



Six projects improving the contribution of civil society organisations to continental decision and policy-making processes in Africa.

Engaging civil society in Pan-African issues

Background

In December 2016, the EU signed six grant contracts for a total amount of € 24 million to support Civil Society participation in Pan-African issues. The initiative is financed under the Pan-African Programme. Following a call for proposals, which had been launched in March 2016, six projects to be carried out in partnership by European and African CSOs, were awarded grants ranging between € 2 million and € 5 million. The projects correspond to four priority themes: Democratic Governance, Human Rights, Peace and Security, Gender Equality and Women Empowerment.

Objectives

The main aim is to support the contribution of civil society organisations (CSOs) to continental policy-making in Africa. The expected results of the projects will be: 1) to increase CSOs' contribution to the implementation of African legal instruments and to make people aware of their rights; and 2) to support CSOs' participation in African continental decision-making, notably through the African Union (AU) and African Regional Economic Communities (RECs). Particular attention is given to the active involvement of young people and to achieving impact at the continental level.

Summary of the projects

- 1) Mobilize civil society support for the implementation of the African Governance Architecture to strengthen CSOs in ensuring that AU member states are more democratic and accountable.
- 2) Support CSOs to use AU mechanisms for human rights protection and promotion and to transition from African human rights standards to practice.
- 3) Enhance the contribution of CSOs and Pan-African Disability Federations to AU decisions, policies and laws.
- 4) Transform borderlands in Africa, tackling human security challenges by strengthening the capacities for cross-border cooperation.
- 5) Women's land rights will improve women's access to and control over their land resources by holding national governments accountable and by building up an evidence base of the gender-based discrimination in land rights.
- 6) The "state of the African woman" campaign will strengthen civil society's contribution to realise and extend women's rights enshrined in AU policies.

Facts and figures

- ❖ Total budget: € 24 million
- ❖ European Commission contribution: € 20 million
- ❖ Duration: 24-36 months
- ❖ Action of the 2015 Annual Action Programme of the Pan-African Programme

Annex- Project descriptions

Project

**Mobilizing Civil Society Support for
Implementation of the African
Governance Architecture**

Coordinator

ActionAid Denmark

Objective

Increase the role of CSOs to ensure that African Union (AU) member states are more democratic and accountable to their citizens in alignment with legal instruments, institutions and processes of the African Governance Architecture (AGA). It is expected that the project will result in 1) increased demand by citizens of AU member states, particularly young women and men, for the implementation of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (ACDEG) by African Governments and 2) increased and coordinated engagement of CSOs, including youth and women's organisations with member states in the SADC, ECOWAS and EAC regions for implementation of AU legal instruments, especially the ACDEG.

Activities

1) Media strategies; journalists training; public awareness raising; community outreach and youth leadership training 2) Capacity development and training for CSOs; strengthening joint planning; development and implementation of an ACDEG citizens' monitoring framework; coordinated CSOs' advocacy campaigns at regional and continental levels based on stakeholders' mapping and Citizen Reports on governments' implementation of the ACDEG.

Target Groups and Countries

Young women and men in AU member states, especially youth leaders in eight focus countries in EAC, SADC and ECOWAS regions: Ghana, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. CSOs promoting democracy and human rights and journalists in targeted countries.

Partners

ActionAid (UK) as well as country offices in different countries (Ghana, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda), Centre for Coordination of Youth Activities (CCYA), East African Civil Society organisations' Forum (EACSOF), Mass Public Opinion Institute (MPOI), Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA), Southern African Development Community Council of Non-Governmental Organisations (SADC-CNGO), West African Civil Society Forum (WACSOF).

Total cost of the project: € 6.1 million

European Commission contribution: € 5 million

Project

Consolidating civil society's role in the transition from African human rights standards to practice

Coordinator

**International Commission of Jurists-
European Institutions**

Objective

Consolidate civil society's role in facilitating the transition from human rights standards into human rights practice through Africa-wide interventions. 1) Strengthen and increase the ability of CSOs to use AU mechanisms for human rights protection and promotion. 2) Increase citizen awareness of AU human rights mechanisms for implementation and compliance at both national and community level. 3) Strengthen national and regional responses to displaced persons and other vulnerable populations.

Activities

Training for civil society organization and adjudicatory authorities, journalists and lawyers, on the use of AU and regional human rights mechanisms; Support to the submission of cases before African Commission and or African Committee of Experts; Support in preparing and making oral statements and public submissions; Provision of information on African human rights mechanisms to CSOs, civil society activists, legal practitioners and marginalised groups; Launch of fact finding missions; Report on the annual human rights situation in Africa; Ensure African Commission Special Mechanisms and Country Rapporteurs receive current and useful information from CSOs; Advocacy for the adoption and use of model law on IDPs.

Target Groups and Countries

Civil society organisations, youth and women's rights organisations, national human rights institutions, human rights defenders (HRDs), refugees, internally displaced persons, media, academia, research institutions and AU human rights institutions. The focus will be on countries that have been remiss in reporting or where there have been severe human rights violations.

Partners

The International Commission of Jurists (Kenya Section), the African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies (ACDHRS) and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC).

Total cost of the project: € 3.3 million

European Commission contribution: € 3 million

Project

**Alliances for Rights – Africa towards
Disability Inclusion**

Coordinator

**Christoffel – Blindenmission
Deutschland e.V. (CBM)**

Objective

Support CSO's increased participation and contribution to African continental decision- and policy making. CSOs and Pan-African Disability Organisations promote the importance of Disability Rights in the AU's African Disability Protocol (ADP) and the Model Disability Law (MDL).

Activities

1) Conference and coordination meetings with Disabled Persons Organisations (DPO) and CSOs; Good practice documentation and training in advocacy and campaigning. 2) Training of DPOs, youth CSOs, the African Commission on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR) and the AU Court to use the AU legal architecture, on ADP provisions and their application and monitoring compliance. 3) Advocacy, public awareness and media campaign targeting ministers, CSOs, Pan-African networks of journalists. Establishment of an expert network. 4) Study on existing disability laws and workshop on continental disability legislation with AU and EU, PADFs and youth CSOs. Development of effective advocacy and civil society monitoring tools. Development of a draft AU Model Disability Law. 5) Development of disability mainstreaming & accessibility toolkits. Training for PADFs, Youth CSOs, ACHPR, AUC and PAP on disability mainstreaming and accessibility.

Target Groups and Countries

13 Pan-African Disability Federations (PADFs) representing organisations from about 50 countries in Africa and 14 Youth CSOs (from Congo, Ethiopia, Egypt, Gambia and Rwanda). AUC, ACHPR, Pan-African Parliament (PAP), African Court of Justice and Human Rights. The project will focus on the following countries: Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania and South Africa.

Partners

Africa Disability Alliance (ADA)

Total cost of the project: € 3.2 million

European Commission contribution: € 2.4 million

Project

Improving policies for conflict prevention: Civil society engagement to transform borderlands in Africa

Coordinator

Life & Peace Institute (LPI)

Objective

Increase the participation and contribution of civil society organisations (CSOs) to ensure continental and regional policies on cross-border cooperation in Africa are responsive to the human security priorities of borderland communities. Strengthen the capacities, collaborative relationships and influence of CSOs in order to infuse compelling evidence into regional and continental decision-making processes on cross-border cooperation and tackling borderland human security challenges.

Activities

1) Capacity Building of CSOs in conflict analysis, regional and continental institutions, advocacy, communications and organizational development to engage in regional and continental policy discussions in general and actions in relation to cross-border collaboration in particular. 2) Collaboration via a platform of engaged CSOs; facilitation of knowledge-sharing, joint analyses and coordinated advocacy planning. 3) Communication and awareness-raising using traditional and new (social) media as a vehicle to further raise awareness on the human security needs of borderland communities and regional and continental policy, to create an evidence-based, participatory civil society engagement, increased visibility for issues of borderland human security, cross-border cooperation and the Niamey convention. 4) Evidence-based policy dialogue, support civil society participation and engagement in policy-processes on CBC at the national, regional and continental levels, using proven and diverse policy engagement strategies.

Target Groups and Countries

25 CSOs involved in cross-border work; young African technological experts and innovators from rising urban technology hubs in Nairobi, Kampala and Addis. Three cross-border areas: Moyale area (Ethiopia-Kenya), Kassala- Gash Barka area (Sudan-Eritrea) and Busia (Uganda-Kenya).

Partners

Act Change Transform (Act!), the Eastern African Sub-Regional Support Initiative for the Advancement of Women (EASSI) and InterAfrica Group (IAG).

Total cost of the project: € 3 million

European Commission contribution: € 2.7 million

Project

**Women's Land Rights for Inclusive
Development and Growth in Africa**

Coordinator

Oxfam Novib

Objective

Ensure women's access to and control over their land resources across Africa - supporting and enabling rural women's voices. 1) Monitor actions taken by governments in key countries and Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and hold them accountable to implement relevant AU Women's Land Rights (WLR) instruments. 2) Empower rural women's organizations to analyse, document and disseminate evidence on pronounced cases of missing WLR and action against the discriminatory land tenure systems and threats originating from large-scale land-based investments (LSLBIs). 3) Promote recognition of Pan-African civil society for its leadership, knowledge and effective advocacy capacity on women's land rights.

Activities

1) Design checklists/scorecards and trainings for monitoring the application of AU WLR instruments, laws and policies; surveys to identify the status of implementation of AU WLR instruments. 2) Assemble WLR evidence studies of cases of women losing out on land rights and suggest possible solutions. Produce and disseminate national reports, communication and advocacy material. 3) Train and accompany Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) on transformative leadership, advocacy skills and in strategic advocacy campaigns, enabling them to: (a) push for better implementation of the WLR instruments, laws and policies, and (b) institutionalize land tenure reforms and LSLBI impact mitigation.

Target Groups and Countries

CSOs, governments, RECs, AU, private investors and rural women themselves, in Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Togo and Tunisia.

Partners

Plate-forme sous Régionale des Organisations Paysannes d'Afrique Centrale – Regional Platform of Farmers' Organizations in Central Africa (PROPAC), Oxfam International and University of the Western Cape.

Total cost of the project: € 3 million

European Commission contribution: € 2.2 million

Project

State of the African Woman Campaign

Coordinator

International Planned Parenthood Federation, Africa Region (IPPF AR)

Objective

Contribute to securing, realizing and extending women's rights enshrined in African Union policies by promoting the implementation of the AU Protocol on the Rights of Women (Maputo Protocol) and the Maputo Plan of Action. The project will particularly seek to 1) influence legal and social norms on women's rights through greater transparency and public pressure on duty bearers and 2) hold decision makers to account for their policy commitments on women's rights through a stronger civil society voice and meaningful participation in decision making.

Activities

Knowledge creation will include evidence-based reports and case studies on the status of African Women's Rights. The awareness creation component will identify, train and support multipliers (youth, media, Members of Parliament, African First ladies) with information packages and social media, and will be based on a perception audit and communication strategy. The capacity building component includes organisational assessments, trainings and technical assistance based on CSOs' needs. It will be accompanied by regional forums, South-South and North-South exchanges to share good practices and feed into policy discussions within the framework of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy. The advocacy component will involve advocacy activities with AU and RECs, targeted technical assistance to continental decision makers, based on a policy tracking tool.

Target Groups and Countries

Women and youth with a focus on girls in African countries, as well as CSOs, faith organisations and youth serving organisations, parliamentarians, first ladies, journalists, religious leaders and youth leaders in 42 African countries.

Partners

International Planned Parenthood Federation, European Network (IPPF EN), Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung (DSW), Koninklijk Instituut voor de Tropen Vereniging (KIT), Faith to Action Network (F2A), Young Women's Christian Association of Kenya (YWCA).

Total cost of the project: € 5.2 million

European Commission contribution: € 4.7 million