

Understanding EU funding mechanisms and application procedures

Civil Society Organisations thematic programme

April 15, 2026



Welcome & Introduction

INTPA G.2

EU & Civil Society

The EU is a longstanding global champion for civil society as development actors in their own right.



Thematic programme Civil Society Organisations

Strengthen CSOs as independent actors of good governance and development in their own right.

The only thematic programme with a
actor-based mandate

Act independently from the consent of
government

Comprehensiveness and worldwide coverage



Multi-Annual Action Plan for 2025–2027

Overarching priorities for EU support to civil society

- Promoting an enabling environment for civil society



- Supporting inclusive CSO participation in policy dialogue and decision-making



- Strengthen CSO partner capacities



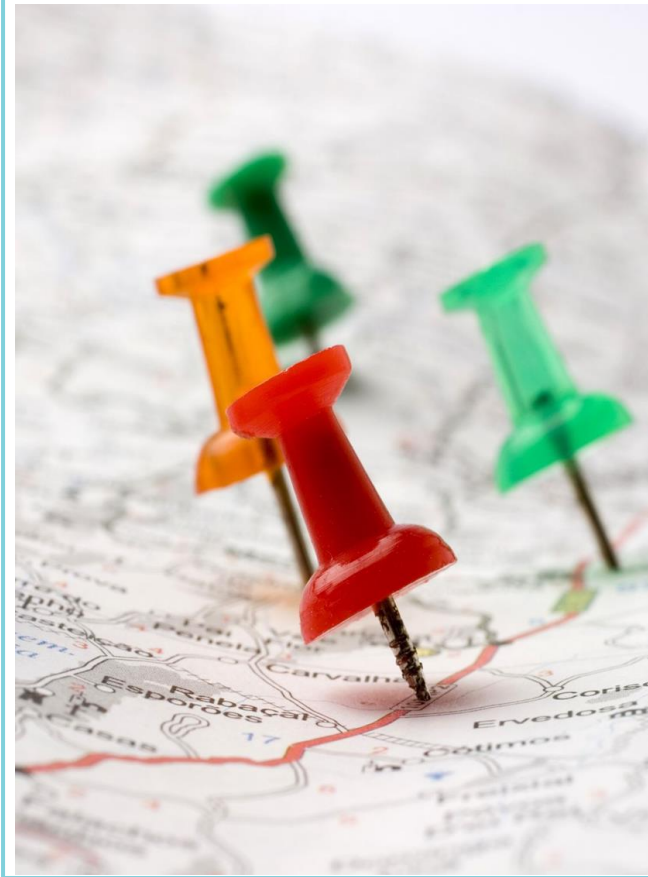
From Policy to Opportunities

Call for Proposals

- Local & global opportunities
- Managed by **EU Delegations**



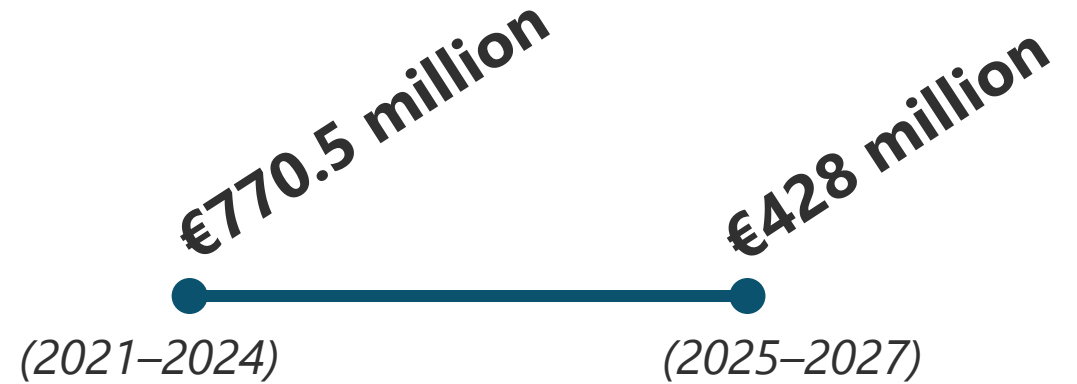
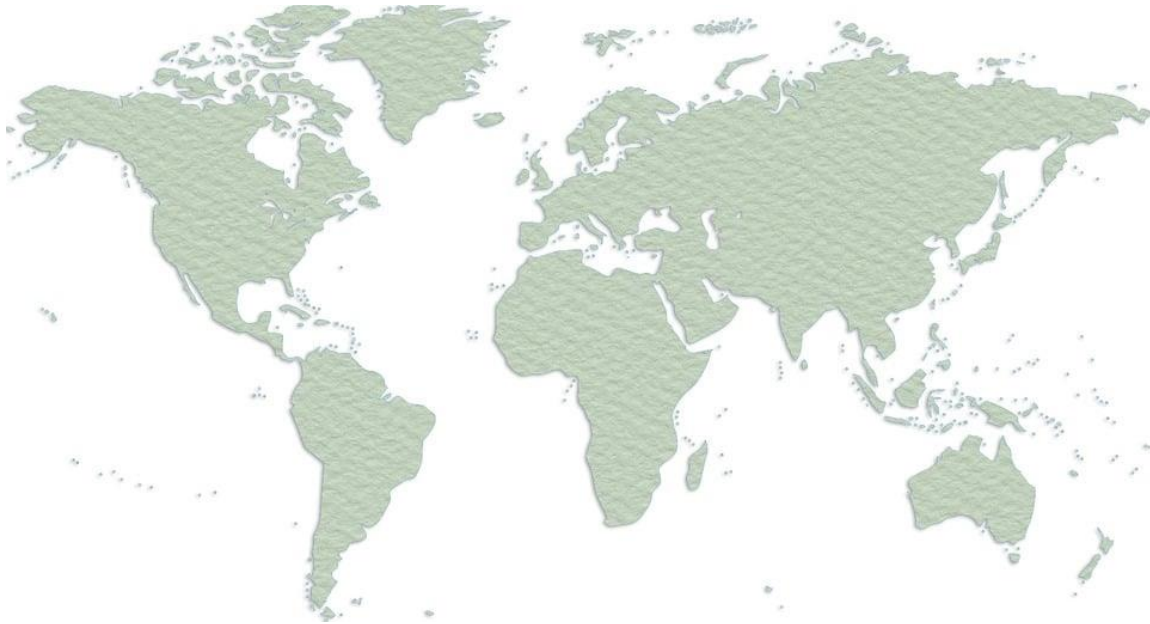
Engagement with EU Delegations



- Civil Society Roadmaps (country priorities)
- Dialogue & engagement
- Global Gateway partnerships

EU Support to Civil Society – Global overview

Civil Society Organisations Thematic Programme



≈ €1.2 billion total


In support to civil society
worldwide
(including Neighbourhood and Russia)

Indicative allocations under
the CSO Thematic Programme
(MAAP 2025–2027)



**Sub-Saharan
Africa**

€175.5 million



Indicative allocations under
the CSO Thematic Programme
(MAAP 2025–2027)

**ASIA and the
PACIFIC**

€118.8 million

Indicative allocations under the
CSO Thematic Programme
(MAAP 2025–2027)

LAC Region
€69.7 million



How CSOs can apply for EU funding

Practical overview

The EU grant application process

What is a Call for Proposals?



- Public invitation to apply for funding
- Open competition

Guidelines for applicants



- **Objectives and priorities** - What the EU wants to fund



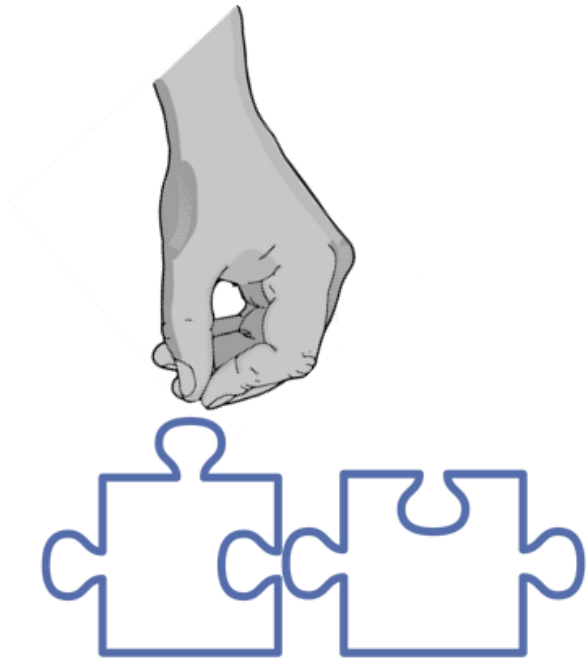
- **Eligibility criteria** - Who can apply



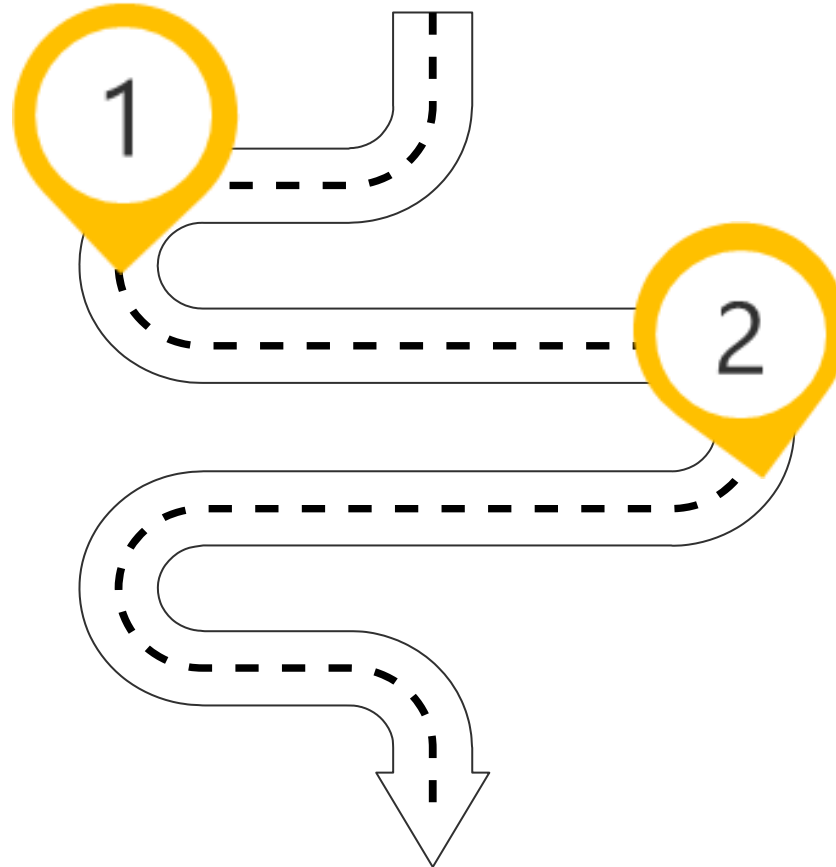
- **Financial allocation** -> How much funding is available

Application phases

1. Concept Note

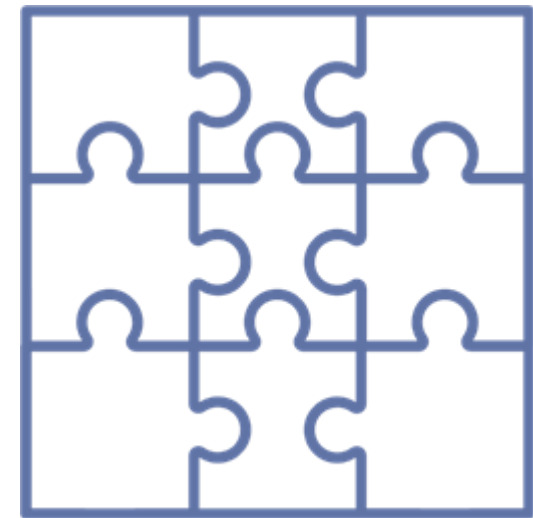


4-pages **Snapshot** of your project



2. Full Proposal

A **detailed document** requested only from applicants shortlisted after the first stage.



How CSOs can identify relevant funding opportunities

The screenshot displays the 'EU Funding & Tenders Portal' website. The top navigation bar includes the European Commission logo, the text 'EU Funding & Tenders Portal', a 'Sign in' button, and a language selector set to 'EN'. Below the navigation bar, a menu contains 'Home', 'Funding' (highlighted in yellow), 'Procurement', 'Projects & results', 'News & events', 'Work as an expert', and 'Guidance & documents'. A search bar is located on the right side of the menu.

The main content area shows the breadcrumb 'Home > Funding > Calls for proposals' and the title 'Calls for proposals'. A descriptive paragraph explains that calls for proposals are funding opportunities issued by the European Union institutions, agencies, and bodies, known as grants, awarded to third-party beneficiaries. A link for 'More details' is provided.

On the left side, there is a 'Filters' section with a red arrow pointing to it. Below 'Filters' is a 'Quick search' box with a 'Select...' dropdown and a search icon. Below that are several filter buttons: 'Programming period', 'Programme', 'Call', and 'Submission status'.

The main content area features a section titled 'GRANTS RECOMMENDED FOR YOU'. It includes a question: 'Do you want to receive personalised recommendations? [Log in](#) to your F&T profile or [register](#) an account to activate them.' Below this, it states '312 item(s) found'. There are icons for a calendar, RSS, and a dropdown menu for 'Opening date / Publicati...'. A specific grant listing is shown with the title 'European Researchers' Night and Researchers at Schools 2026-2027', the identifier 'HORIZON-MSCA-2025-CITIZENS-01-01 | Call for proposal', and a status badge 'Forthcoming'. The listing also includes 'Opening date: 17 June 2025 | Deadline date: 22 October 2025 | Single-stage' and 'Programme: Horizon Europe (HORIZON) | Type of action: HORIZON Coordination and Support Actions'.

Where to start?

EU LOGIN & Registration



User 's guidelines, FAQ, e-training are available [here](#)

Tips for preparing a strong proposal



Decoding EU Calls of CSO Thematic Programme: A step-by-step guide for CSOs on grant applications



**Decoding EU Calls of CSO
Thematic Programme:
A step-by-step guide for CSOs
on grant applications** ▶

New **free, interactive online tool** to empower CSOs in preparing strong Concept Notes and Full Applications.

Available on INTPA Academy upon registration (**EU LOGIN**).

**Any
questions?**



Thank you!
