

ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR GRANTS

of

Delegation of the European Union to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

1. Basic act and Financing Source

Regulation (EC) N° 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation (DCI) (OJ L 378 of 27 December 2006, pp. 41-71), see Articles 11, 14 and 22.

2. Objectives of the programme, priorities for 2013 and expected results

The **global objective** of this Call for Proposals is to co-finance actions proposed by non-State actors (NSA) to promote and strengthen a broad-based and inclusive civil society in Afghanistan, which is capable and willing to engage with communities and Government authorities at all levels on policy, economic and social issues, with a view to promoting dialogue and the accountability and transparency of state entities.

The **specific objectives** of this Call for Proposals are:

- **Participatory local governance:** Strengthening the civil society groups, processes and mechanisms that contribute to the quality of local governance, the access to and delivery of justice at the local level, the delivery of basic services either through monitoring activities, participatory planning or training. This specific objective promotes participatory governance processes and participation of women and underrepresented groups (i.e. IDPs, youth, disabled) in crucial areas of local governance.
- **Promotion and protection of women's socio-economic rights:** Supporting and strengthening the capacity of non-state actors to participate in processes promoting the protection of women's rights in the social sector and entrepreneurship building, and women's equal access to and participation in opportunities including information exchange, networking and partnership building. This specific objective includes support for the development and implementation of gender-sensitive initiatives, addressing inequality, discrimination and vulnerability limiting women's full participation in the socio-economic areas.
- **Promotion of peace-building and reconciliation processes:** Supporting the NSA working towards sustainable and community-driven approaches to peace building with a particular focus on grassroots structures to contribute to nonviolent resolution of local conflicts. This specific objective includes strengthening of communities by creating spaces for cooperation and facilitating activities that encourage people to adopt peaceful conflict resolution.

- **Facilitation of NSA networks for better coordination:** Creating and supporting enabling environment for consolidation of NSA platforms to better create and voice joint messages, establish and maintain meaningful dialogues with the governance structures and to influence government policy-making.

3. Eligibility conditions

In order to be eligible for a grant, applicants **must**:

- be legal persons or an entity without legal personality¹ **and**
- be non profit making **and**
- be Non-State Actors (NSA)² constituted in accordance with the legislation in force in the applicant's country of registration and
- be nationals³ of Afghanistan or Member State of the European Union
- be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with their partners, not acting as an intermediary **and**
- be able to demonstrate previous experience of managing activities in the field of development of the kind covered by this programme. Applicants from a Member State of the European Union must have carried out such activities at least during the last three years at the time of the submission of an application, for applicants from Afghanistan this requirement is limited to the last two years.

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 EC external actions

5. Maximum rate of European Union financing

- For proposals submitted by applicants from Afghanistan, the grant may not exceed **90%** of the total eligible costs of the action (see also section 2.1.4 of the Guidelines for grant applicants). The balance

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- 1 Subject to the prior approval of the relevant services of the European Commission, grant applications may be eligible if submitted by entities which do not have legal personality under the applicable national law, provided that their representatives have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on their behalf, and assume financial liability.
 - 2 Non-State Actors 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.
 - 3 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.

must be financed from the applicant's or partners' own resources, or from sources other than the European Community budget or the European Development Fund.

- For proposals submitted by applicants from a Member State of the European Union, the grant may not exceed **75%** of the total eligible costs of the action (see also section 2.1.4 of the Guidelines for grant applicants). The balance must be financed from the applicant's or partners' own resources, or from sources other than the European Community budget or the European Development Fund.

6. Indicative time-schedule of calls for proposals

The call for proposals is foreseen to be launched by first half of 2013, with a provisional deadline for submission of concept notes in June 2013 and tentative submission deadline for the full application form in August 2013 (Restricted Call for Proposals).

7. Indicative amount of calls for proposals

The indicative total amount for this call for proposals is foreseen to be EUR 2,000,000. The Contracting Authority reserves the right not to award all available funds. However, if additional funds are made available and if the quality of proposals would justify this, the Contracting Authority reserves the right to allocate extra funds to this Call for Proposals.