



**Contracting Authority: Delegation of the European Union to the
Republic of Somalia**

Call for proposals for the thematic programme

Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities (CSO/LA) -

Actions in partner countries

AND

the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) -

Country Based Support Scheme

**Guidelines
for grant applicants**

Budget lines: 21.02.08.03 (CSO/LA) and 19.04.01 (EIDHR)

Reference: EuropeAid/137021/DD/ACT/SO

Deadline for submission of Concept notes:

15 June 2015, 16:00 (East Africa Time)

Notice

This is a restricted Call for Proposals. In the first instance, only Concept Notes must be submitted for evaluation. Thereafter, applicants who have been pre-selected will be invited to submit a Full Application Form. After the evaluation of the Full Applications, an eligibility check will be performed for those which have been provisionally selected. Eligibility will be checked on the basis of the supporting documents requested by the Contracting Authority and the signed 'Declaration by the Applicant' sent together with the application.

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1. CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES (CSO –LA) - ACTIONS IN PARTNER COUNTRIES AND THE EUROPEAN INSTRUMENT FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS (EIDHR) - COUNTRY BASED SUPPORT SCHEME (CBSS)

1.1. BACKGROUND

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES (CSO/LA)

The European Commission (EC) has a long-standing relationship and cooperation with non-governmental and other civil society organisations as well as with local and decentralised authorities in the field of development

The European Union (EU) has significantly strengthened its engagement with Civil Society Organisations (CSO) and Local Authorities (LA) over the last years. The communication on "*Increasing the impact of EU Development Policy: an Agenda for Change*", issued in October 2011, calls for a concentration of EU development cooperation in support of human rights, democracy and other key elements of good governance, as well as inclusive and sustainable growth for human development. It recognises the key role CSO and LA play in development and acknowledges the need for the EU to "support the emergence of an organised civil society able to act as watchdog and partner in dialogue with national governments". The communication on "The future approach to EU budget support to third countries" also underlines the key role CSO and LAs should play in participatory budget approaches, particularly in strengthening domestic accountability.

The key role CSO and LA play in development is further reconfirmed by the EU in the following two Communications, issued in 2012 and 2013 respectively: the Communication *The roots of democracy and sustainable development: Europe's engagement with Civil Society in external relations* and the Communication *Empowering Local Authorities in partner countries for enhanced governance and more effective development outcomes* The communication on civil society organisations recognised the latter to be a crucial component of any democratic system since they represent and foster pluralism and can contribute to more effective policies, equitable and sustainable development and inclusive growth. By articulating citizens' concerns, CSOs are active in the public arena and engage in initiatives to foster participatory democracy since they embody a growing demand for transparent and accountable governance.

EUROPEAN INSTRUMENT FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS (EIDHR)¹

The European Union is founded on the principles of liberty, democracy, respect for human rights and the rule of law. One of the EU's central roles is to promote and support democracy and human rights worldwide, in line with Article 21(2) of the Treaty on European Union (TEU), which defines democracy, rule of law and the universality and indivisibility of human rights and fundamental freedoms as guiding principles of the EU's external action.

Human rights and democracy are important areas of EU cooperation, and activities in this sector are supported through a number of financial and policy instruments. The European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) is one of these and is designed to contribute to the development and consolidation of democracy and the rule of law and respect of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in third countries worldwide. In pursuing this aim, the EIDHR strongly emphasises the role of civil society organisations.

The current EIDHR was established by the Regulation adopted by the European Parliament and the Council in March 2014². The EIDHR aims to promote and support democracy and human rights worldwide allowing for assistance to be provided independently of the consent of the governments and public authorities of the third countries concerned. EIDHR aims to contribute to the development and consolidation of democracy,

¹ <http://www.eidhr.eu/files/dmfile/EIDHR.2014-2020.pdf>

² <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2014:077:0085:0094:EN:PDF> - Regulation (EC) No 235/2014 replaces Regulation (EC) No 1889/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

the rule of law, and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms within the framework of the European Union's policy on development cooperation with third countries, consistently with the European Union's foreign policy³ as a whole.

The EIDHR allows for a broad and comprehensive approach that can provide support to participatory and representative democracy as well as the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. It also highlights that the principles of non-discrimination on any ground, gender mainstreaming, participation, empowerment, accountability openness and transparency shall be taken into account and that the priorities guiding the implementation shall be directly related to the situation in the country.

To implement the Instrument, the European Commission has adopted a Multi-Annual Indicative Programme 2014-2017, which sets out the following objectives:

- 1) Support to Human Rights and Human Rights Defenders in situations where they are most at risk
- 2) Support to other EU Human Rights Priorities including:
 - 2.1. Protecting human dignity:
 - abolition of the death penalty;
 - eradication of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;
 - support for a comprehensive approach to rehabilitation, prevention and accountability activities;
 - ensuring accountability, including for action covered by the EU guidelines on the death penalty and on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
 - 2.2. Protecting and promoting children's rights, including children in armed conflict (CAAC).
 - 2.3. Protecting women's rights in all contexts through fighting discriminatory legislation, gender-based violence and marginalisation.
 - 2.4. Fighting discrimination in all its forms
 - 2.5. Fighting against impunity for serious crimes of concern to the international community (genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity),
 - 2.6. Promotion and protection of freedom of religion or belief (FORB)
 - 2.7. Promotion of economic, social and cultural rights.
 - 2.8. Promoting respect for international humanitarian law,
- 3) Support to Democracy
- 4) Support to EU Election Observation
- 5) Support to targeted key actors and processes, including international and regional human rights instruments and mechanisms

The thematic programme for Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities (CSO-LA), and the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) are the two instruments the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Somalia has to support civil society organisations.

This call for proposals concerns these two instruments which are presented as two different lots below:

- **Lot 1 - Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in development**
- **Lot 2 - Democracy and Human Rights**

Please note that in the case of Somalia, assistance to Local Authorities is provided through the European Development Fund (EDF). The assistance provided under these thematic programmes will therefore focus on CSOs only.

³ The Joint Communication of the European Commission and the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy "Human Rights and Democracy at the Heart of EU External Action – towards a more effective approach" spells out the need for coherence in mainstreaming human rights into external policies. The Joint Communication led to the adoption in June 2012 of the EU Strategic Framework and Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy, according to which "the EU will promote human rights in all areas of its external action without exception".

1.2. OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME AND PRIORITY ISSUES

The **global objective** of this Call for Proposals is to support an effective civil society engagement towards the achievement of the strategic objectives of *Peacebuilding and State-building Goals (PSG) 1, 2 and 3 of the Somali Compact*, namely;

1. Achieve a stable and peaceful federal Somalia through inclusive political processes.
2. Establish unified, capable, accountable and rights based Somali federal security institutions providing basic safety and security for its citizens.
3. Establish independent and accountable justice institutions capable of addressing the justice needs of the people of Somalia by delivering justice for all.

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

Lot 1 - Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in development

Specific objectives under Lot 1 have been identified from the agreed PSG 1, 2015 priorities and milestones, specifically focused on key areas for potential civil society engagement

a) Advance inclusive political dialogue to clarify and settle relations between the federal government and existing and emerging administrations and initiate processes of social reconciliation to restore trust between communities.

Activities prioritised: i) Social reconciliation and civic dialogue programmes in support of peacebuilding and establishment of local administrations developed and initiated; ii) Inclusive consultations on the establishment of federal Member States in South and Central regions underway with interim State Administrations established; iii) inclusive and broad based dialogue on federalism in Somalia initiated through the inter-regional Consultative Forum and constitutional development process

b) Civil society engagement in finalizing a Federal Constitution

Activities prioritised: i) participation in constitutional review, holding of public consultations in line with the workplan of the Oversight Committee (OC) and in close consultation and coordination with ICRIC, and analyse results; ii) civic education programme around the constitution and its content designed and conducted; iii) feedback from population to areas of review facilitated in close coordination and consultation with ICRIC and iv) promoting citizen's participation in the constitutional review process.

c) Civil society engagement in preparing for and holding credible elections by 2016

Activities prioritised: i) Comprehensive communication and civic education strategy on political participation and reconciliation developed with a particular focus on participation of women in elections; ii) additionally, actions aimed at promoting citizen's participation in the constitutional and electoral processes.

d) Civil Society's engagement in policy and budget development and implementation: improved demand on accountability

Activities prioritised: evidence based analysis, development of issues papers and advocacy on key policy areas at national and regional level; facilitating citizens participation in policy development and advocacy on key policy areas; advocacy and support for the development of a citizens budget and transparency on budget implementation; monitoring of budget planning; revenue management and spending; evidence based research and advocacy on issues related to public financial management in general.

Lot 2 - Democracy and Human Rights

Specific objectives under Lot 2 have been identified from the agreed PSG 2 (Security) and 3 (Justice) 2015 priorities and milestones, specifically focused on key areas for potential civil society engagement

a) Strengthening the capacity and accountability of state security institutions to provide basic safety and security, thus contributing to the rebuilding of the social contract in Somalia..

Civil society actively takes part in i) the sensitisation of the population on the role and compliance of national security services with the provisions of the Provisional Constitution, respect for human rights and international humanitarian law, ii) the development of an increased democratic oversight of the security services in Somalia⁴, and iii) legal and institutional frameworks are reviewed and updated for oversight, fiduciary and operational accountability, to ensure regulated, effective and disciplined security institutions.

Activities prioritised: i) actions to end all forms of violence against women and children (boys and girls); ii) actions advocating the prevention of torture, ill-treatment and/or illegal detention of civilians by security services/forces, iii) supporting actions regarding Children and Armed Conflict⁵; iv) actions to collect and analyse data, information (statistics) on human rights, including the development of surveys, mappings, studies, assessments, observatories, early warning systems; and iv) actions aimed at increasing the adherence to and respect for human rights and international humanitarian law by security providers/operators.

b) Grievances and injustices are addressed and more Somalis have access to fair and affordable justice.

To support civil society engagement in i) the furtherance of Alternative (Traditional) Dispute Resolution Mechanisms including the specific role of women in such processes and ii) support and/or strengthen the establishment of Bar/Lawyers association which include Somali women lawyers, human rights experts and paralegals in priority regions as well as providing increased legal aid services.

Activities prioritised: i) working with government authorities and councils of clan elders in order to strengthen and make more accountable traditional dispute mechanisms and structures, ii) foster a greater link between customary law and formal justice systems.

There is no required minimum number of specific objectives to be addressed in each application; it is however recommended to propose concrete and focused actions, rather than very general and vague interventions.

Applicable to both Lot 1 and Lot 2:

All proposals must be based on a sound needs assessment and stakeholders' analysis. The logical framework should be carefully designed with realistic, measurable and time bound indicators. Conflict sensitivity needs to be addressed throughout the action.

Particular attention will also be given to targeting the most vulnerable groups, in particular, women, youth and minority participation and empowerment. Of particular importance is the clear demonstration that the action:

- Emphasizes the strengthening of CSOs through (national) networks to have an effective voice in attaining positive change;
- Has a wide coverage and impact across regions and/or can demonstrate innovative models for development that can be easily replicated in other regions of the Somalia;
- Targets also deprived and remote areas outside Mogadishu;
- Encourage different types of partnership between more and less experienced CSOs and CSOs to facilitate capacity spin-offs, networking, better coordination of activities and joint action;

⁴ E.g. Somalia National Armed Forces, Somali Police, NISA, AMISOM, Puntland Police and Maritime Police Forces, Somaliland security forces, detention facilities and prisons...

⁵ http://eeas.europa.eu/human_rights/guidelines/children_armed_conflict/docs/10019_08_en.pdf

- Clearly identifies the target groups and their needs during the preparation of the proposal and demonstrates a strong commitment from the final beneficiaries in the application form;
- Reflects an integrated approach and can show sustainable results during and beyond the implementation period;
- Engages Somali community based organisations or similar types of grass root organisations

1.3. FINANCIAL ALLOCATION PROVIDED BY THE CONTRACTING AUTHORITY

The overall indicative amount available under this Call for Proposals is € 8,000,000. Where the indicative financial envelope foreseen for this Call for Proposals cannot be used due to insufficient quality or number of proposals received, the Contracting Authority reserves the right to reallocate the remaining funds to another Call for Proposals under the CSO- LA or EIDHR instrument. If funds are available and if the quality of proposals justifies it, the Contracting Authority reserves the right to allocate extra funds to this Call for Proposals. The Contracting Authority reserves the right not to award all available funds.

Indicative allocation of funds by LOT:

- **LOT 1 - Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in development: € 5,000,000**

The total indicative amount available for this Call for Proposals under Lot 1 is EUR 5,000,000

- **LOT 2 - Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR): € 3,000,000**

The total indicative amount available for this Call for Proposals under Lot 2 is EUR 3,000,000, which consists of the amount available under Budget Year 2014 of EUR 2,000,000 and the indicative envelope to be allocated under Budget Year 2015 of EUR 1,000,000. The granting of the above amounts is subject to the decision of the Budgetary Authority and the approval of the 2015 Annual Action Plan for the instrument "European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR)".

Size of grants

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

LOT 1 - Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in development

- minimum amount: EUR 600,000
- maximum amount: EUR 800,000

For proposals submitted by **Civil Society Organisations from a partner country**⁶

- 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).

For proposals submitted by **Non-State Actors other than from a partner country**:

- Minimum percentage: 50 % of the total eligible costs of the action.
- Maximum percentage: 75% of the total eligible costs of the action (see also Section 2.1.5).

⁶ A developing country classified as such by the OECD/DAC (for more information go to: <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/daclistofodarecipients.htm>). As Somalia is a least developed country, reciprocal access is granted to OECD/DAC members.

LOT 2 - Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR)

- minimum amount: EUR 600,000
- maximum amount: EUR 800,000

Any grant requested under this lot 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: 95 % of the total eligible costs of the action (see also Section 2.1.5).

For both LOTs:

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 European Development Fund⁷.

⁷ 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.

2. RULES FOR THIS CALL FOR PROPOSALS

These guidelines set out the rules for the submission, selection and implementation of the actions financed under this Call, in conformity with the Practical Guide, which is applicable to the present call (available on the Internet at this address: <http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/document.do?locale=en>).

2.1. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

There are three sets of eligibility criteria, relating to:

1) the actors:

- The **applicant**, i.e. the entity submitting the application form (2.1.1),
- if any, its **co-applicant(s)** (**where it is not specified otherwise the applicant and its co-applicant(s) are hereinafter jointly referred as the "applicants"**) (2.1.1),
- and, if any, **affiliated entity(ies)** to the applicant and/or to a co-applicant(s). (2.1.2);

2) the actions:

Actions for which a grant may be awarded (2.1.4);

3) the costs:

- types of cost that may be taken into account in setting the amount of the grant (2.1.5).

2.1.1. Eligibility of applicants (i.e. applicant and co-applicant(s))

Lot 1 (Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in development)

Applicant

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

- be a legal person (i.e. having a distinct legal status) **and**
- be non-profit-making **and**
- be a civil society organisation⁸ such as defined by Annex II, Part B of the Regulation (EC) No 233/2014 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation (DCI)⁹:

‘civil society organisations’ are non-State, non-profit making actors operating on an independent and accountable basis which include: non governmental organisations, organisations representing indigenous peoples, organisations representing national and/or ethnic minorities, diaspora organisations, migrants' organisations in partner countries, local traders' associations and citizens' groups, cooperatives, employers associations and trade unions (social partners), 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, environmental, teaching, cultural, research and scientific organisations, universities, churches and religious associations and communities, the media and any non

⁸ 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. 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.

⁹ http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2014.077.01.0044.01.ENG

governmental associations and independent foundations, including independent political foundations, likely to contribute to the implementation of the objectives of this Regulation.

and

- be effectively established in a Member State of the European Union or other eligible countries as stipulated in the basic act (DCI) **and**
- A CSO from a Member State of the European Union must be able to demonstrate that it has regularly carried out activities in the field targeted by this Lot at least three years at the time of the submission of an application. For a CSO from a developing/partner country this requirement is limited to two years **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.

Lot 2 (Democracy and Human Rights)

Applicant

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

- be a legal person (i.e. having a distinct legal status) **and**
- be non-profit making **and**
- belong to one of the following categories (as per Art. 11 of the Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing a financing instrument for democracy and human rights worldwide in the framework of the common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action (CIR):

(a) civil society organisations, including non-governmental nonprofit organisations and independent political foundations, community-based organisations and private-sector nonprofit agencies, institutions and organisations and networks thereof at local, national, regional and international level;

Please note: No nationality restrictions apply to applicants, co-applicants and, if any, affiliated entities.

For both lots, international organisations are not eligible as applicants or co-applicants.

(2) 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);

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 may act individually or with co-applicant(s). Eligible applicants having the nationality of a country other than Somalia must act together with at least one Somali partner organisation as co-applicant. This is applicable only for LOT 2.

If awarded the Grant contract, the applicant will become the Beneficiary identified as the Coordinator in annex E3h1 (Special Conditions). 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.

The Coordinator is the main interlocutor of the Contracting Authority and will assume the financial responsibility. It represents and acts on behalf of any other Beneficiary (if any) and coordinate the design and implementation of the Action.

Co-applicant(s)

In the case of eligible applicant having the nationality of a country other than Somalia, it is mandatory to have a minimum of 1 co-applicant in the action.

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.

Where **Somali organisations** do not have "international recognition", they may act as co-applicant(s) in the action (see (2) above), provided that their representatives have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on their behalf, and assume financial liability.

In all cases, it is indispensable to have the active involvement of Somali organisations in project identification, selection of activities and implementation. As far as the supporting documents are concerned the Somalia organisations will have to submit during the process and the PADOR registration, please refer to chapters 2.4 and 2.2.

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)(if any) will become beneficiaries in the Action (together with the Coordinator).

2.1.2. Affiliated entities

The applicant and its co-applicant(s) may act with affiliated entity(ies).

Only the following entities may be considered as affiliated entities to the applicant and/or to co-applicant(s):

Only entities having a structural link with the applicants, in particular a legal or capital link.

This structural link encompasses mainly two notions:

- (i) Control, as defined in Directive 2013/34/EU on the annual financial statements, consolidated financial statements and related reports of certain types of undertakings:

Entities affiliated to a beneficiary may hence be:

~ Entities directly or indirectly controlled by the beneficiary (daughter companies or first-tier subsidiaries). They may also be entities controlled by an entity controlled by the beneficiary (granddaughter companies or second-tier subsidiaries) and the same applies to further tiers of control;

~ Entities directly or indirectly controlling the beneficiary (parent companies). Likewise, they may be entities controlling an entity controlling the beneficiary;

~ Entities under the same direct or indirect control as the beneficiary (sister companies).

- (ii) Membership, i.e. the beneficiary is legally defined as a e.g. network, federation, association in which the proposed affiliated entities also participate or the beneficiary participates in the same entity (e.g. network, federation, association) as the proposed affiliated entities.

The structural link shall as a general rule be neither limited to the action nor established for the sole purpose of its implementation. This means that the link would exist independently of the award of the grant; it should exist before the call for proposals and remain valid after the end of the action.

By way of exception, an entity may be considered as affiliated to a beneficiary even if it has a structural link specifically established for the sole purpose of the implementation of the action in the case of so-called "sole applicants" or "sole beneficiaries". A sole applicant or a sole beneficiary is an entity formed by several entities (a group of entities) which together comply with the criteria for being awarded the grant. For example, an association is formed by its members.

What is not an affiliated entity?

The following are not considered entities affiliated to a beneficiary:

- Entities that have entered into a (procurement) contract or subcontract with a beneficiary, act as concessionaires or delegates for public services for a beneficiary,
- Entities that receive financial support from the beneficiary,
- Entities that cooperate on a regular basis with the beneficiary on the basis of a memorandum of understanding or share some assets,
- Entities that have signed a consortium agreement under the grant contract.

How to verify the existence of the required link with the beneficiary?

The affiliation resulting from control may in particular be proved on the basis of the consolidated accounts of the group of entities the beneficiary and its proposed affiliates belong to.

The affiliation resulting from membership may in particular be proved on the basis of the statutes or equivalent act establishing the entity (network, federation, association) which the beneficiary constitutes or in which the beneficiary participates.

If the applicants are awarded a contract, their affiliated entity(ies) will not become Beneficiary(ies) of the Action and signatory(ies) of the Contract. However, they will participate in the design and in the implementation of the Action and the costs they incur (including those incurred for Implementation Contracts and Financial Support to third parties) may be accepted as eligible costs, provided they comply with all the relevant rules already applicable to the Beneficiary(ies) under the Grant Contract.

Affiliated entity(ies) must satisfy the same eligibility criteria as the applicant and the co-applicant(s). They must sign the affiliated entity(ies) statement in Part B section 5 of the grant application form.

2.1.3. Associates and Contractors

The following entities are not applicant(s) nor affiliated entity(ies) and do not have to sign the "mandate" or "affiliated entities' statement":

- Associates

Other organisations may be involved in the action. Such associates play a real role in the action but may not receive funding from the grant, with the exception of per diem or travel costs. Associates do not have to meet the eligibility criteria referred to in section 2.1.1. Associates must be mentioned in Part B section 6 - 'Associates of the Applicant participating in the Action' - of the Grant Application Form.

- Contractors

The grant beneficiaries and their affiliated entities are permitted to award contracts. Associates or affiliated entity(ies) cannot be also contractors in the project. Contractors are subject to the procurement rules set out in Annex IV to the standard grant contract.

2.1.4. Eligible actions: actions for which an application may be made

Definition:

An action is composed of a set of activities.

Duration

Lot 1: Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in development: The duration of an action may not be lower than 24 months nor exceed 48 months.

Lot 2: Democracy and Human Rights: The duration of an action may not be lower than 24 months nor exceed 36 months.

Sectors or themes

Actions must be in line with the specific objectives and activities prioritized listed under Section 1.2 above.

Location

Actions must take place in **SOMALIA**¹⁰.

Types of action

Lot 1: Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in development

- a) Advance inclusive political dialogue to clarify and settle relations between the federal government and existing and emerging administrations and initiate processes of social reconciliation to restore trust between communities.*
- b) Civil society engagement in finalizing a Federal Constitution*
- c) Civil society engagement in preparing for and holding credible elections by 2016*

Lot 2: Democracy and Human Rights

- a) Strengthening the capacity and accountability of state security institutions to provide basic safety and security, thus contributing to the rebuilding of the social contract in Somalia..*
- b) Grievances and injustices are addressed and more Somalis have access to fair and affordable justice.*

Applicable to both Lots:

The following types of action are ineligible:

- actions concerned only or mainly with individual sponsorships for participation in workshops, seminars, conferences and congresses;
- actions concerned only or mainly with individual scholarships for studies or training courses;
- one-off conferences: conferences can only be funded if they form part of a wider range of activities to be implemented in the life-time of the action. For these purposes, preparatory activities for a

¹⁰ Please note that, in the framework of this Call for Proposals, Actions which will be implemented in more than one country are not eligible.

conference and the publication of the proceedings of the conference do not, in themselves, constitute such "wider activities";

- actions in the formal education sector (apart from primary and vocational education), except in special circumstances;
- actions which consist exclusively or primarily in capital expenditure, e.g. land, buildings, equipment and vehicles, except in special circumstances;
- actions which discriminate against individuals or groups of people on grounds of their gender, sexual orientation, religious beliefs or lack of them, or their ethnic origin;
- actions supporting individual political parties;
- actions including proselytism.

Types of activity

Lot 1: Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in development

Specific objectives under Lot 1 have been identified from the agreed PSG 1, 2015 priorities and milestones, with a focus on key areas for potential civil society engagement

a) Advance inclusive political dialogue to clarify and settle relations between the federal government and existing and emerging administrations and initiate processes of social reconciliation to restore trust between communities.

Activities prioritised: i) Social reconciliation and civic dialogue programmes in support of peacebuilding and establishment of local administrations developed and initiated; ii) Inclusive consultations on the establishment of Federal Member States in South and Central regions underway with interim State Administrations established; iii) inclusive and broad based dialogue on federalism in Somalia initiated through the inter-regional Consultative Forum and constitutional development process

b) Civil society engagement in finalizing a Federal Constitution

Activities prioritised: i) participation in constitutional review, holding of public consultations in line with the workplan of the Oversight Committee (OC) and in close consultation and coordination with ICRIC, and analyse results; ii) civic education programme around the constitution and its content designed and conducted; iii) feedback from population to areas of review facilitated in close coordination and consultation with ICRIC and iv) promoting citizen's participation in the constitutional review process.

c) Civil society engagement in preparing for and holding credible elections by 2016

Activities prioritised: i) Comprehensive communication and civic education strategy on political participation and reconciliation developed ii) additionally, actions aimed at promoting citizen's participation in the constitutional and electoral processes

Lot 2: Democracy and Human Rights

a) Civil society plays a role in the sensitisation of the population on the role and compliance of national security services with the provisions of the Provisional Constitution and development of an increased democratic oversight of the security services in Somalia¹¹.

Activities prioritised: i) Support to Human Rights Defenders¹² in promoting provisions of the Provisional Constitution on the rule of law and human rights by monitoring/reporting violations of human rights by national security services, (including the excessive use of force, detentions without trial, ill-treatment, torture, extrajudicial killings) and acting against the impunity related to these violations; ii) Monitoring of and contribution to the reforms of security services in accordance with the Provisional Constitution and the Somali Compact; iii) Activities to end all forms of violence against women and children (boys and girls); iv) Support to actions preventing violations against children affected by armed conflict, notably actions targeting ending child recruitment, use, killing and maiming in Somalia; v) Activities aimed at collection and analysis of the data, information (statistics) on human rights, including the development of surveys, mappings, studies, assessments, observatories, early warning systems; vi) Complementary activities¹³ with other criminal justice actors (including prosecution and judiciary); vii) Capacity building of Human Rights Defenders to undertake the above-mentioned activities in compliance with the required professional standards; viii) actions aimed at increasing the adherence to and respect for human rights and international humanitarian law.

b) Civil society engagement in the furtherance of Alternative (Traditional) Dispute Resolution Mechanisms including the specific role of women in such processes.

Activities prioritised: i) working with government authorities and councils of clan elders in order to strengthen and make more accountable traditional dispute mechanisms and structures, ii) foster a greater link between customary law and formal justice systems.

Financial support under this Call for Proposals must be aimed at supporting projects, i.e. coherent and self-contained sets of activities designed to achieve a specific objective (pages 5-7) with clear target groups, tangible outcomes with relevant indicators, and within a limited timeframe. Proposals outside the identified specific objectives will not be considered for funding.

Applicable to both Lots:

Types of activity which may be financed under this call

- Building coalitions of civil society actors across different regions, communities and identity groups, including independent political platforms or foundations to mobilise broad support and influence policy (for example action aiming at legislative change to promote women's rights, to protect the rights of minority groups, on prevention of SGBV, torture and ill-treatment, increasing access to justice, legal aid);
- Building towards consensus on disputed or controversial areas of policy and development of common agendas for human rights and rights of underrepresented groups
- Contributing to peaceful conciliation of group interests by bringing together a wide range of stakeholders to share experience and analyse common problems; (e.g. looking for example at transitional justice and reconciliation - including the specific role of women in such processes, the rights belonging to minorities, religion and state, land reform, and control of natural resources, in a broader perspective of strengthening the Rule of Law, democratic institutions and human rights);
- Developing equal participation of men and women and empowering vulnerable groups in social, economic and political life thus allowing them to become an effective force for positive change;

¹¹ E.g. Somalia National Armed Forces, Somali Police, NISA, AMISOM, Puntland Police and Maritime Police Forces, Somaliland security forces, detention facilities and prisons...

¹² "Human Rights Defenders" are defined here in conformity with the EU guidelines on Human Rights Defenders as "those individuals, groups and organs of society that promote and protect universally recognised human rights and fundamental freedoms". <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cmsUpload/GuidelinesDefenders.pdf>

¹³ "Complementary activities" must be understood hereby as activities necessary to increase the impact of the main activity(ies) of the project.

- Promoting responsiveness and accountability of political leaders and institutions (including security services).
- Improving local Civil Society organisation's ability to hold national and local authorities and other public bodies (incl. security service/forces) to account;

The project must comply with the following conditions:

- Coordination and synergy with earlier and/or similar on-going interventions (including with other stakeholders)
- Ensure that a high proportion of the total project expenditure is spent for the direct benefit of the target communities (at least 60% , 65% recommended)
- Projects should contain in addition to the risk analysis a contingency plan addressing numerous different security and conflict prevention scenarios.

In preparing their proposals, applicants should in particular consider the following:

- Involvement of Somali organisations is considered indispensable in all phases of the project
- Build on existing mechanisms created in the civil society sector in Somalia
- The methodological Project Cycle Management approach and Participatory Project Monitoring and Evaluation
- The EIDHR Strategy Paper 2014-2020
- UNSC Resolution 1325 and the UN Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

Furthermore, the following principles/orientations should be reflected upon:

- The Millennium Development Goals set at UN summit in New York, 2000 and confirmed at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002, in particular the ones referred to eliminate gender disparities
- The European Strategy for Africa and the European Consensus on Development
- The OECD/DAC principles of good international engagement in fragile states and situations (2007)
- The Somali Compact's cross cutting issues on Human Rights

Financial support to third parties¹⁴

Applicants may propose financial support to third parties.

Applicants may propose financial support to third parties in order to help achieving the objectives of the action.

The maximum amount of financial support per third party is EUR 60 000.

Under this Call, financial support to third parties may not be the main purpose of the action.

In compliance with the present guidelines and notably of any conditions or restrictions in this section, applicants should define mandatorily in section 2.1.1 of the grant application form:

- i) the objectives and results to be obtained with the financial support
- ii) the different types of activities eligible for financial support, on the basis of a fixed list
- iii) the types of persons or categories of persons which may receive financial support
- (iv) the criteria for selecting these entities and giving the financial support
- i) the criteria for determining the exact amount of financial support for each third entity, and

¹⁴ These third parties are neither affiliated entity(ies) nor associates nor contractors.

- ii) the maximum amount which may be given.

In all events, the mandatory conditions set above for giving financial support (points (i) to (vi)) have to be strictly defined in the contract as to avoid any exercise of discretion.

Visibility

The Applicants must take all necessary steps to publicise the fact that the European Union has financed or co-financed the Action. As far as possible, actions that are wholly or partially funded by the European Union must incorporate information and communication activities designed to raise the awareness of specific or general audiences of the reasons for the action and the EU support for the action in the country or region concerned, as well as the results and the impact of this support.

Applicants must comply with the objectives and priorities and guarantee the visibility of the EU financing (see the Communication and Visibility Manual for EU external actions specified and published by the European Commission at http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/visibility/index_en.htm).

Number of applications and grants per applicants

The applicant may not submit more than 1 (one) application per lot under this Call for Proposals.

The applicant may not be awarded more than 1 (one) grant per lot under this Call for Proposals.

The applicant may be a co-applicant or an affiliated entity in another application at the same time.

A co-applicant/affiliated entity may not submit more than 1 (one) application per lot under this Call for Proposals.

A co-applicant/affiliated entity may not be awarded more than 1 (one) grant per lot under this Call for Proposals.

A co-applicant/affiliated entity may not be the applicant or an affiliated entity in another application at the same time.

2.1.5. Eligibility of costs: costs that can be included

Only 'eligible costs' can be covered by a grant. The categories of costs that are eligible and non-eligible are indicated below. The budget is both a cost estimate and an overall ceiling for 'eligible costs'.

The reimbursement of eligible costs may be based on any or a combination of the following forms:

- actual costs incurred by the Beneficiary(ies) and affiliated entity(ies)

Recommendations to award a grant are always subject to the condition that the checks preceding the signing of the contract do not reveal problems requiring changes to the budget (such as arithmetical errors, inaccuracies, unrealistic costs and ineligible costs). The checks may give rise to requests for clarification and may lead the Contracting Authority to impose modifications or reductions to address such mistakes or inaccuracies. It is not possible to increase the grant or the percentage of EU co-financing as a result of these corrections.

It is therefore in the applicant's interest to provide a **realistic and cost-effective budget**.

Eligible direct costs

To be eligible under the Call for Proposals, costs must comply with the provisions of Article 14 of the General Conditions to the Standard Grant Contract (see Annex G of the Guidelines).

Contingency reserve

The budget may include a contingency reserve not exceeding 5 % of the estimated direct eligible costs. It can only be used with the **prior written authorisation** of the Contracting Authority.

Eligible indirect costs

The indirect costs incurred in carrying out the action may be eligible for flat-rate funding, but the total must not exceed 7 % of the estimated total eligible direct costs. Indirect costs are eligible provided that they do not include costs assigned to another budget heading in the standard grant contract. The applicant may be asked to justify the percentage requested before the contract is signed. However, once the flat rate has been fixed in the special conditions of the standard grant contract, no supporting documents need to be provided.

If any of the applicants or affiliated entity(ies) is in receipt of an operating grant financed by the EU, it may not claim indirect costs on its incurred costs within the proposed budget for the action.

Contributions in kind

Contributions in kind mean the provision of goods or services to a Beneficiary(ies) or affiliated entity(ies) free of charge by a third party. As contributions in kind do not involve any expenditure for a Beneficiary(ies) or affiliated entity(ies), they are not eligible costs.

Contributions in kind may not be treated as co-financing. However, if the description of the action as proposed includes contributions in kind, the contributions have to be made.

Ineligible costs

The following costs are not eligible:

- debts and debt service charges (interest);
- provisions for losses or potential future liabilities;
- costs declared by the Beneficiary(ies) and financed by another action or work programme receiving a Union (including through EDF) grant;
- purchases of land or buildings, except where necessary for the direct implementation of the action, in which case ownership must be transferred to the final beneficiaries and/or local Beneficiary(ies), at the latest at the end of the action;
- currency exchange losses;
- credit to third parties

2.2. HOW TO APPLY AND THE PROCEDURES TO FOLLOW

Prior registration in PADOR for this Call for Proposals is obligatory.

- **Phase 1, concept note:** Registration in PADOR is obligatory for an applicant applying for grants above EUR 60 000.
- Registration is optional though strongly recommended for:
 - An applicant applying for grants of EUR 60 000 or less;
 - co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies).
- **Phase 2, full proposal:** Registration in PADOR is obligatory for all pre-selected applicants, co-applicant(s) and all their affiliated entity(ies).

PADOR is an on-line database in which organisations register and update their data regularly, through the EuropeAid website: https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/search/site/pador%20onlineservice_en

Before starting to register your organisation in PADOR, please read the 'Quick guide' on the website. It explains the registration process.

It is strongly recommended to register in PADOR when you start drafting your proposal and not to wait until just before the deadline of submission.

On the paper version of the proposal you must give your EuropeAid ID (EID). To get this ID, your organisation must enter PADOR to register, save and 'sign' certain obligatory data (the fields shown in orange on each screen) and the related documents (see section 2.4).

However, if it is impossible for the organisation to register in PADOR, it must submit a justification proving that this impossibility is general and beyond the control of the applicant and/or its affiliated entity(ies). In such cases, the applicants and/or affiliated entity(ies) concerned must complete the 'PADOR off-line form'¹⁵ attached to these Guidelines and send it by the submission deadline, together with the application, to the address indicated in sections 2.2.2 and 2.2.6. The registration in PADOR will then be carried out by the European Commission service in charge of the Call for Proposals. If, at a later stage, the organisation wishes to update its data itself, it will have to send an access request to the PADOR helpdesk.

All questions related to registration in PADOR should be addressed to the PADOR helpdesk at: Europeaid-pador@ec.europa.eu.

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2.2.1. Concept Note content

Applications must be submitted in accordance with the Concept Note instructions in the Grant Application Form annexed to these Guidelines (Annex A).

Applicants must apply in English.

In the Concept Note, applicants must only provide an estimate of the amount of contribution requested from the Contracting Authority and an indicative percentage of that contribution in relation to the total amount of the Action. Only the applicants invited to submit a full application in the second phase will be required to present a detailed budget. The elements outlined in the Concept Note may not be modified by the applicant in the full application form. The EU contribution may not vary from the initial estimate by more than 20 %. Applicants are free to adapt the percentage of co-financing required within the minimum and maximum amount and percentages of co-financing, as laid down in these Guidelines in section 1.3. Own contributions by the applicants can be replaced by other donors' contributions at any time.

Any error or major discrepancy related to the points listed in the Concept Note instructions may lead to the rejection of the Concept Note.

Clarifications will only be requested when information provided is not sufficient to conduct an objective assessment.

Hand-written Concept Notes will not be accepted.

Please note that only the Concept Note form will be evaluated. It is therefore of utmost importance that this document contains ALL relevant information concerning the action. No additional annexes should be sent.

2.2.2. Where and how to send Concept Notes

The Concept Note together with its relating Checklist and Declaration by the applicant (to be found in **Part A sections 2 and 3** of the grant application form) must be submitted in one original and 2 copies in A4 size, each bound.

¹⁵ Which corresponds to Sections 3 and 4 of Part B of the application form.

An electronic version of the Concept Note must also be submitted. A CD-Rom with the Concept Note in electronic format will be included, along with the paper version, in a sealed envelope as described below. The electronic file must contain **exactly the same** application as the paper version enclosed.

Where applicants send several different Concept Notes (if allowed to do so by the Guidelines of the Call), each one must be sent separately.

The outer envelope must bear the **reference number and the title of the call for proposals**, together with the lot number and title, the full name and address of the applicant, and the words 'Not to be opened before the opening session'.

Concept Notes must be submitted in a sealed envelope by registered mail, private courier service or by hand-delivery (a signed and dated certificate of receipt will be given to the deliverer) to the address below:

Postal address

Delegation of the European Union to Somalia
Union Insurance House, Ragati Road,
Attn: Peace Building, Democratisation and Security Sector Reform Section
P.O. Box 30475 – 00100
Nairobi, KENYA

Address for hand delivery or by private courier service

Delegation of the European Union to Somalia
Union Insurance House, Ragati Road
Upperhill, Nairobi – Kenya
Attn: Peace Building, Democratisation and Security Sector Reform Section

Concept Notes sent by any other means (e.g. by fax or by e-mail) or delivered to other addresses will be rejected.

Applicants must verify that their Concept Note is complete using the Checklist for Concept Note (Part A section 2 of the grant application form). Incomplete concept notes may be rejected.

2.2.3. Deadline for submission of Concept Notes

The deadline for the submission of Concept Notes is 15 June 2015 as evidenced by the date of dispatch, the postmark or the date of the deposit slip. In the case of hand-deliveries, the deadline for receipt is at 16:00 as evidenced by the signed and dated receipt. Any Concept Note submitted after the deadline will be rejected.

However, for reasons of administrative efficiency, the Contracting Authority may reject any Concept Note sent in due time but received after the effective date of approval of the Concept Note evaluation (see indicative calendar under section 2.5.2)

2.2.4. Further information about Concept Notes

An information session on this Call for Proposals will be held on 02 June at 10:00.

Questions may be sent by e-mail no later than 21 days before the deadline for the submission of Concept Notes to the address(es) below, indicating clearly the reference of the Call for Proposals:

E-mail address: DELEGATION-SOMALIA@EEAS.EUROPA.EU

The Contracting Authority has no obligation to provide clarifications to questions received after this date.

Replies will be given no later than 11 days before the deadline for submission of Concept Notes.

To ensure equal treatment of applicants, the Contracting Authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of applicants, affiliated entity(ies), an action or specific activities.

Questions that may be relevant to other applicants, together with answers and other important notices in the course of the evaluation procedure, will be published on the EuropeAid website <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome> , as the need arises. It is therefore advisable to consult the abovementioned website regularly in order to be informed of the questions and answers published.

All questions related to PADOR registration should be addressed to the PADOR help desk:

Europeaid-pador@ec.europa.eu

2.2.5. Full Application forms

An applicant invited to submit a full application form following pre-selection of their Concept Note must do so using Part B of the application form annexed to these Guidelines (Annex A). Applicants should then keep strictly to the format of the application form and fill in the paragraphs and pages in order.

The elements outlined in the Concept Note cannot be modified by the applicant in the full application form. The EU contribution may not vary from the initial estimate by more than 20 %, although applicants are free to adapt the percentage of co-financing required within the minimum and maximum amount and percentages of co-financing, as laid down in these Guidelines under section 1.3.

Applicants must submit their full applications in the same language as their Concept Notes.

Please complete the full application form carefully and as clearly as possible so that it can be assessed properly.

Any error related to the points listed in the Checklist (Part B, Section 7 of the Grant Application form) or any major inconsistency in the full application form (e.g. if the amounts in the budget worksheets are inconsistent) may lead to the rejection of the application.

Clarifications will only be requested when information provided is unclear and thus prevents the Contracting Authority from conducting an objective assessment.

Hand-written applications will not be accepted.

Please note that only the full application form and the published annexes which have to be filled in (budget, logical framework) will be transmitted to the evaluators (and assessors, if used). It is therefore of utmost importance that these documents contain ALL the relevant information concerning the action. **No supplementary annexes should be sent.**

2.2.6. Where and how to send Full Application forms

Applications must be submitted in a sealed envelope by registered mail, private courier service or by hand-delivery (a signed and dated certificate of receipt will be given to the deliverer) to the address below:

Delegation of the European Union to Somalia
Union Insurance House, Ragati Road,
Attn: Peace Building, Democratisation and Security Sector Reform Section
P.O. Box 30475 – 00100
Nairobi, KENYA

Applications sent by any other means (e.g. by fax or by e-mail) or delivered to other addresses will be rejected.

Applications must be submitted in one original and 2 copies in A4 size, each bound. The full application form, budget and logical framework must also be supplied in electronic format (CD-Rom) in a separate and single file (i.e. the full application form must not be split into several different files). The electronic file must contain **exactly the same** application as the paper version.

The Checklist (Section 7 of Part B of the grant application form) and the Declaration by the applicant (Section 8 of Part B of the grant application form) must be stapled separately and enclosed in the envelope

Where applicants send several different applications (if allowed to do so by the Guidelines of the Call), each one must be sent separately.

The outer envelope must bear the **reference number and the title of the Call for Proposals**, together with the number and title of the lot, the full name and address of the applicant, and the words 'Not to be opened before the opening session'.

Applicants must verify that their application is complete using the checklist (Section 7 of Part B of the grant application form). Incomplete applications may be rejected.

2.2.7. Deadline for submission of Full Application forms

The deadline for the submission of applications will be indicated in the letter sent to the applicants whose application has been pre-selected.

However, for reasons of administrative efficiency, the Contracting Authority may reject any application sent in due time but received after the date of approval of the evaluation report for full applications (see indicative calendar under Section 2.5.2)

2.2.8. Further information about Full Application forms

Questions may be sent by e-mail no later than 21 days before the deadline for the submission of applications to the addresses listed below, indicating clearly the reference of the Call for Proposals:

E-mail address: DELEGATION-SOMALIA@EEAS.EUROPA.EU

The Contracting Authority has no obligation to provide clarifications to questions received after this date.

Replies will be given no later than 11 days before the deadline for the submission of applications.

To ensure equal treatment of applicants, the Contracting Authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of applicants, affiliated entity(ies), or an action.

No individual replies will be given to questions. All questions and answers as well as other important notices to applicants during the course of the evaluation procedure, will be published on the website <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome>. It is therefore advisable to consult the abovementioned website regularly in order to be informed of the questions and answers published.

2.3. EVALUATION AND SELECTION OF APPLICATIONS

Applications will be examined and evaluated by the Contracting Authority with the possible assistance of external assessors. All actions submitted by applicants will be assessed according to the following steps and criteria.

If the examination of the application reveals that the proposed action does not meet the eligibility criteria stated in paragraph 2.1, the application will be rejected on this sole basis.

1) STEP 1: OPENING & ADMINISTRATIVE CHECKS AND CONCEPT NOTE EVALUATION

The following will be assessed:

- Compliance with the submission deadline. If the deadline has not been met, the application will automatically be rejected.
- The Concept Note satisfies all the criteria specified in points 1-5 of the Checklist : Section 2 of Part A of the grant application form). If any of the requested information is missing or is incorrect, the application may be rejected on that **sole** basis and the application will not be evaluated further.

The Concept Notes that pass the first administrative check will be evaluated on the relevance and design of the proposed action.

The Concept Note will receive an overall score out of 50 using the breakdown in the evaluation grid below. The evaluation will also check on compliance with the instructions on the Concept Note, which can be found in Part A of the Application Form.

The evaluation criteria are divided into headings and subheadings. Each subheading will be given a score between 1 and 5 as follows: 1 = very poor; 2 = poor; 3 = adequate; 4 = good; 5 = very good.

Scores

1. Relevance of the action	Sub-score	30
1.1 How relevant is the proposal to the objectives and priorities of the Call for Proposals?*	5x2**	
1.2 How relevant to the particular needs and constraints of the target country(ies) or region(s) is the proposal (including synergy with other EU initiatives and avoidance of duplication)?	5x2*	
1.3 How clearly defined and strategically chosen are those involved (final beneficiaries, target groups)? Have their needs been clearly defined and does the proposal address them appropriately?	5	
1.4 Does the proposal contain specific added-value elements, such as environmental issues, promotion of gender equality and equal opportunities, needs of disabled people, rights of minorities and rights of indigenous peoples, or innovation and best practices and the other additional elements indicated under 1.2. of these Guidelines?	5	
2. Design of the action	Sub-score	20
2.1 How coherent is the overall design of the action? In particular, does it reflect the analysis of the problems involved, take into account external factors and relevant stakeholders?	5x2**	
2.2 Is the action feasible and consistent in relation to the objectives and expected results?	5x2**	

TOTAL SCORE

50

**these scores are multiplied by 2 because of their importance

Once all Concept Notes have been assessed, a list will be drawn up with the proposed actions ranked according to their total score.

Firstly, only the Concept Notes with a score of at least 30 will be considered for pre-selection.

Secondly, the number of Concept Notes will be reduced, taking account of the ranking, to the number of Concept Notes whose total aggregate amount of requested contributions is equal to at least 200% of the available budget for this Call for Proposals. The amount of requested contributions of each concept note will be based on the indicative financial envelopes for each lot.

After the evaluation of Concept Notes, the Contracting Authority will send letters to all applicants, indicating whether their application was submitted by the deadline, informing them of the reference number they have been allocated, whether the Concept Note was evaluated and the results of that evaluation. The pre-selected applicants will subsequently be invited to submit full applications.

2) STEP 2: EVALUATION OF THE FULL APPLICATION

Firstly, the following will be assessed:

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- Compliance with the submission deadline. If the deadline has not been met, the application will automatically be rejected.
- The full application form satisfies all the criteria specified in points 1-9 of the Checklist (Section 7 of Part B of the grant application form). If any of the requested information is missing or is incorrect, the application may be rejected on that **sole** basis and the application will not be evaluated further.

The quality of the applications, including the proposed budget and capacity of the applicants and affiliated entity(ies), will be evaluated using the evaluation criteria in the evaluation grid below. There are two types of evaluation criteria: selection and award criteria.

The selection criteria help to evaluate the applicant(s)'s and affiliated entity(ies)'s operational capacity and the applicant's financial capacity and to ensure that they:

- have stable and sufficient sources of finance to maintain their activity throughout the proposed action and, where appropriate, to participate in its funding;
- have the management capacity, professional competencies and qualifications required to successfully complete the proposed action. This also applies to any affiliated entity(ies) of the applicants.

The award criteria help to evaluate the quality of the applications in relation to the objectives and priorities, and to award grants to projects which maximise the overall effectiveness of the Call for Proposals. They help to select applications which the Contracting Authority can be confident will comply with its objectives and priorities. They cover the relevance of the action, its consistency with the objectives of the Call for Proposals, quality, expected impact, sustainability and cost-effectiveness.

Scoring:

The evaluation grid is divided into sections and subsections. Each subsection will be given a score between 1 and 5 as follows: 1 = very poor; 2 = poor; 3 = adequate; 4 = good; 5 = very good.

Evaluation Grid

Section	Maximum Score
1. Financial and operational capacity	20

1.1 Do the applicants and, if applicable, their affiliated entity(ies) have sufficient experience of project management?	5
1.2 Do the applicants and, if applicable, their affiliated entity(ies) have sufficient technical expertise? (especially knowledge of the issues to be addressed)	5
1.3 Do the applicants and, if applicable, their affiliated entity(ies) have sufficient management capacity? (Including staff, equipment and ability to handle the budget for the action)?	5
1.4 Does the lead applicant have stable and sufficient sources of finance?	5
2. Relevance of the action	30
<i>Score transferred from the Concept Note evaluation</i>	
3. Effectiveness and feasibility of the action	20
3.1 Are the activities proposed appropriate, practical, and consistent with the objectives and expected results?	5
3.2 Is the action plan clear and feasible?	5
3.3 Does the proposal contain objectively verifiable indicators for the outcome of the action? Is any evaluation planned?	5
3.4 Is the co-applicant(s)'s and affiliated entity(ies)'s level of involvement and participation in the action satisfactory?	5
4. Sustainability of the action	15
4.1 Is the action likely to have a tangible impact on its target groups?	5
4.2 Is the proposal likely to have multiplier effects? (Including scope for replication, extension and information sharing.)	5
4.3 Are the expected results of the proposed action sustainable?: - financially (<i>how will the activities be financed after the funding ends?</i>) - institutionally (<i>will structures allowing the activities to continue be in place at the end of the action? Will there be local 'ownership' of the results of the action?</i>) - at policy level (where applicable) (<i>what will be the structural impact of the action - e.g. will it lead to improved legislation, codes of conduct, methods, etc?</i>) - environmentally (if applicable) (<i>will the action have a negative/positive environmental impact?</i>)	5
5. Budget and cost-effectiveness of the action	15

5.1 Are the activities appropriately reflected in the budget?	/ 5
5.2 Is the ratio between the estimated costs and the expected results satisfactory?	/ 10
Maximum total score	100

Note on section 1. Financial and operational capacity

If the total score for section 1 is less than 12 points, the application will be rejected. If the score for at least one of the subsections under section 1 is 1, the application will also be rejected.

Provisional selection

After the evaluation, a table will be drawn up listing the applications ranked according to their score and within the limits of the funds available. In addition, a reserve list will be drawn up following the same criteria to be used if more funds should become available during the validity period of the reserve list.

3) STEP 3: VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY OF THE APPLICANTS AND AFFILIATED ENTITY(IES)

The eligibility verification, based on the supporting documents requested by the Contracting Authority (see Section 2.4) will only be performed for the applications that have been provisionally selected according to their score and within the available financial envelope.

- The Declaration by the applicant (Section 8 of Part B the grant application form) will be cross-checked with the supporting documents provided by the applicant. Any missing supporting document or any incoherence between the Declaration by the applicant and the supporting documents may lead to the rejection of the application on that sole basis.
- The eligibility of applicants, the affiliated entity(ies), and the action will be verified according to the criteria set out in Sections 2.1.1, 2.1.2 and 2.1.3.

Any rejected application will be replaced by the next best placed application on the reserve list that falls within the available financial envelope.

2.4. SUBMISSION OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR PROVISIONALLY SELECTED APPLICATIONS

An applicant that has been provisionally selected or placed on the reserve list will be informed in writing by the Contracting Authority. It will be requested to supply the following documents in order to allow the Contracting Authority to verify the eligibility of the applicant, (if any) of the co-applicant(s) and (if any) of their affiliated entity(ies)¹⁶:

Supporting documents may/must be provided through PADOR, see Section 2.2.

1. The statutes or articles of association of the applicant, (if any) of each co-applicant(s) and (if any) of each affiliated entity(ies)¹⁷. Where the Contracting Authority has recognised the applicant's, or the co-applicant(s)'s, or their affiliated entity(ies)'s eligibility for another call for proposals under the same budget line within 2 years before the deadline for receipt of applications, it should be submitted, instead of the statutes or articles of association, a copy of the document proving their eligibility in a former Call (e.g. a copy of the special conditions of a grant contract received during the reference period), unless a change in legal status has occurred in the meantime¹⁸. This obligation does not apply to international organisations which have signed a framework agreement with the European Commission.
2. An external audit report produced by an approved auditor, certifying the applicant's accounts for the last financial year available where the total amount of the grant exceeds EUR 750 000 (EUR 100 000 for an operating grant). The external audit report is not required from (if any) the co-applicant(s).
3. A copy of the applicant's latest accounts (the profit and loss account and the balance sheet for the last financial year for which the accounts have been closed)¹⁹. A copy of the latest account is neither required from (if any) the co-applicant(s) nor from (if any) affiliated entity(ies).
4. Legal entity sheet (see annex D of these Guidelines) duly completed and signed by each of the applicants (i.e. by the applicant and (if any) by each co-applicant(s), accompanied by the justifying documents requested there. If the applicants have already signed a contract with the Contracting Authority, instead of the legal entity sheet and supporting documents, the legal entity number may be provided, unless a change in legal status occurred in the meantime.
5. A financial identification form of the applicant (not from co-applicant(s)) conforming to the model attached at Annex E of these Guidelines, certified by the bank to which the payments will be made. This bank should be located in the country where the applicant is established. If the applicant has already submitted a financial identification form in the past for a contract where the European Commission was in charge of the payments and intends to use the same bank account, a copy of the previous financial identification form may be provided instead.

Where the requested supporting documents are not uploaded in PADOR they must be supplied in the form of originals, photocopies or scanned versions (i.e. showing legible stamps, signatures and dates) of the said originals. However, the Legal entity sheet and the financial identification form must always be submitted in original.

Where such documents are not in one of the official languages of the European Union, a translation into English of the relevant parts of these documents proving the applicant(s)'s eligibility, must be attached for the purpose of analysing the application.

16 No supporting document will be requested for applications for a grant not exceeding EUR 60000.

17 Where the applicant and/or a co-applicant(s) and or an affiliated entity(ies) is a public body created by a law, a copy of the said law must be provided.

18 To be inserted only where the eligibility conditions have not changed from one call for proposals to the other.

19 This obligation does not apply to natural persons who have received a scholarship or that are in most need in receipt of direct support, nor to public bodies and to international organisations. It does not apply either when the accounts are in practice the same documents as the external audit report already provided pursuant to Section 2.4.2.

Where these documents are in an official language of the European Union other than the one of the call for proposals, it is **strongly** recommended, in order to facilitate the evaluation, to provide a translation of the relevant parts of the documents, proving the applicants' eligibility, into the language of the call for proposals.

If the abovementioned supporting documents are not provided before the deadline indicated in the request for supporting documents sent to the applicant by the Contracting Authority, the application may be rejected.

After verifying the supporting documents, the Evaluation Committee will make a final recommendation to the Contracting Authority, which will decide on the award of grants.

NB : In the eventuality that the Contracting Authority is not satisfied with the strength, solidity, and guarantee offered by the structural link between one of the applicants and its affiliated entity, it can require the submission of the missing documents allowing for its conversion into co-applicant. If all the missing documents for co-applicants are submitted, and provided all necessary eligibility criteria are fulfilled, the above mentioned entity becomes a co-applicant for all purposes. The applicant has to submit the application form revised accordingly.

2.5. NOTIFICATION OF THE CONTRACTING AUTHORITY'S DECISION

2.5.1 *Content of the decision*

The applicants will be informed in writing of the Contracting Authority's decision concerning their application and, if rejected, the reasons for the negative decision.

An applicant believing that it has been harmed by an error or irregularity during the award process may lodge a complaint. See further Section 2.4.15 of the Practical Guide.

2.5.2 *Indicative timetable*

	DATE	TIME*
Information meeting (if any)	02 June 2015	10:00
Deadline for requesting any clarifications from the Contracting Authority	26 May 2015	13:00
Last date on which clarifications are issued by the Contracting Authority	04 June 2015	-
Deadline for submission of Concept Notes	15 June 2015	16:00
Information to applicants on opening, administrative checks and concept note evaluation (Step 1)	02 July 2015*	-
Invitations to submit Full Application Form	15 July 2015*	-
Deadline for submission of Full Application Form	29 August 2015*	-

Information to applicants on the evaluation of the Full Application Form (Step 2) ²⁰	11 September 2015*	-
Notification of award (after the eligibility check) (Step 3)	11 October 2015*	-
Contract signature ²¹	20 November 2015*	-

Provisional date. All times are in the time zone of the country of the Contracting Authority.

This indicative timetable may be updated by the Contracting Authority during the procedure. In such cases, the updated timetable will be published on the EuropeAid web site

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome>.

2.6. CONDITIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION AFTER THE CONTRACTING AUTHORITY'S DECISION TO AWARD A GRANT

Following the decision to award a grant, the Beneficiary(ies) will be offered a contract based on the Contracting Authority's grant contract (see Annex G of these Guidelines²²). By signing the application form (Annex A of these Guidelines), the applicants agree, if awarded a grant, to accept the contractual conditions of the standard grant contract.

Implementation contracts

Where implementation of the action requires the Beneficiary(ies) and its affiliated entity(ies) (if any) to award procurement contracts, those contracts must be awarded in accordance with Annex IV to the standard grant contract.

2.7. EARLY WARNING SYSTEM AND CENTRAL EXCLUSION DATABASE

The applicants and, if they are legal entities, the persons who have powers of representation, decision-making or control over them, are informed that, should they be in one of the situations mentioned in:

~ Commission Decision of 16.12.2008 on the Early Warning System (EWS) for the use of authorising officers of the Commission and the executive agencies (OJ, L 344, 20.12.2008, p.125) or

~ Commission Regulation of 17.12.2008 on the Central Exclusion Database (CED) (OJ L344, 20.12.2008, p.12),

their personal details (name, given name (if natural person), address, legal form and name and given name of the persons with powers of representation, decision-making or control (if legal person)) may be registered in the EWS only or both in the EWS and CED, and communicated to the persons and entities listed in the above-mentioned Decision and Regulation, in relation to the award or the execution of a grant agreement or decision.

²⁰ Note that according to the financial regulation, in direct management, applicants must be notified the outcome of the evaluation of their applications within 6 months following the submission deadline of the full application. This time-limit may be exceeded in exceptional cases, in particular for complex actions (including Multi-beneficiary calls), large number of proposals or in case of delays attributable to the applicants.

²¹ Note that according to the financial regulation, in direct management the grant contract must be signed within 3 months following the notification of the award decision. This time-limit may be exceeded in exceptional cases, in particular for complex actions (including Multi-beneficiary calls), large number of proposals or in case of delays attributable to the applicants

²² Complemented by the provisions in Annex e3h11 where at least one of the beneficiaries is an international organisation.

3. LIST OF ANNEXES

NOTE THAT ALL ANNEXES MUST BE ADAPTED AS FORESEEN TO THE CALL AND PUBLISHED TOGETHER WITH THE GUIDELINES

DOCUMENTS TO BE COMPLETED

Annex A: Grant Application Form (Word format)

Annex B: Budget (Excel format)

Annex C: Logical Framework (Excel format)

Annex D: Legal Entity Sheet

Annex E: Financial identification form

Annex F: PADOR off Line Form²³

DOCUMENTS FOR INFORMATION

Annex G: Standard Grant Contract

- Annex II: General conditions
- Annex IV: contract award procedures
- Annex V: standard request for payment
- Annex VI: model narrative and financial report
- Annex VII: model report of factual findings and terms of reference for an expenditure verification of an EU financed grant contract for external action
- Annex VIII: model financial guarantee
- Annex IX: standard template for transfer of ownership of assets

Annex H: Daily allowance rates (Per diem), available at the following address:

https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/applicable-rates-diems-framework-ec-funded-external-aid-contracts-05072013_en

ANNEX J: Information on the tax regime applicable to grant contracts signed under the call.

Useful links:

Project Cycle Management Guidelines

https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/aid-delivery-methods-project-cycle-management-guidelines-vol-1_en

The implementation of grant

<http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/companion/document.do?nodeNumber=19>

Financial Toolkit

https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/funding/procedures-beneficiary-countries-and-partners/financial-management-toolkit_en

* * *

23 https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/search/site/pador_en Only applicable in calls under direct management where PADOR is used.