

## GROUNDING ACTIONS, DEEPENING ADVOCACIES FOR DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS

### Call for Proposals on Country-Level Civil Society Initiatives in Effective Development Cooperation

CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness

#### I. Background

Work on the ground has always been vital for civil society. Civil society organisations (CSOs), as independent development actors, are important in the whole country-level development landscape. CPDE articulated the rationale for 'country focus' work in its founding document:<sup>1</sup>

- *The specific country context determines development priorities, initiatives and actions of all actors in the country, including CSOs;*
- *This is where impacts of CSO work is most evident in the lives and conditions of the poor and marginalised;*
- *This is where governments are shaping legal, regulatory and policy regimes affecting CSOs as development actors (whether or not they are aligned with international norms); and,*
- *This is where the most direct, multi-stakeholder dialogues should be open and accessible for CSO participation and citizens' inputs.*

In the past years, CPDE developed mechanisms and modalities to guide the implementation of its country mandate. Platform processes were designed to help constituencies incorporate country work in their plans. Efforts in increasing capacities for mobilisation, awareness-raising, and monitoring of country-level CSOs were also improved through trainings, forums, and other related exercises. The Coordination Committee (CC) has also adopted the Implementing Country Focus document (see Annex 1) to guide the responsibilities, accountabilities, and ways of working for country work.

CPDE's strategic plan,<sup>2</sup> in defining its core business, calls for the universal application of effective development cooperation (EDC) principles to: (a) fulfill the unfinished business of aid and development effectiveness and (b) guide the means of implementation of Agenda 2030. The strategic plan also defined five advocacy priorities namely: (1) Conflict and fragility; (2) CSO Development Effectiveness; (3) CSO Enabling Environment; (4) Private Sector Accountability, and; (5) South-South Cooperation. The core business and advocacy priorities guide the platform's policy undertakings and programme work at all levels of development—from the country up to global.

At the global, sectoral and regional levels, CPDE is already in the process of clarifying its policy objectives at an annual basis. The urgent task now is grounding and deepening advocacies through actions at the country level. To realise this, CPDE designed a bridge-year for *Sustaining Civil Society Advocacy on Effective Development Cooperation* programme that, among others, scales-up country level effective development cooperation advocacy.

This document provides an implementation approach to operationalise CPDE country framework by supporting plans developed by country CSOs themselves. It outlines the criteria, process, resources and roles of the key structures of CPDE.

#### II. Objectives

This call for proposal for country-level actions supports the objective of renewing country level effective development cooperation advocacy. In particular, CPDE's support for country-level work wants to:

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<sup>1</sup> Based on the CPDE Implementing Country Focus document

<sup>2</sup> <http://csopartnership.org/cpde-core-documents/>

- (1) Establish linkages and translation of CPDE advocacy priorities in resonance to constituency issues, most especially at the country level;
- (2) Provide spaces for CSOs to forge multi-sectoral alliances and partnerships that will address national issues;
- (3) Facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogues aimed at contributing to the universal application of EDC principles and the implementation of the sustainable development goals at the country-level;
- (4) Advocate for the institutionalised participation of CSOs in official processes and spaces to push for civil society agenda in development

### III. Support for country-level work

CPDE will support country-level actions that will contribute to the abovementioned objectives for renewed country level advocacy, and correspond to one of the following lots. The lots directly correspond to the advocacy priorities of the platform. You may refer to this document for more information: Account, Build, Commit to EDC ([English](#), [Spanish](#), and [French](#)). In cases where the action is deemed to correspond to two or three lots, the proponents shall rate the prioritization of the lots.

#### A. Lots

Lots	Description
Lot 1. Core Business: Unfinished EDC commitments and Agenda 2030  <i>Expected 15-25 grants to be awarded of up to 5,000 USD</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiatives that will aim at continuing the discussion and monitoring the fulfillment of unfinished EDC commitments.</li> <li>• Actions that will support efforts aimed at better public understanding, planning, and implementation of Agenda 2030 in the country.</li> <li>• Actions that will tackle country issues based on the EDC/ A2030/ Human Rights-Based Approach to Development framework.</li> </ul>
Lot 2. Country compacts for CSO Development Effectiveness  <i>Expected 10-20 grants to be awarded of up to 5,000 USD</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actions that will result into country compacts for CSO Development Effectiveness. A country compact is an agreement negotiated by CSOs who pledge to implement commitments made on the issue of development effectiveness. <i>(please refer to Annex 2)</i></li> <li>• Actions that will advance, promote and implement the Istanbul Principles on CSO Development Effectiveness</li> </ul>
Lot 3. Advocacy on CSO Enabling Environment  <i>Expected 10-20 grants to be awarded of up to 5,000 USD</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiatives that will focus on the linkages between CSO enabling environment issues and maximising efforts by various CSOs to contribute to Agenda 2030 and the country priorities for SDGs <i>(please refer to Annex 3)</i>.</li> <li>• Actions that will advance the calls for an enabling environment for civil society, consistent with the International Framework on CSO Development Effectiveness, HRBA, Busan Partnership Document and other related documents.</li> </ul>

#### B. Distribution by Global Regions

To ensure balanced global coverage, the following will be the indicative distribution of awards across regions. The following distribution was based on the number of countries per region:

Region	No. of
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	Awards
Asia	9
Africa	9
Latin America & Caribbean	9
Middle East and North Africa	6
Europe	6
Pacific	5
North America	1

### C. Types of Actions

All proposed plans must include multi-stakeholder initiatives and engagements resulting from CSO actions at the country-level. Proposals can be any or a combination of the following:

1. Researches
2. CSO consultation/ trainings/ seminars
3. Public forums
4. Multi-stakeholder dialogues/ roundtable discussions
5. Other initiatives deemed appropriate with the country context and the lot chosen

### IV. Eligibility for the support

Any country CSO can submit a proposal for this call.

Priority shall be given to the following:

- CPDE member-organisations
- Submissions from CSOs who have participated in activities of CPDE
- CSO who has a good grasp and familiarity with CPDE policy objectives and advocacy priorities
- CSO who can demonstrate strong networking and mobilisation with other CSOs including multi sectoral outreach
- CSO who has the capacity to host multi-stakeholder dialogues and represent CSOs in official processes and spaces
- CSOs from Southern countries

### V. Criteria and process for selecting actions to support

The Global Secretariat will issue this Call after it is approved by the Coordination Committee.

Regional Secretariats are expected to:

1. Inform CPDE Country Focal Points and other relevant CSOs at country level about this Call for Proposal
2. Provide additional information and extend assistance, if necessary, to country CSOs in the preparation of their proposals
3. Receive the proposals and process these with the sectoral and sub-regional representatives in their respective region
4. Assess the proposals given the set criteria provided below.
5. Recommend which proposal shall be given support per country.
6. Assist the Global Secretariat in monitoring implementation of activities
7. Take into consideration the country work in their territory to enrich regional initiatives

The proposal will be submitted to the Global and respective Regional Secretariats. A CSO can only send one proposal for the call.

Regional Secretariats will use the point system below for rating proposals that shall be endorsed to the GS:

Criteria	Scale
Appropriateness of planned outputs and activities in the achievement of country action outcomes	1-5
Relevance of the action to the objectives of the call	1-5
Correspondence of the action to the lot chosen	1-5
Capacity of the proponent to carry out the task	1-5
<b>Total score</b>	<b>4-20</b>

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etariats can receive multiple proposals from different proponents from one country, however, only one proposal maybe endorsed for approval. The GS shall coordinate with the leads of respective Working Groups (WG) to ensure alignment and coherence of country actions with global advocacy strategies and plans.

Regional recommendations shall be processed based on the following:

1. Recommendation and score given by the RS to the proposed actions
2. Own assessment of the proposed actions
3. Balance of actions across regions, lots, types of actions and CSO platforms leading
4. Consultation with the respective WG leads

The GS may feedback on the proposal(s) and request a revision of the plan before awarding the grant.

The support will be directly disbursed to the countries, and supervised by the GS in coordination with the RS.

Aside from the intended outputs of the actions, proponents of the actions shall be required to submit narrative and financial reports to the Global Secretariat copy the Regional Secretariat, based on a template to be sent by the GS to successful proponents.

#### **VI. Proposal Format and Implementation Duration.**

The template for the proposal is attached as Annex 4. Actions shall be implemented within the period of **November 2017 to March 2018**.

#### **VII. Timeline**

Steps	Time frame	Units concerned
Release of call for proposal	Wk3, Oct 2017	GS
Deadline for submission of proposals to GS and RS	Wk3, Nov2017	Country CSO
Review and Recommendation of RS to GS	Wk5, Nov2017	RS
Release of List of Awards	Wk2, Dec2017	GS
Contracting	Wk3, Dec2017 onwards	GS
Implementation of country work	Wk1 Jan 2018-wk4, Mar 2018	Proponent
Submission of Narrative and Finance Report	wk4, Apr2018	Proponent

#### **VIII. Submission to Global and Regional Secretariats Concerned**

**All proposals should be submitted on or before 17 November 2017, end of business Manila time.**

The proposals should be addressed to the following:

- 1. Jodel Dacara**  
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[membership@csopartnership.org](mailto:membership@csopartnership.org)
- 2. Marc Adrian Ignacio**  
Grants Administrator  
[mignacio@iboninternational.org](mailto:mignacio@iboninternational.org)
- 3. Respective regional coordinator**

Region	Regional Coordinator	Email Address
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