

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who is eligible?

The NSA-LA Programme is open to:

- **Non-State Actors** (Art. 24/2 of the DCI regulation): "The non-State, non-profit making actors eligible for financial support include: non governmental organisations, organisations representing indigenous peoples, organisations representing national and/or ethnic minorities, local traders' associations and citizens' groups, cooperatives, trade unions, organisations representing economic and social interests, organisations fighting corruption and fraud and promoting good governance, civil rights organisations and organisations combating discrimination, local organisations (including networks) involved in decentralised regional cooperation and integration, consumer organisations, women's and youth organisations, teaching, cultural, research and scientific organisations, universities, churches and religious associations and communities, the media and any non governmental associations and independent foundations, including independent political foundations, likely to contribute to the implementation of the objectives of the Regulation."

And

- **Local Authorities** (EC COM(2008) 626 final): Local Authority is understood in its widest sense to encompass the large variety of sub-national levels and branches of government i.e. municipalities, communities, districts, counties, provinces, regions etc. Concerning development cooperation there is substantial heterogeneity in the mandate, finance and functions at each level and within each level.

- **Associations of Local Authorities** – including networks of associations of Local Authorities: a group of associations with a permanent representative body established as an autonomous organisation in accordance with the laws in force in the country concerned.

The NSA-LA programme is financed by *two different budgets lines*: budget line 21.03.01 NSA and budget line 21.03.02 LA, one financing actions for *NSA applicants* together with NSA or LA partners, the other one for actions for *LA applicants* together with LA or NSA partners.

2. Where do we work?

The NSA-LA Programme covers actions in the European Union and in all partner countries, as indicated in the regulations (DCI, ENPI and EDF). The covered partner regions are: Africa, Caribbean and Pacific region, Asia (including Central Asia + Gulf region), Latin America and the Neighborhood countries (ENPI).

In particular, Objective 1 concerns interventions in partner countries:

- Objective 1a (in-country interventions): a list of targeted counties is specified in the Annual Action Programme (the list of eligible countries for 2011-2013 is available on the right hand side of the web page);

- Objective 1b (multi-country interventions): all partners countries, as indicated in the regulations.

For Objective 2 and 3: actions take place mostly in the European Union and acceding countries.

3. How should I apply?

Grants are selected through [calls for proposals](#). The term “call for proposals” refers to the mechanism whereby a selection process is launched to choose projects on a competitive (non-discriminatory) basis. Calls for proposals give a full, clear and precise description of the subject and specify the eligibility, the selection and award criteria.

If you would like to apply for a Call for Proposal it is useful to read the [practical guide](#) (PRAG) and in particular its [grant section](#) which explains the procedures how to apply for external aid financed by the European Commission.

Before applying you should be registered in [PADOR](#) (Potential Applicant Data On-line Registration) and consult the calls for proposals.

Normally, the programme is implemented through calls for proposals of two stages. In the first phase only Concept Notes are submitted for evaluation; upon pre-selection a Full Application Form is required in the second stage.

You can consult the Civil Society Helpdesk website - [CISOCH](#):

4. How to search for calls for proposals?

Click on [calls for proposals](#), go to the "advanced search" page and choose the "Non-State Actors and Local Authorities Programme".

For Objective 1 (In-country and multi-country operations) you can search for any country or a region by selecting it from the drop-down menu. If you would like to consult calls for objective 2 and 3 you need to select "EU Europe".

Select "grants" and "open" to get the available programmes. There you will be presented with the Guideline for grant applicants, which contain all relevant information. You may also want to consult closed calls for proposals, in order to learn more about our procedures. You can do that by selecting the "closed" box.

5. When are calls for proposals published?

In general, they are published in the first quarter of the year based on the Annual Action Programme, but depending on remaining available funds, there can be additional calls for proposals in the second half of the year as well.

6. Where can I get more information for a particular country?

Activities in each targeted developing country (Objective 1a) are generally managed by the relevant [EU delegations](#), while EuropeAid manages multi-country activities (Objective 1b) and actions within Europe (Objective 2, 3).

The available funds for each partner country (for Objective 1a) are published in the Annual Action Programme for a particular year.

7. Key documents (available on the right hand side of the web page)

1. [DCI](#) is the main document that provides the legal basis.
2. The multiannual [Thematic Strategy Paper](#) details the objectives, the priority countries, regions and the allocations.
3. On the basis of this multiannual programming, the Commission produces [Annual Action Programmes](#) that establish country envelopes for a particular year
4. The Guidelines of the [Calls for proposals](#) set the specific conditions