



ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR GRANTS of the European Union for Afghanistan

1. Basic act and financing source

- i) Regulation (EU) No 235/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing a financing instrument for democracy and human rights worldwide,
- ii) Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action, and
- iii) Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002.

Budget Line: 21.04 01

Decision: EIDHR/2015/38 058

2. Objectives of the programme, priorities for 2015 and expected results

The **overall objective** of the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights – Country-Based Support Scheme is to strengthen the role of civil society in promoting human rights and democratic reform, in facilitating the peaceful conciliation of group interests and in consolidating political participation and representation.

To be confirmed in the Guidelines for grant applicants, the **specific objectives** of this Call for Proposals are as follows:

1. **Human rights monitoring and reporting:** promoting civil society groups, processes and mechanisms that contribute to effective monitoring of and reporting on government's implementation, actions and policies with regards to its human rights commitments and obligations under international human rights treaties, resolutions and national legislation.
2. **Capacity building of the media:** promoting freedom of expression through free and independent media and investigative journalism that are capacitated to report on human rights issues, capable of holding authorities accountable, informing the citizens about issues that affect them and provide a forum for an open civil society dialogue. This specific objective includes also supporting development of broadcasting in the rural area.
3. **Domestic accountability and oversight:** supporting democracy and reforms to achieve effective and transparent democratic and domestic accountability and oversight and reinforcing local democracy by ensuring better cooperation between civil society organisations and local authorities, thus strengthening political representation at the level closest to the citizens.

3. Eligibility conditions

- be legal persons **and**
- be non profit making **and**
- belong to one of the categories:
 - (i) civil society organisations, including non-governmental non-profit organisations and independent political foundations, community based organisations, and private sector non-profit agencies, institutions and organisations, and networks thereof at local, national, regional and international level;
 - (ii) public sector non-profit agencies, institutions and organisations and networks at local and national level¹; **and**
- be established in (nationals² of) Afghanistan or a Member State of the European Union, an accession or official candidate country as recognized by the EU or a Member State of the European Economic Area **and**
- be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with their partners, not acting as an intermediary.
- potential applicants may not participate in calls for proposals or be awarded grants if they are in any of the situations which are listed in Section 2.3.3 of the Practical Guide to contract procedures for EU external actions (available from the following Internet address: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/implementation/index_en.htm);

4. Selection and award criteria

The evaluation will be carried out in accordance with the procedures set out in the Practical Guide for EC external actions

5. Maximum rate of European Union financing

Up to 100 %

6. Indicative time-schedule of calls for proposals

Third trimester of 2015

7. Indicative amount of calls for proposals

The indicative total amount for this call for proposals is foreseen to be EUR 800 000.

1 National public-sector institutions include National Human Rights Institutions

2 Such nationality being determined on the basis of the organisation's statutes which should demonstrate that it has been established by an instrument governed by the national law of the country concerned. In this respect, any legal entity whose statutes have been established in another country cannot be considered an eligible local organisation, even if the statutes are registered locally or a "Memorandum of Understanding has been concluded.