



## CONCEPT NOTE ON CONSULTATIONS OF CSO/LA ON THE EU REGIONAL PROGRAMMING FOR SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA (2021-2027)

**20th of April 2023 10h-13h CET**

### Context

In continuation of its commitment to organize regular exchange with development partners, and recognising the importance of partnership in successfully reaching our development objectives, INTPA, in the framework of the Policy Forum on Development, is hosting a fourth consultative discussion with civil society organisations CSOs and associations of local authorities (ALAs). Previous information and consultation sessions were organised in March 2021, December 2021 and June 2022 to present the SSA regional programming exercise and AAP 2022. This discussion will continue the dialogue and update partners on programming implementation.

This meeting has the following objectives:

1. Provide an update on the implementation of the regional multi-annual programming for SSA
2. Provide feedback on the contributions from the previous meetings
3. Hear the views of CSOs and LAs on the Annual Action Plans 2023 (which are currently in the pipeline and under preparation).

**Participants:** Representatives of CSOs and ALAs global and regional networks and platforms present in Europe and Africa.

### Methodology

This 3-hour online moderated discussion will provide feedback on the input already gathered for the MIP and share the state of play of the AAP 2023.

During the plenary session DG INTPA will present how the programming process has evolved since the last meeting and give feedback to the participants on how the EC took forward some of the recommendations expressed during the last consultation. It will also be the opportunity to present the main outlines of SSA regional AAP 2023 (while the AAP 2023 has been approved, action documents are currently being drafted). This presentation will be followed by a short Q&A session.

The plenary session will be followed by discussions in sub-groups (to be selected by participants at registration), which will cover the initiatives that will be presented in the AAP 2023. In each subgroup, it will be possible to discuss the implementation of regional TEIs in relation to the topics of the group. They are the following:

1. Human development (including health, gender, culture, youth, and skills)
2. Democracy, Governance, Peace, Migration and forced displacement (including CSO, local government, Illicit financial flows, and maritime security)
3. Green transition (including climate change, agri-food, pastoralism, and ocean protection)
4. Sustainable growth and decent jobs, Digital, science, technology and innovation (STI) (including trade, circular economy and product safety)

The following guiding questions on the role of CSO/ALA on the ground will be addressed in each group:

- What are the CSOs/ALAs views on the relevance of the regional action plans for 2023 in light of the priorities of the regional multiannual indicative programme?
- What are key areas/ focal points that should be taken into account in the formulation phase of SSA regional initiatives?

The plenary session will be in EN and FR with simultaneous interpretation available. For thematic groups, the moderators will be comfortable with both languages. For the wrap-up session and the conclusion, participants will meet again in a final plenary session setting. A rapporteur from each sub-group will share the main outcomes in plenary.

## Agenda

- Welcome and opening remarks
- Presentations (feedback from the last consultation + AAP 2023); Q&A
- Group discussions on AAP2023
- Report back to plenary
- Wrap up and conclusion