

WORK PROGRAMME FOR GRANTS

of European Union

for the Republic of Mauritius

1. Basic act and/or Financing source

10th European Development Fund/ the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement signed on 23 June 2000 as amended in 2005 and in 2010

2. Objectives of the programme, priorities for 2015 -2016 and expected results

The global objective of this programme shall be the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. More specifically the programme will aim at strengthening the collaboration of civil society organisations and local authorities with a view to reinforcing their ability in the provision of service delivery to the most vulnerable populations. The programme will support development actions to be implemented by non-state actors and local authorities in close cooperation with local communities and the most vulnerable groups of population. The interventions to be supported under this component of the programme shall comprise of small and large -scale local development activities that will aim at improving the following three major MDG indicators, namely (i) improve access to safe drinking water with strong focus on Rodrigues Island, (ii) poverty reduction and food security and (iii) improving maternal health.

3. Eligibility conditions

In order to be eligible for a grant, the applicant must:

- be legal persons **and**
- be non-profit making **and**
- be established in¹ a Member State of the European Union or an ACP country. If the applicant is established in the Republic of Mauritius, it must be registered in the Republic of Mauritius for at least two (2) years at the time of submission of application; **and**
- be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary **and**
- operate in the public interest; **and**
- adhere to democratic structures, emphasise empowerment of their beneficiaries and exhibit high levels of participation, transparency and accountability; **and**
- have demonstrable competences and a strong track record of successes in working at grass

¹ To be 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 and that its head office is located in an eligible country. 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.

- roots level with vulnerable groups; **and**
- fall within the meaning of the term *Non-State Actor*, which, according to Article 6 of the Cotonou agreement is deemed to include:
 - the private sector, economic and social partners, including trade union organisations; and civil society in all its forms according to national characteristics.*
- fall within the meaning of the term Local Authorities²

Types of action

Eligible actions will directly contribute:

- (i) to a reduction in the number of poor people living below the relative poverty line in the Republic of Mauritius by ensuring food security among the vulnerable communities,
- (ii) to bring down the maternal mortality ratio in the Republic of Mauritius to less than the current average for period 2006 to 2011
- (iii) to improve access to safe drinking water in Rodrigues by enhancing water production, water distribution, water treatment and storage capacity.

Both hard (for example, infrastructure projects that will enhance water production, water distribution, water treatment and storage capacity, small scale irrigation projects) and soft (for example, capacity-building, governance, sensitisation, education and training) interventions will be considered. In keeping with the underlying philosophy of the Decentralised Cooperation Programme, applicants must demonstrate that their proposals are demand-driven, and meet a clearly defined priority need, as articulated by the ultimate beneficiaries.

Types of activity

Both hard (for example, improvement to infrastructure, ...) and soft (for example: education and training, care, re-skilling, ...) interventions will be considered. Please note that actions involving capital expenditure (e.g. buildings, equipment and vehicles) are allowed provided they do not exceed 30% of total eligible cost

Activities which may be finance under this call include:

- Infrastructural projects related to the provision of small scale irrigation projects to improve food production in the context of ensuring food security;
- Infrastructural projects related to the setting-up of rainwater harvesting systems at household level or to public buildings;
- Capacity-building programme;
- Good governance issues;
- Sensitisation campaigns;

² All types of Local Authorities and Associations of LA, legally established in the concerned targeted countries, where the action is taking place or from a Member State of the European Union. LA must be officially recognized as such, according to the legislation in force in their respective country. LA from a member State of the European Union can only be considered eligible when they present project proposals based on an initiative of Local Authorities' partners and ensure their involvement during all the stages of the action implementation. LA from the EU Member States that wish to propose an action must demonstrate an established and effective partnership with local authorities in the partner countries, where the actions are taking place

- education and training.

4. Selection and award criteria

The essential selection and award criteria for the award of grants are laid down in the Practical Guide for Contract Procedures for External Actions. They are established in accordance with the principles set out in Article 110 of Title VII "Grants" of Financial Regulation applicable to the 10th EDF.

5. Maximum rate of European Union financing

Size of grants

Any grant requested under this Call for Proposals must fall between the following minimum and maximum amounts:

- minimum amount: €25 000
- maximum amount: €100 000

Any grant requested under this Call for Proposals must fall between the following minimum and maximum percentages of total eligible costs of the action:

- Minimum percentage: 50% of the total eligible costs of the action.
- Maximum percentage: 90% of the total eligible costs of the action

Any grant requested under this Call for Proposals must further be limited to 75% of the estimated total accepted costs.

6. Indicative time-schedule of calls for proposals

The Decentralised Cooperation Programme will launch one Call for Proposals in June 2015.

7. Indicative amount of calls for proposals

One Call for Proposals for an overall budget of €1,750,000.