;

Co-applicant and affiliated entities: the eligibility of Co-applicant and affiliated entities is restricted to all types of non-profit making CSOs and/or their associations and LAs and/or their associations originating from the countries described above under applicant.

EU Delegations may define specific eligibility criteria according to the country context and in order to respond to local needs in terms of actors (type and origin), priorities, themes, sectors, and geographical areas. This will allow EU Delegations to ensure complementarity and subsidiarity with other programmes implemented in the country, as well as to better respond to local circumstances.

The grants may be awarded to sole beneficiaries and to consortia of beneficiaries (coordinator and co-beneficiaries).

In order to ensure the access to funds of all types and levels of CSOs, financial support to third parties is encouraged in accordance with Articles 137 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

Subject to information to be published in the call for proposals, the **minimum amount of the EU contribution per grant** is EUR 300.000. In exceptional and duly justified cases, grants of less than EUR 300.000 may be accepted.

The indicative duration of grants (their implementation period) may not be lower than 24 months nor exceed 60 months. Under their respective calls for proposals each EU Delegation may determine the minimum and maximum durations, provided these stay within the above-mentioned limits. In duly justified cases, EU Delegations can finance grants of less than 24 months with a minimum of 12 months.

(c) Essential selection and award criteria

The essential selection criteria are financial and operational capacity of the applicant.

The essential award criteria are relevance of the proposed action to the objectives of the call; design, effectiveness, feasibility, sustainability and cost-effectiveness of the action.

(d) Maximum rate of co-financing

As a general rule, the maximum possible rate of EU co-financing for each grant to be funded is 90% of the total eligible costs. The rate may be lower if the self-financing capacity of the targeted beneficiaries is good.

In accordance with Articles 192 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, if full funding is essential for the action to be carried out, the maximum possible rate of co-financing may be increased up to 100 %. The essentiality of full funding will be justified by the Commission's responsible authorising officer in the award decision, in respect of the principles of equal treatment and sound financial management.

(e) Indicative timing to launch the call

Local Calls for Proposals are expected to be published as from the adoption of this Commission Decision, foreseen in the second quarter of 2018.

In exceptional circumstances outside the Commission's control, and to ensure an efficient and effective implementation of the programme and achievement of its objectives, in duly justified cases linked to the national and local events, EU Delegations may launch calls for proposals in 2018 before the adoption of the financing decision, with a suspension clause, upon prior approval by the responsible Authorising Officer.

Furthermore, in cases where local calls for proposals launched in 2018 are highly successful and the quality of the proposals in the reserve list allows for it, the allocation for 2019 may be used to contract reserve lists of 2018 calls for proposals instead of launching new calls which would serve the same objective and target the same beneficiaries. The same logic can be applied to subsequent calls launched under 2019 funds.

5.3.2 **Grant: direct award (direct management)**

(a) Objectives of the grant, fields of intervention, priorities of the year and expected results

The overarching objective shall be the enhancement of Civil Society Organisations' participation in partner countries' public policies and programmes as a pre-condition for a more equitable, open and democratic society.

In some cases, where relevant, contributions from other donors can be added to the allocation foreseen in this Action Document for a given country.

(b) Justification of a direct grant

Under the responsibility of the Commission's responsible authorising officer, the recourse to an award of a grant without a call for proposals is justified because beneficiaries are in one of the circumstances listed in Article 190 (1) (c), (d) and (f) of the Rules of Application (RAP) . EU Delegations may award direct grants if justified by the local context and in line with the achievement of the objective of this action.

In these cases, **priority will be given to representative national platforms of Civil Society Organisations originating from the EU partner country where the action takes place**, in order to strengthen their institutional and operational capacity, in line with the overall objectives of the “CSO-LA” Thematic Programme.

(c) Eligibility conditions

As applicant: non-profit making CSOs and/or their associations and/or national platforms from the following countries shall be eligible for funding under the CSO-LA Programme:

I. the EU partner country where the action takes place;

If considered relevant for the effectiveness of the action, eligibility can be extended to

II. other EU partner countries, as follows:

(a) countries eligible for Union funding under the European Neighbourhood Instrument established by Regulation (EU) No 232/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council (the ‘European Neighbourhood Instrument’) including the Russian Federation;

(b) developing countries and territories, as included in the list of ODA recipients published by the OECD-DAC (‘list of ODA recipients’), and overseas countries and territories covered by Council Decision 2013/755/EU;

(c) countries eligible for the European Development Fund;

III. Member States, beneficiaries listed in Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 231/2014, and contracting parties to the Agreement on the European Economic Area;

Co-applicant and affiliated entities: the eligibility of Co-applicant and affiliated entities is restricted to all types of non-profit making CSOs and/or their associations and LAs and/or their associations originating from the countries described above under applicant.

EU Delegations may define specific eligibility criteria according to the country context and in order to respond to local needs in terms of actors (type and origin), priorities, themes, sectors, and geographical areas. This will allow EU Delegations to ensure complementarity and subsidiarity with other programmes implemented in the country, as well as to better respond to local circumstances.

The initiatives to be financed shall be initiated and directly implemented by representative and/or national platforms of Civil Society Organisations (as defined in Annex II.B of the DCI Regulation). In limited cases and where appropriate, in order to ensure their effectiveness, initiatives may be carried out by other actors for the benefit of the national CSO platform concerned.

All actions should include an element of capacity development of partner countries CSO platforms. Partnerships among CSOs and other stakeholders are encouraged in order for the action to achieve stronger ownership and impact.

Grants may be awarded to sole beneficiaries and to consortia of beneficiaries (coordinator and co-beneficiaries).

The maximum duration of grants (their implementation period) may not be lower than 24 months nor exceed 60 months. In duly justified cases, EU Delegations can finance grants of less than 24 months with a minimum of 12 months.

(d) Essential selection and award criteria

The essential selection criteria are the financial and operational capacity of the applicant.

The essential award criteria are relevance of the proposed action to the objectives of the call; design, effectiveness, feasibility, sustainability and cost-effectiveness of the action.

(e) Maximum rate of co-financing

As a general rule, the maximum possible rate of EU co-financing for each grant directly awarded is 90% of the total eligible costs. The rate may be lower if the self-financing capacity of the targeted beneficiaries is good.

In accordance with Articles 192 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, if full funding is essential for the action to be carried out, the maximum possible rate of co-financing may be increased up to 100 %. The essentiality of full funding will be justified by the Commission's authorising officer responsible in the award decision, in respect of the principles of equal treatment and sound financial management.

(f) Indicative trimester to conclude the grant agreement

As from the adoption of this Commission Decision, foreseen in the second quarter of 2018.

5.3.3 *Direct management EU Békou Trust Fund in the Central African Republic*

An amount of EUR 5,661,000 is to be managed in direct management by the Delegation to the Central African Republic. Moreover, the unspent allocations by the Delegations will constitute the CSO contribution to the EU Békou Trust Fund, the establishment of which was

decided by the Commission in July 2014¹⁵ for a duration of 60 months following the signature of the Constitutive Agreement.

The overall objective of the Fund is to support all aspects of the Central African Republic's exit from crisis and reconstruction and to support the neighbouring countries affected by the crisis, in coordination with national frameworks and the instruments of other development partners.

The EU Békou Trust Fund pools funds from the EU, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Italy and Switzerland¹⁶.

Rules and procedures applying to the management and governance of the Trust Fund is detailed in the Constitutive Agreement signed with the donors in July 2014.

In accordance with Article 187 (4) of the Financial Regulation, the Board of the Trust Fund decides upon the use of the Funds which shall nevertheless be used to the benefit of CSOs to the proportion of the size of the EU Contribution stemming from the CSO budget line.

5.3.4 *Procurement (direct management)*

For in-country interventions, EU Delegations will be able to spend up to 5% of the respective annual operational country allocation for support measures accompanying the implementation of this priority of the thematic programme. Those accompanying support measures must cover activities of direct benefit to the organisations/partners targeted by the country programme, such as consultation sessions, information sessions on Calls for Proposals, local mapping studies, training seminars and workshops related to the programme, capitalisation studies, programme evaluations at country level and/or other activities focusing on the strengthening of actors.

Taking into consideration that support measures are initiated at country level by EU Delegations on the basis of local needs assessments, the number and type of contracts as well as the amounts allocated may vary significantly and is difficult to estimate. However, based on past years experiences, 60 to 70 contracts implemented in direct management are expected.

The type of tenders and contracts will be determined in each case by the European Union's standard procedures for the implementation of external actions.

Support measures do not cover activities or expenditure aimed at helping EU Delegations to manage the programme, such as technical assistance for the evaluation of proposals, projects' audits or follow-up of the programme.

5.4. Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

In principle, actions must take place in the partner country where the grant has been awarded.

The list of 114 targeted countries and respective budget allocations for CSOs foreseen for years 2018, 2019, 2020 is provided here below.

¹⁵ C (2014)5019

¹⁶ At 30/11/2017: certified contributions from the EU (EUR 123 032 543), France (EUR 15 000 000), Germany (EUR 30 000 000), the Netherlands (EUR 3 000 000), Italy (EUR 1 000 000) and Switzerland (EUR 925 326).

African countries

	2018	2019	2020	TOTAL 2018-2020
Angola*	830.500	1.000.000	1.000.000	2.830.500
Benin*	830.500	1.000.000	1.000.000	2.830.500
Botswana	1.698.300			1.698.300
Burkina Faso*	2.217.500		2.500.000	4.717.500
Burundi*	2.339.085	4.000.000	3.000.000	9.339.085
Cape Verde		2.431.000		2.431.000
Cameroon	1.774.000	1.000.000	1.000.000	3.774.000
Central African Republic (Trust Fund Békou)*	2.661.000	3.000.000		5.661.000
Chad*	1.698.300			1.698.300
Comoros (Union of) *	887.000		1.000.000	1.887.000
Congo (Republic of the)	1.677.070	3.000.000	4.000.000	8.677.070
Congo (Democratic Republic of)*	1.435.000	4.000.000	4.000.000	9.435.000
Djibouti*			1.415.250	1.415.250
Ethiopia *		1.000.000	1.830.500	2.830.500
Gabon; São Tomé and Príncipe*		981.350	1.000.000	1.981.350
Gambia*	887.000	1.000.000		1.887.000
Ghana		2.217.500	2.500.000	4.717.500
Guinea-Bissau*	2.000.000	2.000.000	2.604.500	6.604.500
Guinea-Conakry*	3.548.000		4.000.000	7.548.000
Ivory Coast	1.400.000	2.500.000	1.006.200	4.906.200
Kenya	1.830.500	1.000.000		2.830.500
Lesotho*		754.800		754.800

Liberia*		1.887.000		1.887.000
Madagascar*	774.000	1.000.000	2.000.000	3.774.000
Malawi*	1.415.250			1.415.250
Mali*	1.358.750		1.000.000	2.358.750
Mauritania*		2.217.500	2.500.000	4.717.500
Mauritius and Seychelles		1.241.800	1.400.000	2.641.800
Mozambique*		3.991.500	4.500.000	8.491.500
Namibia	798.300	900.000		1.698.300
Nigeria		990.675		990.675
Rwanda*		2.217.500	2.500.000	4.717.500
Senegal*	3.604.500		3.000.000	6.604.500
Sierra Leone*	2.217.500	2.500.000		4.717.500
Somalia*	887.000	1.000.000		1.887.000
South Sudan*		1.604.500	5.000.000	6.604.500
Sudan ¹⁷	5.195.495	5.000.000		10.195.495
Swaziland	943.500			943.500
Tanzania*	1.330.500	1.500.000		2.830.500
Uganda*	2.500.000	2.217.500		4.717.500
Zambia*		3.302.250	3.302.250	6.604.500
Zimbabwe	2.677.070	3.000.000	3.000.000	8.677.070
South Africa		2.604.500	4.000.000	6.604.500
TOTAL AFRICA	51.415.620	68.059.375	64.058.700	183.533.695

Latin American countries

	2018	2019	2020	TOTAL 2018-2020

¹⁷ This amount includes the balance of EUR 760,495 from a transfer agreement from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) as contributing donor (with a total amount of 30 000 000 SEK), in addition to the funds available from the EU Budget.

Argentina		2.222.500	2.500.000	4.722.500
Bolivia	1.556.000	2.000.000	4.000.000	7.556.000
Brazil	4.445.000		5.000.000	9.445.000
Chile **		1.778.000	2.000.000	3.778.000
Colombia	4.445.000	5.000.000		9.445.000
Costa Rica	566.700			566.700
Ecuador		2.667.000	3.000.000	5.667.000
El Salvador	833.500	1.000.000	1.000.000	2.833.500
Guatemala	1.889.000			1.889.000
Honduras	1.778.000	2.000.000		3.778.000
Mexico		1.778.000	2.000.000	3.778.000
Nicaragua	1.416.750			1.416.750
Panama	566.700			566.700
Paraguay		889.000	1.000.000	1.889.000
Peru	2.222.500	2.500.000		4.722.500
Uruguay **	889.000		1.000.000	1.889.000
Venezuela	2.722.500		2.000.000	4.722.500
TOTAL AMERICA	LATIN	23.330.650	21.834.500	23.500.000
				68.665.150

Caribbean countries

	2018	2019	2020	TOTAL 2018-2020
Barbados and Eastern Caribbean Islands ¹⁸		850.050		850.050
Belize		188.900		188.900

¹⁸ Antigua and Barbuda; Dominica; Grenada; St. Kitts - Nevis; St. Lucia; St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Cuba	2.722.500		2.000.000	4.722.500
Dominican Republic	1.778.000	2.000.000		3.778.000
Guyana		1.416.750		1.416.750
Haiti*	3.000.000	3.000.000	3.445.000	9.445.000
Jamaica	1.416.750			1.416.750
Suriname			1.416.750	1.416.750
Trinidad & Tobago		283.350		283.350
TOTAL CARIBBEAN	8.917.250	7.739.050	6.861.750	23.518.050

Asian countries

	2018	2019	2020	TOTAL 2018-2020
Afghanistan*	2.000.000	1.778.000		3.778.000
Bangladesh*		4.722.500		4.722.500
Burma / Myanmar*	3.000.000	3.000.000	3.445.000	9.445.000
Cambodia*	3.445.000	3.000.000	3.000.000	9.445.000
China	1.833.500		1.000.000	2.833.500
Korea (DPRK – North)	889.000	1.000.000		1.889.000
India	3.445.000	3.000.000	3.000.000	9.445.000
Indonesia	3.445.000	3.000.000	3.000.000	9.445.000
Laos*		3.000.000	3.611.500	6.611.500
Malaysia	889.000	1.000.000		1.889.000
Mongolia	833.500	1.000.000	1.000.000	2.833.500
Nepal*	3.445.000	3.000.000	3.000.000	9.445.000
Pakistan	3.556.000	2.000.000	2.000.000	7.556.000
Philippines	1.667.000	2.000.000	2.000.000	5.667.000
Sri Lanka and Maldives		944.500		944.500

Thailand	5.565.307		3.879.693	9.445.000
Vietnam	1.500.000	1.500.000	1.722.500	4.722.500
TOTAL ASIA	35.513.307	33.945.000	30.658.693	100.117.000

Central Asian countries

	2018	2019	2020	TOTAL 2018-2020
Kazakhstan	1.416.750			1.416.750
Kyrgyzstan		2.125.125	2.125.125	4.250.250
Tajikistan		1.416.750	1.416.750	2.833.500
Uzbekistan	944.500			944.500
TOTAL CENTRAL ASIA	2.361.250	3.541.875	3.541.875	9.445.000

Pacific countries

	2018	2019	2020	TOTAL 2018-2020
Fiji	1.778.000		2.000.000	3.778.000
Papouasie Nouvelle Guinée	1.667.000	2.000.000	2.000.000	5.667.000
Solomon Islands*		708.375		708.375
Timor Leste*	833.500	1.000.000	1.000.000	2.833.500
TOTAL PACIFIC	4.278.500	3.708.375	5.000.000	12.986.875

Middle Eastern countries

	2018	2019	2020	TOTAL 2018-2020
Iraq	1.833.580	1.000.000		2.833.580
Iran	1.666.960	2.000.000	2.000.000	5.666.960
Yemen*	1.666.960	2.000.000	2.000.000	5.666.960

TOTAL MIDDLE EAST	5.167.500	5.000.000	4.000.000	14.167.500
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Neighbourhood countries

	2018	2019	2020	TOTAL 2018-2020
Algeria	2.000.000		1.500.000	3.500.000
Armenia		3.000.000		3.000.000
Azerbaijan			3.000.000	3.000.000
Belarus		2.000.000	3.000.000	5.000.000
Egypt	4.000.000			4.000.000
Georgia		3.000.000	2.000.000	5.000.000
Jordan	2.500.000			2.500.000
Israel		3.000.000		3.000.000
Lebanon	1.000.000			1.000.000
Libya	1.000.000	1.000.000	1.000.000	3.000.000
Moldova			3.000.000	3.000.000
Morocco		1.200.000	1.100.000	2.300.000
Palestine		2.000.000	4.500.000	6.500.000
Syria	2.500.000		1.500.000	4.000.000
Russia	8.000.000		7.000.000	15.000.000
Tunisia		1.800.000		1.800.000
Ukraine	3.500.000		3.500.000	7.000.000
TOTAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	24.500.000	17.000.000	31.100.000	72.600.000

* Least Developed Countries (OECD DAC list of ODA Recipients)¹⁹.

** Countries not in the DAC list (graduated countries) as per instance Chile and Uruguay, according to article 16 of the DCI are eligible for thematic programme CSO-

¹⁹ List effective for reporting on 2012 and 2013 flows, available at: <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/documentupload/DAC%20List%20used%20for%202012%20and%202013%20flows.pdf>

LA with the limitation of 95% overall ODA, in order to ensure the coherence and effectiveness of Union financing or to foster regional or trans-regional cooperation.

Countries eligible in accordance with Art 1.1.b of the DCI Regulation, other than the above-listed, remain eligible under and could profit from future Actions under the Multi-Annual Indicative Programme of the Thematic Programme “Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities 2014-2020”.

Countries and territories falling within the scope of Council Decision 2013/755/EU on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Union (‘Overseas Association Decision’) and countries beneficiaries of Regulation (EU) No 231/2014 establishing an Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II) (listed in Annex I) are in principle not eligible locations of the action.

The geographical eligibility in terms of place of establishment for participating in procurement and grant award procedures and in terms of origin of supplies purchased as established in the basic act and set out in the relevant contractual documents shall apply.

The Commission’s authorising officer responsible may extend the geographical eligibility in accordance with Article 9(2)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 on the basis of urgency or of unavailability of products and services in the markets of the countries concerned, or in other duly substantiated cases where the eligibility rules would make the realization of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult.

5.5 Indicative budget

The total amount of EU budget contribution is EUR 484.272.775 under budget line 21 02 08 01 "Civil Society Organisations", plus EUR 760,495 from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) as contributing donor,

The contribution is for an amount of EUR 154.723.582 from the general budget of the European Union for 2018, plus EUR 760,495 from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) as contributing donor, and

for an amount of EUR 160.828.175 from the general budget of the European Union for 2019, and

for an amount of EUR 168.721.018 from the general budget of the European Union for 2020, subject to the availability of appropriations following the adoption of the draft budget and the budget.

5.6 Organisational set-up and responsibilities

Local calls for proposals will be launched and managed by EU Delegations. Exceptionally, some calls for proposals might be launched and managed by European Commission Headquarters.

5.7 Performance monitoring and reporting

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of projects resulting from a call for proposals launched by the EU Delegations will be a continuous process and part of the implementing partner’s responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partner

shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (outputs and direct outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the logframe matrix (for project modality) or the list of result indicators (for budget support). The report shall be laid out in such a way as to allow monitoring of the means envisaged and employed and of the budget details for the action. The final report, narrative and financial, will cover the entire period of the action implementation.

5.8 Evaluation

The financing of the evaluation shall be covered by another measure constituting a financing decision. In line with the key requirements of accountability and learning, evaluation provisions for the whole CSO-LA Programme, including the grants awarded under this Action, are envisaged under the Action Document 4 – Support Measures.

Grants awarded under this Action are managed by the EU Delegations. The evaluation reports of the evaluations implemented at project level by the EU Delegations shall be shared with the Commission and other key stakeholders. The implementing partner and the EU Delegations shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project.

5.9 Audit

Without prejudice to the obligations applicable to contracts concluded for the implementation of this action, the Commission may, on the basis of a risk assessment, contract independent audits or expenditure verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements.

Grants awarded under this Action are managed by the EU Delegations. The audits implemented at project level by the EU Delegations will be part of the Audit Plan centrally managed by the Commission and supported by external consultants. The financing of these audits shall be covered by another measure constituting a financing decision (see Action documents 4 – Support measures).

5.10 Communication and visibility

Communication and visibility of the EU is a legal obligation for all external actions funded by the EU.

In terms of legal obligations on communication and visibility, the measures shall be implemented by the Commission, the partner country, contractors, grant beneficiaries and/or entrusted entities. Appropriate contractual obligations shall be included in, respectively, the financing agreement, procurement and grant contracts, and delegation agreements.

The Communication and Visibility Manual for European Union External Action shall be used to establish the Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action and the appropriate contractual obligations.

APPENDIX - INDICATIVE LOGFRAME MATRIX (FOR PROJECT MODALITY)²⁰

The activities, the expected outputs and all the indicators, targets and baselines included in the logframe matrix are indicative and may be updated during the implementation of the action, no amendment being required to the financing decision. When it is not possible to determine the outputs of an action at formulation stage, intermediary outcomes should be presented and the outputs defined during inception of the overall programme and its components. The indicative logframe matrix will evolve during the lifetime of the action: new lines will be added for including the activities as well as new columns for intermediary targets (milestones) for the output and outcome indicators whenever it is relevant for monitoring and reporting purposes. Note also that indicators should be disaggregated by sex whenever relevant.

	Results chain	Indicators	Baselines 2017	Targets 2020	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
Overall objective: Impact	Enable Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to engage as actors of governance and development at country level.	Country score according to CIVICUS Enabling environment index (EEI.)	2017 scores for individual countries.	2020 scores for individual countries.	Annual data on the CIVICUS EEI website (http://www.civicus.org/eei/)	
Specific objective 1: Outcome(s)	Increase the participation of CSOs in tackling climate change and mitigating its adverse effects	Number of countries with climate change strategies (a) developed and/or (b) implemented with Civil Society Organisations with EU support (**EURF 2-23) Number of local authorities supported in the context of the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy with EU support	To be determined in inception phase.	To be determined in inception phase.	EU projects and programme monitoring systems (see methodological note of **EURF 2-23) Global and Regional Covenant of Mayors Secretariats/Offices	- Existence of enabling conditions to allow Civil Society Organisations to register and perform in this specific field.

²⁰ Mark indicators aligned with the relevant programming document mark with '*' and indicators aligned to the EU Results Framework with '**'.

Specific objective 2:	Women's participation in decision making increased	Number of countries which have adopted/developed strategies aiming at gender equality with EU support	To be determined in inception phase.	To be determined in inception phase.	UN women reports.	
Specific objective 3:	The voice of youth in society is increased.	Number of countries that adopted a Youth strategy or established a National Youth Council	To be determined in inception phase.	To be determined in inception phase.	UN agencies reports (UNICEF, UNESCO...)	
Specific objective 4:	Increase the participation of CSOs in addressing irregular migration and forced displacement	To be determined in inception phase (taking into account the future EC-UN work on SDG's indicators.).	To be determined in inception phase.	To be determined in inception phase.	To be determined in inception phase.	
Specific objective 5:	Increase the participation of CSOs in preventing, addressing and/or mitigating risks and vulnerabilities in fragile and conflict affected countries	To be determined in inception phase.	To be determined in inception phase.	To be determined in inception phase.	To be determined in inception phase.	
	SO1 / output 1 – Strengthened CSOs' capacities and engagement on climate change mitigation and adaptation	% of the total expenditure of this Action Document is dedicated to support CSOs in climate change mitigation and adaptation actions. Number of CSOs, networks and national platforms working on climate change mitigation and prevention by this	As the programme has not started, the baseline is 0.	In 2018, 2019 and 2020, at least 20% of the total expenditure of this Action Document is dedicated to support CSOs in climate	DEVCO Dashboard. Monitoring and evaluation of projects' progress reports.	Existence of transparent and accountable Civil Society Organisations in the partner country where the action shall take place.

		<p>Action</p> <p>Number of members of CSOs working on climate change trained by this Action in management/human resources/leadership skills (disaggregated by sex)</p> <p>Number of members of CSOs working on climate change trained by this Action in analytical/ advocacy/negotiation skills (disaggregated by sex)</p> <p>Number of members of CSOs working on climate change trained by this Action in internal governance standards, transparency and accountability towards intended beneficiaries, constituencies, and social bases (disaggregated by sex)</p>		<p>change mitigation and adaptation actions.</p> <p>For the other indicators: tbd in inception phase by the Delegations.</p>	<p>Monitoring and evaluation of projects' progress reports.</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation of projects' progress reports.</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation of projects' progress reports.</p>	
	SO2 / output 2 – Strengthened women's CSOs capacities for and engagement in participation in decision making	<p>%age of projects including/supporting women organisations under this Action.</p> <p>The disaggregated number of women's organisations, networks and national</p>	As the programme has not started, the baseline is 0.	In 2018, 2019 and 2020, 85% of the projects supported include a gender component.	<p>DAC code reports</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation of projects' progress</p>	<p>Existence of transparent and accountable Civil Society Organisations in the partner country where the action shall</p>

	<p>platforms supported/strengthened by this Action.</p> <p>Number of CSOs trained by this Action on gender equality and women's and girl's rights.</p> <p>Number of members of CSOs working on gender trained by this Action in management/human resources/leadership skills (disaggregated by sex)</p> <p>Number of members of CSOs working on gender trained by this Action in analytical/ advocacy/negotiation skills (disaggregated by sex)</p> <p>Number of members of CSOs working on gender trained by this Action in internal governance standards, transparency and accountability towards intended beneficiaries, constituencies, and social bases (disaggregated by sex)</p>		For the other indicators: tbd in inception phase by the Delegations.	<p>reports.</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation of projects' progress reports.</p>	take place.
	SO3 / output 3 – Strengthened CSOs' capacities and engagement on youth inclusion	Number of young people's organisations, networks and national platforms	As the programme has not started, the	Tbd in inception phase by the	Monitoring and evaluation of projects' progress

	<p>supported/strengthened by this Action.</p> <p>Number of members of CSOs working on youth trained by this Action in management/human resources/leadership skills (disaggregated by sex)</p> <p>Number of members of CSOs working on youth trained by this Action in analytical/ advocacy/negotiation skills (disaggregated by sex)</p> <p>Number of members of CSOs working on youth trained by this Action in internal governance standards, transparency and accountability towards intended beneficiaries, constituencies, and social bases (disaggregated by sex)</p>	baseline is 0.	Delegations.	<p>reports.</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation of projects' progress reports.</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation of projects' progress reports.</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation of projects' progress reports.</p>	Civil Society Organisations in the partner country where the action shall take place.
	<p>SO4 / output 4 – Strengthened CSOs' capacities and engagement on addressing irregular migration and forced displacement output</p>	<p>Number of CSOs, networks and national platforms addressing the root causes of irregular migration supported /strengthened by this Action</p> <p>Number of members of</p>	<p>As the programme has not started, the baseline is 0.</p>	<p>Tbd in inception phase by the Delegations.</p>	<p>Monitoring and evaluation of projects' progress reports.</p> <p>Monitoring and</p>

	<p>CSOs working on root causes of migration trained by this Action in management/human resources/leadership skills (disaggregated by sex)</p> <p>Number of members of CSOs working on root causes of migration trained by this Action in analytical/ advocacy/negotiation skills (disaggregated by sex)</p> <p>Number of members of CSOs working on root causes of migration trained by this Action in internal governance standards, transparency and accountability towards intended beneficiaries, constituencies, and social bases (disaggregated by sex)</p>			<p>evaluation of projects' progress reports.</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation of projects' progress reports.</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation of projects' progress reports.</p>	
	SO5 / output 5 – Strengthened CSOs' capacities and engagement on addressing Resilience	Number of supported /strengthened (by this Action) CSOs, networks and national platforms preventing, addressing and/or mitigating risks and vulnerabilities in fragile and conflict affected countries	As the programme has not started, the baseline is 0.	Tbd in inception phase by the Delegations.	<p>Monitoring and evaluation of projects' progress reports.</p> <p>Existence of transparent and accountable Civil Society Organisations in the partner country where the action shall take place.</p>

	<p>Number of members of CSOs working on resilience trained by this Action in management/human resources/leadership skills (disaggregated by sex)</p> <p>Number of members of CSOs working on resilience trained by this Action in analytical/advocacy/negotiation skills (disaggregated by sex)</p> <p>Number of members of CSOs working on resilience trained by this Action in internal governance standards, transparency and accountability towards intended beneficiaries, constituencies, and social bases (disaggregated by sex)</p>			<p>Monitoring and evaluation of projects' progress reports.</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation of projects' progress reports.</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation of projects' progress reports.</p>	
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