



CSO-LA Follow-up consultation on the EU Regional Multi-annual Indicative Programme for Asia and Pacific (2021-2027)

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I. Introduction

In keeping with its commitment to regularly consult other development actors, the EU has endeavoured to hear feedback from partners regarding its 2021-2027 programming. The Policy Forum on Development (PFD), together with the EC and EEAS, held a consultation on the <u>EU Regional Multi-annual Indicative Programme (MIP) for Asia and Pacific</u> in May 2021 to capture the views of the multiple PFD stakeholders and other CSOs and LAs. A follow up event with the PFD on the RMIP for Asia and the Pacific is planned for **6 March 2023 from 8 am to 11:30 CET online**.

The objectives of the meeting include:

- 1. Updating participants on the progress of the Regional MIP implementation
- 2. Updating participants on how the text of the Regional MIP and the actions adopted so far reflect the recommendations from the 2021 consultation
- 3. Gathering feedback and remarks from CSOs and LAs on the Regional MIP implementation and how to better engage with CSOs and LAs (see guiding questions at the end of this note)

The regional consultation will gather participants representing CSO and LA global networks, regional networks and platforms present in Europe, Asia and Pacific. The Asia and Pacific regional MIP covers an area spanning from the Gulf and Caspian Sea to the Pacific Islands, which is extremely heterogeneous in terms of human and physical geography, economy and level of development and democracy.

II. Methodology

Part I (8h-9h30): Panel in which the EU gives feedback on the Asia Pacific MIP to date, with:

- Updates on the progress of the Regional MIP implementation. This would include sub-regional updates as well as actions adopted, what is in the pipeline, and clarification of Indo-Pacific strategy.
- Updates on how the Regional MIP reflects the recommendations from last year's consultation and actions adopted thus far (focused on three of the recommendations in key priority areas: green, digital and migration).

The moderated discussion will consist of a 60' presentation from relevant EU participants in the Asia Pacific MIP as to how the MIP has evolved and where feedback from the first consultation has been taken on board. Participants can then ask questions for clarification (last 30').

<u>Part II (9h45-11hoo)</u>: Gather feedback and remarks from CSOs and LAs on relevant topics for the Regional MIP implementation as well as how to better engage with CSOs and LAs in key thematic areas.

This session will take place in smaller groups (in parallel) and discuss the guiding questions (Annex I). Working groups of approximately 1 hour will allow participants to select a thematic session and engage in discussion.

Part III (11h-11h30): Feedback and conclusions

This 30-minute session will allow rapporteurs to feedback from their breakout sessions and conclude the meeting.

III. ANNEX I: Thematic sessions - Guiding questions

Optional: PFD attendees who wish to share further details on the questions discussed during the breakout sessions can submit input in writing to the Commission in the week following the event.

Promoting jobs and skills, support to SMEs, connectivity	Climate change, energy, environment	Migration and forced displacement	Governance, human rights, security
- Which role can CSO and LA play in promoting decent work in SMEs (beyond the provision of trainings)? Can CSO and LA already engaged in this field provide examples of their engagement with strategic partners and results achieved? How can these be scaled up in the region? - Based on your experience in your region(s), what Prosperity programmes (in the framework of the 5 Ps / SDGs) benefit the poorest segments of the population the most? - In the context of discussions on connectivity initiatives with the EU and other donors, what are the most important aspects for your constituents? Are there any gaps in these discussions that should be addressed?	- What should be the key priorities in the development of the water—energy nexus in the region? How could CSOs be better involved in the decision and implementation process? - For CSOs and LAs engaged at national level in policy areas such as sustainable consumption and production, circular economy practices and decent work: how can CSOs and LAs facilitate the flow of investments or influence the uptake of sustainable consumption and production / circular economy practices by SMEs (beyond the provision of trainings)? Could they provide examples? - What are CSO+LA overall views on the needs and priorities in the area of green/sustainable urban development in the region?	- What are your thematic priorities in the field of migration and forced displacement in the Asia-Pacific region? [Can you identify complementarities with the RMIP on migration and forced displacement? Are any key topics missing?] - Addressing the impacts of environmental degradation and climate change on human mobility is a priority under the RMIP. What would be the best way the EU could address this topic in the Asia-Pacific region (geographic and thematic scope/focus, implementation modality, relevant stakeholders)? How can we join forces with CSO/LAs to tackle this challenge? - The EU is putting forward a Team Europe Initiative in response to the Afghan regional displacement crisis. What role would CSO/LAs foresee in this? - As regards the protracted displacement crisis of Rohingya refugees where should the EU put the priority in the next 4-5 years? What role would CSO/LAs foresee in this?	 How can the EU best support CSOs operating in shrinking spaces regarding areas and topics to work on, and who face increasing barriers to collaborate with INGOs and other actors? Are cybersecurity concerns adequately addressed in the context of EU programmes? How could this aspect be improved? What are CSO+LA views on the overall needs and priorities for tackling transnational crime in the region (drugs, environmental, human trafficking)? How do you see the role that can be played by CSOs/LAs?