

**WORK PROGRAMME FOR GRANTS**  
**of the**  
**Delegation of the European Union to the Federal Republic of Nigeria**  
**for the**  
**2014/2015 Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities Programme**

**1. Basic act and/or Financing source**

Regulation (EU) No 233/2014<sup>1</sup> of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation for the period 2014-2020 (OJ L77, 15 March 2014, p. 44), and in particular Articles 1(1)(a) & (b).

This Action will be financed by budget line 21.02.08.03 for civil society organisations and 21.02.08.04 for local authorities.

**2. Objectives of the programme, priorities for 2014-2015 and expected results**

The thematic programme 'Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities' (CSOs-LAs) has its legal basis in Regulation 233/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014, establishing a financing Instrument for Development Cooperation (DCI). The DCI defines the objective of the programme as to strengthen civil society organisations and local authorities in partner countries. The programme will be implemented over the period 2014-2020. The programme is the successor to the thematic programme 'Non State Actors and Local Authorities in Development' (2007-2013).

The European Commission Communication "*Increasing the impact of EU Development Policy: an Agenda for Change*"<sup>2</sup> (COM 2011) 637 provides the policy direction for EU development cooperation by proposing a concentration of development cooperation around two main pillars:

1. Human rights, democracy and good governance;
2. Inclusive and sustainable growth for human development.

The Communication recognises non-state actors and local authorities as key players in its two pillars. It calls for strengthened "links with civil society organisations, social partners and local authorities, through regular dialogue and use of best practices", in particular to "support the emergence of a local civil society which can effectively contribute to dialogue with public authorities and to oversee public authorities' work".

Furthermore, the European Commission Communication "*The roots of democracy and sustainable development: Europe's engagement with Civil Society in external relations*"<sup>3</sup> (COM 2012) 490, proposes an enhanced and more strategic EU engagement with CSOs in developing countries, with a particular

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<sup>1</sup> <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2014:077:0044:0076:EN:PDF>

<sup>2</sup> [http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/intra\\_acp\\_mobility/funding/2012/documents/agenda\\_for\\_change\\_en.pdf](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/intra_acp_mobility/funding/2012/documents/agenda_for_change_en.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2012:0492:FIN:EN:PDF>

focus on local civil society organisations. Recognising the importance of constructive relations between states and CSOs, the Communication puts forward three priorities for the EU:

1. Enhance efforts to promote a conducive environment for CSOs in partner countries;
2. Promote meaningful and structured participation in programming and policy processes to build stronger governance and accountability at all levels;
3. Increase local CSOs' capacity to perform their roles as independent development actors more effectively.

In addition, the European Commission Communication “*Empowering Local Authorities in partner countries for enhanced governance and more effective development outcomes*”<sup>4</sup> (COM 2013) 280 presents a new policy orientation defining the European Union's strategic priorities to support local authorities and their associations in partner countries to unlock their development potential. The Commission recognises the local public sector in its political role as policy-maker and decision-maker, requiring an adequate level of autonomy, capacity development and financial resources, to participate in a more effective and efficient way in the design and implementation of national development policies and plans.

The **global objective** of this Call for Proposals is to contribute towards achieving Priority 1 of the CSOs-LAs programme: *Focus on country level: enhancing CSOs and LAs contributions to governance and development processes*. Actions at country level will be at the core of this programme with a view to support CSOs' and LAs' contributions towards reinforced governance, accountability and inclusive policy-making, in their work to ensure people are able to benefit from qualitative social services and profit from job creation. The programme will also support actions aimed at a sustainable territorial development, including in urban contexts, to foster local development and social cohesion. Under this first priority, the Programme distinguishes three strategic objectives based on the recognition of CSOs and LAs specificities:

1. Enhance CSOs' contributions to governance and development processes as:
  - a. Actors in governance and accountability;
  - b. Partners in promoting social development;
  - c. Stakeholders in promoting inclusive and sustainable growth.
2. Enhance LAs contributions to governance and development processes as:
  - a. Actors of local governance and creator of a public space at local level;
  - b. Providers of public services, including social services, and promoters of inclusive and sustainable growth at local level, according to their institutional mandate.
3. Test pilot actions promoting local development and social cohesion through a territorial multi-stakeholder approach.

Interventions of this programme with regard to CSOs are instrumental for the implementation of EU Country Roadmaps for engagement with CSOs. As envisaged in the Communication ‘*The Roots of democracy and sustainable development Europe's engagement with Civil Society in external relations*’, the related Council Conclusions and the European Parliament Resolution on “*Local Authorities and Civil Society: Europe's engagement in support of sustainable development*” (2012/2288(INI)), the EU and the Member States have developed country roadmaps to activate and ensure structured dialogue and strategic

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<sup>4</sup> <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2013:0280:FIN:en:PDF>

cooperation, improve the impact, predictability and visibility of EU actions, and ensure consistency and synergy throughout the various sectors covered by EU external relations. These roadmaps are also meant to trigger coordination and sharing of best practices with the Member States and other international actors, including for simplification and harmonisation of funding requirements. European Union Delegations coordinate the process locally.

In Nigeria, the following priorities<sup>5</sup> have been identified under the EU-Nigeria roadmap as a result of multi-stakeholder consultations:

Priority 1: Identify and document competent civil society drivers of change that can collectively advance public policy and institutional reform in selected thematic sectors and states (e.g. civil society networks, citizen platforms, media, trade unions, research institutions, private sector), and contribute to EU external assistance programming.

Priority 2: Strengthen institutionalised platforms for regular and inclusive multi-stakeholder (governments, civil society and citizens) dialogues on public policy and institutional reform, including budget processes, in selected thematic sectors and states

Priority 3: National, state and grassroots CSOs and networks more effective drivers of change, with a higher level of project management competencies, thematic specialisation and financial sustainability, including in the North.

Priority 4: More effective, simplified and stream-lined regulation of the civil society sector with a view to enhancing civil society credibility, transparency and accountability.

Priority 5: A more coordinated, strategic and results-oriented EU and international development partners' engagement with Nigerian civil society.

The **specific objective** of this Call for Proposals is:

#### Lot 1 - CSOs

To enhance Nigerian CSOs' contributions to governance and development processes in Cross River State and Kano State as a pre-condition for a more equitable, open and democratic society.

#### Lot 2 - LAs

To strengthen the capacity of LAs as welfare providers and promoters of inclusive and sustainable growth at local level in Cross River State and Kano State.

The **priority issues** are:

#### Lot 1 - CSOs

### **1. Promotion of more accountable, responsive and inclusive local government budgetary processes**

Enhanced CSO/CBO/CDA platforms' work on citizen/community engagement in budgeting processes from local to national levels (budget planning, analyses, tracking, project monitoring, etc.) **and**

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<sup>5</sup> [http://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/nigeria/press\\_corner/all\\_news/news/2014/20140910\\_1\\_en.htm](http://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/nigeria/press_corner/all_news/news/2014/20140910_1_en.htm)

capacity building (for evidence based advocacy, lobbying, negotiation and communication skills, alliance-building and networking, especially across state-level grass-roots CSOs/CBOs/CDAs, etc).

## **2. Enhanced citizen and community engagement for effective and pro-poor service delivery in local government areas, with a focus on health, water and sanitation, social protection, basic infrastructure and electricity**

Enhanced CSO/CBO/CDA platforms' social accountability and public service delivery monitoring mechanisms; enhanced capacities of communities/consumer associations to monitor and engage in sectoral policy dialogue and decision-making on public services provision; CSO actions to enhance social development by improving populations' access to (and benefit from) quality social services etc.; **and** capacity building (for evidence based advocacy, lobbying, negotiation and communication skills, alliance-building and networking, especially across state-level grass-roots CSOs/CBOs/CDAs and consumer associations, etc).

### Lot 2 - LAs

#### **1. Promotion of more accountable, responsive and inclusive local government budgetary processes**

Increased public access to budgetary information (publication and dissemination of citizen-friendly budgets and policy documents, audit reports, etc.), strengthening participatory budgeting models (establishing forums for regular and meaningful dialogues between CSOs and LAs, as well as consultative forums, etc.) **and** capacity building (on public expenditure management, budget planning, negotiation and communication skills with civil society organisations, etc) for LGA council personnel.

#### **2. Enhanced citizen and community engagement for effective and pro-poor service delivery in local government areas, with a focus on health, water and sanitation, social protection, basic infrastructure and electricity**

Enhanced capacity of LAs to effectively deliver public services and to take measures to promote inclusive and sustainable growth; increased role of LAs as catalysts of action by local actors, including via sectoral multi-stakeholder partnerships for service delivery; enhanced capacity of LAs for policy formulation/planning and management of public finances, etc.) **and** capacity building (on public expenditure management, budget planning, negotiation and communication skills with civil society organisations, etc) for LGA council personnel.

Actions must respect principles of non-discrimination, human rights, the rule of law, good governance, gender equality and women's empowerment as well as include cross cutting issues such as rights of minorities, of children and older people, rights of persons with disabilities and life-threatening diseases and rights of other vulnerable groups, core labour rights and social inclusion, environment and climate change and fight against HIV/AIDS and overall adopt a Right Based Approach according to the local situation. In addition, conflict prevention, promotion of dialogue, participation and reconciliation, as well as institution building shall be mainstreamed, **where relevant**.

The **expected results** are:

### Lot 1 - CSOs

1. Improved environment and space for CSOs to operate in governance and accountability, social sectors, social economy.
2. Improved CSOs capacity, professionalism, competences, structuring and joint actions, including

through networks.

3. Enhanced CSOs actions in policy dialogues, governance and accountability; in social and economic sectors (in policy dialogue and monitoring and in implementation as appropriate) from the local to the national levels.
4. Strengthened capacity of CSOs to participate in and contribute to policy dialogue and accountability processes at local, state and national levels.
5. Strengthened capacity of CSOs to effectively advocate for improved access of population and quality of services and participate in policy work.
6. Access to and quality of social services improved in a systemic way, notably for disadvantaged groups and population out of mainstream services.
7. Improved access to - and quality of - services for economic empowerment, notably for disadvantaged groups and population segments out of mainstream services.
8. Increased documentation, sharing and dissemination of knowledge in related areas.

### Lot 2 - LAs

1. Improved institutional and operational capacities of LAs in executing their mandate (i.e. leadership, planning, budgeting, implementation, communication, etc.);
2. Enhanced accountability and transparency of LAs towards local communities as well as other levels of government;
3. Increased participation of LAs and associations of LAs in policy processes;
4. Established mechanisms to engage LAs in dialogue with national authorities, citizens and other relevant stakeholders (multi-level governance approach), with emphasis on transparent decision-making at the local level;
5. Increased coordination and exchange between LAs and associations of LAs to promote the role of LAs as local governance actors;
6. Enhanced capacity of LAs (in line with their mandate) to effectively deliver public services, notably social services, and to take measures to promote inclusive and sustainable growth;
7. Quality services provided according to the local contexts and demands;
8. Increased role of LAs as catalysts of action by local actors, including via multi-stakeholder partnerships for service delivery;
9. Improved public awareness on the role of LAs in services provision, therefore better mobilisation of local communities in what and how services are delivered;
10. Better LAs' response to urbanisation phenomenon in relation to service provision;
11. Enhanced role of associations of LAs to assist LAs in participating in the formulation of national/sector policies affecting the local level as well as in service provision.

### **3. Eligibility conditions**

#### **Applicants**

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

- be legal persons; **and**
- be non-profit making; **and**

- be one of the following types of entities<sup>6</sup>:

Lot 1 - CSOs

- civil society organisations, including non-governmental organisations, community based organisations, community development associations, consumer associations and other relevant non-state actors and networks thereof at local government or state level based in Cross River State or Kano State; **or**
- public sector non-profit agencies, institutions, networks and organisations at local government or state levels based in Cross River State or Kano State.

Lot 2 - LAs

- a local government authority based in Cross River State or Kano State.

- be nationals<sup>7</sup> of Nigeria and:

Lot 1

Must have evidence of registration with the Corporate Affairs Commission, Nigeria either as Land Perpetual Succession, Incorporated Trusteeship or Limited by Guarantee (or specifically created by statute in the case of public sector non-profit agencies) **or** have valid and current state or local government authority level registration in Cross River State or Kano State.

Lot 2

Must be recognised under the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; **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**
- have a minimum of 2 years documented activities in the proposed action sector, state or local government area.

- (2) The potential applicant may not participate in calls for proposals or be awarded grants if it is in any of the situations listed in Section 2.3.3 of the Practical Guide<sup>8</sup>;

In Part A, section 3 of the grant application form (‘Declaration by the applicant’), the applicant must declare that the applicant himself, the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies) are not in any of these situations.

The applicant must act with co-applicant(s) as specified hereafter.

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<sup>6</sup> Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 laying down common rules and procedures and for the implementation of the Union’s instruments for financing external action

<sup>7</sup> 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

<sup>8</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/document.do?nodeNumber=2.3.3>

If awarded the Grant contract, the applicant will become the Beneficiary identified as the Coordinator in annex E3h1 (Special Conditions)<sup>9</sup>. The Coordinator is the main interlocutor of the Contracting Authority. It represents and acts on behalf of any other co-beneficiary (if any) and coordinate the design and implementation of the Action.

### **Co-applicant(s)**

At least one co-applicant is obligatory under this Call for Proposals.

For Lot 1, at least one co-applicant must be a local government authority in the state where the applicant is based (i.e. Cross River State or Kano State).

For Lot 2, at least one co-applicant must be one of the entities listed in 3(1) Lot 1 above.

All co-applicants must fulfil the same eligibility criteria as for applicants, as listed in 3(1) above.

Co-applicant(s) participate in designing and implementing the action, and the costs they incur are eligible in the same way as those incurred by the applicant.

Co-applicant(s) must satisfy the eligibility criteria as applicable to the applicant himself.

Co-applicant(s) must sign the Mandate in Part B section 4 of the grant application form.

If awarded the Grant contract, the co-applicant(s) will become beneficiaries in the Action (together with the Coordinator).

## **4. Selection and award criteria**

The evaluation will be carried out in accordance with the procedures set out in the Practical Guide to contract procedures for EU external actions.

## **5. Maximum rate of European Union financing**

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

- Minimum amount: **€300,000**
- Maximum amount: **€350,000**

**The Contracting Authority reserves the right to award at least one grant per lot in each of the action locations (i.e. Cross River State and Kano State).**

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** (see also Section 2.1.5).

The balance (i.e. the difference between the total cost of the action and the amount requested from the contracting authority) must be financed from sources other than the European Union budget or the

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<sup>9</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/document.do?nodeNumber=6.11>

European Development Fund<sup>10</sup>.

## **6. Indicative time-schedule of calls for proposals**

The Call for proposals will be launched in the second semester of 2015. Applicants are to please note this is a tentative schedule.

## **7. Indicative amount of calls for proposals**

The overall indicative amount made available under this Call for Proposals is:

### Lot 1

€1,200,000

### Lot 2

€800,000

The Contracting Authority reserves the right not to award all available funds. Similarly, this amount could be increased should more funds become available.

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<sup>10</sup> Where a grant is financed by the European Development Fund, any mention of European Union financing must be understood as referring to European Development Fund financing.