



## **Innovative projects of Civil Societies and Coalitions of Actors (PISCCA)**

### ***TERMS OF REFERENCE OF CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2019***

The Fund PISCCA " Innovative projects of civil societies and coalitions of actors " (PISCCA) allows the financing of small projects to reduce the poverty and strengthen local actors of development.

PISCCA replaces the Social Development Fund (SDF), which has funded 31 projects in Lebanon since 2004.

The PISCCA is fully in the strategy SHABAKE launched by Expertise France, the French Development Agency (AFD) and the Danish Agency for International Development (DANIDA) to strengthen the Lebanese NGOs response capacity for that 'they become key players in the response to the current Syrian crisis and ensure better sustainability of the actions of local and international actors including promoting a connection with international donors.

### **Purpose of PISCCA**

Backing onto the SHABAKE program, selected NGOs receive direct funding to implement a project aiming the reduction of crisis vulnerabilities. Indeed, PISCCA will contribute to strengthening social and economic stabilization in Lebanon, by supporting civil society and municipalities, which are currently facing a high demand because of the Syrian crisis. This PISCCA 2019 will finance projects targeting both **the Lebanese communities vulnerable hosts and Syrian refugees**, and must necessarily take into account a gender dimension.

This PISCCA 2019 will aim to create **opportunities to improve incomes** of the populations affected by the crisis and provide **better access to basic services** (education, health). It will also aim to **strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations and municipalities**, to ensure the support and sustainability of projects.

The whole project is inclusive and will promote participation in various participatory mechanisms for beneficiary NGOs. Indeed, the participation of NGOs, selected by PISCCA, in the third component of the SHABAKE program will give them the opportunity to reinforce their knowledge of the environment and development aid, to benefit from a better visibility with donors and to bring out common reflections to improve common responses to crises.

## Eligibility criteria

### Lines of intervention

The priority areas of intervention, in line with the priorities set by the Lebanese government, NGOs and international donors, are :

- **Capacity building of civil society actors and local public actors** and capacity building of local authorities to support actions in the long term. Projects implemented should involve municipalities and / or federations of municipalities for, among other things, the identification of needs, the implementation of crisis management plans, and support for the provision of basic services. Municipal staff are also targeted in terms of capacity building through training to acquire the tools needed to sustain the projects ;
- **Support to the structuring of civil society organizations (CSOs) and advocacy** through projects proposing coordination mechanisms between CSOs (national and / or international), CSOs and local public actors at local or national level, and / or between CSOs and economic actors ;
- **Support for economic and rural development** through projects aimed at creating income-generating activities and / or employment opportunities - especially for women and young people, through professional trainings and microfinance in particular.
- **Support for access to basic services**, including education (access to education systems, prevention of school dropout, capacity building for educational staff), health (access to care, prevention of epidemics, primary and secondary health) , medical equipment of a dispensary ), but also to the services of the waste management type.

### Target beneficiaries

- **women, youth and children** , particularly within professional trainings or implementation of micro-projects, depending on local economic needs ;
- **Lebanese host communities and Syrian refugee communities ;**
- **The local authorities staff and civil society organizations** in order to optimize and sustain projects.

### Geographical area

**The localization of the projects can be on all the Lebanese national territory.** These may be qualified areas of " vulnerable ", that is to say the regions with a high poverty rate among the Lebanese communities, defined according to the criteria of the Social and economic fund for development (EFSD) and who have a number of Syrian refugees equal to or greater than the number of Lebanese residents according to the vulnerability criteria defined by the United Nations .

A national dimension of civil society structuring, municipal support and / or advocacy support projects is strongly encouraged.

### Conditions of duration

The duration of the projects will depend on the proposal of each NGO but it cannot exceed 12 months.

### *Other selection criteria*

Priority will be given to projects:

- built on a local approach of development taking into account all the actors of a region (populations, community leaders, municipalities, economic actors) and responding to needs identified **in consultation with these actors** ;
- encouraging dialogue between sects in order to ensure appropriateness of the project and, in an other hand, to ease the growing tensions between Lebanese host populations and Syrian refugees
- supported by associations with a community-based organization and solid knowledge of the situation to ensure the sustainability of actions.

### *Eligibility of applicants*

**This call for projects is open to Lebanese associations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) carrying development projects in Lebanon .**

In order to consolidate the actions, perpetuate them, ensure their adequacy to the needs and to encourage the structuration of the Lebanese civil society, the projects will have to be presented by **consortiums composed of NGOs (one or more)** , national ( in possible association with international NGOs), **local authorities** (municipalities, social development centers of the Ministry of Social Affairs, etc.) and, as far as possible , **economic actors** . The consortium will have to provide a leader, who will necessarily be a Lebanese NGO and who will be the recipient of the funds and responsible for their management.

Candidate organizations must have a legal personality (associations, cooperatives, various groups), acquired according to the rules in force in the lebanese legal order.

Foreign NGOs present in Lebanon are also addressees if they represent a local structure that carries and implements the project. It should be recalled that the NGO must have a legal personality, acquired according to the rules in force in the lebanese legal order.

Applicants must also have the technical and financial skills necessary to conduct the project. In particular, they must be able to demonstrate sufficient and stable project management experience in the same sector and on a comparable scale. An applicant may not submit more than one application under this call for proposals.

### Financial criteria

Subsidies under PISCA will support projects with a minimum amount of 20,000 euros up to 80,000 euros.

PISCCA's contribution to the total project budget should ideally not exceed 70%. For particularly weak beneficiaries and depending on the quality of the justification, this participation may be higher. In any case, it may not exceed 90% of the total amount of the project.

The beneficiary's participation may be :

- A financial contribution on own funds,
- The supply or the provision of land, premises, , materials or equipment necessary for carrying out the project,
- The cost of the labor provided by the beneficiary,

Co-financing by other partners (international organizations, other donors, public or private actors) is strongly encouraged.

Funds of the other partners, however, cannot replace the participation of the beneficiary.

### Eligibility of expenditure

#### **Proposed budgeting structure for projects and nature / choice of expenditure items:**

The project budget should respect - all contributions combined - the following structure:

- A maximum of 25% of management costs (staff costs **when related to the project** , rent, transportation costs related to staff, operational costs of the office / office, etc.) ;
- A maximum of 10% of the total amount of the project allocated to activities relating to micro-infrastructures or the provision of services (which must not relate to humanitarian assistance) or tangible investments (purchase of office equipment, computing, excluding building and real estate rehabilitations and the purchase of vehicles). The projects are intended to finance mainly intangible investments (training, seminars, missions, expertise, studies ...).

Cannot be funded under PISCCA credits, projects that consist largely of any of the following:

- operations of prestige without a defined economic, social or cultural purpose,
- interventions relating only to constructions,
- purchase of land or buildings,
- working capital,
- humanitarian and emergency actions on other financial instruments,
- operation or equipment of administrative services, organizations or private activities, when the financing of these operations is not part of a real development project,
- *ad hoc* actions (scholarships, invitations, expert missions, logistical support)
- human resources.

### **Methods of implementation and monitoring**

Associations will have to be transparent about their management. Self-diagnosis and self-management are therefore key principles of PISCCA that will allow beneficiary NGOs both to better assimilate the capacity building process and to build a strong and independent network of Lebanese NGOs.

The financing will be granted to the project promoters via a subsidy paid in a minimum of two installments in accordance with the provisions established in a financing protocol that will be signed after validation of the project documents with the holders. The payment of installments will be conditioned by the ability of the project promoters to justify their expenses in narrative and financial intermediary reports.

The Cooperation and Cultural Action Department of the French Embassy has planned to associate to allow regular field monitoring of projects.

### **Communication**

Projects must include a communication plan to emphasize the funding provided by the Embassy of France. This communication may concern the following actions : signature of the financing protocol, inauguration, posters, communication on the web page, registration of logos on infrastructure and equipment financed on PISCCA.

<b>Calendar</b>
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The proposals should be sent before Monday, August 26, 2019, by noon Beirut time at the latest, by mail or email to the Cooperation and Cultural Action Department of the French Embassy in Lebanon to the attention of:

- Elisabeth GAY, Cooperation Attaché [elisabeth.gay@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:elisabeth.gay@diplomatie.gouv.fr)

**AND**

- Pierre-Edouard GRANDSIRE, project officer [pierre-edouard.grandsire@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:pierre-edouard.grandsire@diplomatie.gouv.fr) .

Candidates whose file has been pre-selected will be invited to an oral assessment before the selection committee.

Beirut, 2<sup>nd</sup> of August, 2019

## **Constitution of the proposal**

*The application file must follow the model presented below*

### **Identification elements of the project (1 page maximum)**

Project title  
Project leader / coalition of actors  
Location  
Name of contact representing the beneficiary: Mrs or Mr ...  
Name of the project leader (if different from the previous one)  
Recipient's bank details  
Date of presentation of the project  
Amount requested  
Expected period (12 months maximum)

### **Project Terms of Reference ( maximum 2 pages )**

Starting situation (of region or locality, population, target group)  
The major problem that the project intends to solve (justification of the project)  
Identification of beneficiaries (direct and indirect)  
Presentation of the partners, the contributions of each and the partnership

### **Objectives of the proposed project (1 page maximum )**

Main objective of the project  
Specific objectives of the project  
Indicators of project achievement (verifying that the goal has been achieved)

### **Activities and Implementation Strategy (2 pages maximum )**

Description of planned activities  
Implementation Strategy

### **Calendar and Budget (2 pages maximum )**

Planned completion schedule  
Project budget (total and by item/activity)  
Available fundings  
Funding requested on PISCCA (total, by activity and by year if possible)

### **Situation at the end of the project (1 page maximum )**

Expected impacts for beneficiaries (description)  
Assessment of the sustainability of the expected impacts (transfer of skills, institutional strengthening, support for recurrent costs, ownership of the change by the beneficiaries)

### **Beneficiary / Applicant self-declaration(1 page maximum )**

The information given in the form is correct and sincere.

In case of funding granted, the beneficiary undertakes to carry out the planned project, and in particular to contribute to the project as indicated in the form.