



**Concept note on CSO-LA Consultation on the  
Evaluation of External Financing Instruments for EU external action (2014-2027)**

**24 May 2023  
13:00h - 17:00h CET**

### **Overview**

In the framework of the mid-term evaluation (MTE) of EU external financing instruments 2021-2027 and the final evaluation of previous external financing instruments 2014-2020, public and targeted consultations are being organised to gather the views of the multiple stakeholders of EU external cooperation. EU Member States, development agencies of the EU Member States, civil society organisations (CSOs) and local authorities (LAs) networks and platforms, the European Parliament, International Financial Institutions, and other relevant stakeholders are being consulted through dedicated meetings.

In parallel, an online open public consultation (OPC) is available via [EU Survey](#) with a set of 22 questions. CSOs and LAs as stakeholders are encouraged to reply to this OPC and to submit contributions, to be uploaded via EU Survey.

The mid-term evaluation of the ongoing EU external financing instruments covers the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument - Global Europe (NDICI – GE), the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA III), the Decision on the Overseas Association, including Greenland (DOAG) and the Instrument for International Nuclear Safety Cooperation (INSC). It also includes the final evaluation of the 2014-2020 external financing instruments. The Commission report will be presented to the Parliament and the Council in early 2024. This evaluation is based on the relevant OECD DAC evaluation criteria (relevance, coherence, efficiency, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability) and EU added value, with a final report expected in early 2024.

### **Participants will be able to:**

Contribute to the constructive and forward-looking consultations with the EU with a view to integrating different stakeholder perspectives and recommendations into the ongoing evaluation of external financing instruments and to their next generation.

### **Methodology**

The moderated discussion will consist of a general presentation of the mid-term evaluation purpose and process and two consecutive sessions: one on NDICI-GE, DOAG and INSC in 2 parts (CSOs and LAs) and one on IPA III. The interactive plenary discussions will be focused around specific questions of particular relevance for CSOs and LAs.

### Draft Agenda and guiding questions

	Participants connecting
13:00 - 13:30	Presentation of the mid-term evaluation: objectives and process ( <i>including consultations</i> )
13:30 - 15:30	<p>Session on NDICI, DOAG and INSC</p> <p><i>13:30 - 14:30 focus on CSOs</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To what extent and how has the new EFI framework facilitated the inclusion of CSOs in line with the principle of (multi-actor) partnerships?</li> <li>2. To what extent and how do the new EFIs and in particular NDICI-GE facilitate access to funding for a diversity of local CSOs?</li> <li>3. To what extent and how has the dialogue with the EU Delegations improved in the context of the ‘Geographisation’ principle?</li> </ol> <p>15 minute break</p> <p><i>14:45 - 15:45 focus on Local Authorities</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To what extent and how has the new EFI framework facilitated the inclusion of LAs in line with the principle of (multi-actor) partnerships?</li> <li>2. How do LAs see the impact of the ‘Geographisation’ principle?</li> <li>3. In particular, to what extent and how has the dialogue with the EU Delegations improved in the context of the ‘Geographisation’ principle?</li> </ol>
16:00 – 17:00	<p>Session on IPA III</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To what extent and how is IPA III promoting cooperation and partnerships between CSOs and institutions of the enlargement region, including at the local level?</li> <li>2. To what extent and how is IPA III contributing to strengthening CSOs’ capacities and resilience in the region?</li> <li>3. To what extent and how is IPA III contributing to the promotion of a conducive environment for CSOs?</li> <li>4. To what extent and how is IPA III promoting gender equality?</li> </ol>