

CHALLENGING INEQUALITIES PROGRAMME - CALL FOR PROPOSALS

DEADLINE: 13 MARCH 2024 (23:59 CET)

CALLING ALL DEDICATED CHANGE MAKERS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN!

If you are a grass root community-based organisation within the countries of **Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine or Tunisia** that has a passion and a willingness to pioneer solutions to address inequalities within local communities, actively engage with community members to meet their needs, incorporate community input into the planning process, and champion the cause of social inclusion, then this announcement is tailored specifically for you.

We are pleased to introduce the Challenging Inequalities Programme, funded by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation. At its core, this programme is driven by a particular overarching objective: the work towards social inclusion across the 8 Southern Mediterranean countries.

This call signals the launch of an exciting opportunity, aimed at motivating and **empowering active community based entities**, like yours, **fostering collaboration among them**, and with the ultimate aim of enhancing their capacity to make substantial contributions to their respective communities.

Our focus is centred on **fostering more inclusive local civil societies** as agents for development. We place a focus on **promoting social cohesion and addressing inequalities**, with a particular focus on **youth, gender equality, green transition, environment and water and employment and creation of opportunities**.

At the same time, fostering the formation of a cohesive network of local development actors who stand united in pursuit of sustainable development goals. This call signifies a powerful vehicle for meaningful change and the advancement of shared aspirations.

THE PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATIONS WILL BENEFIT FROM

- A **technical assistance comprehensive programme**, composed of online and in-person training workshops tailored and customized to cater to the specific needs and unique characteristics of each participating organisation within the programme. Through this tailored approach, organisations will maximize their potential, foster growth, and achieve their goals with precision, all while benefiting from a rich and collaborative learning experience that adapts seamlessly to their individual requirements.
- A **network with a number of CBOs from eight different countries**, establishing strong ties and sharing a profound dedication to addressing inequalities and promoting the ideals of social inclusion and cohesion.
- Access **financial support up to 10.000 euro** for Community-Based Actions, there is no obligation for co-financing or in-kind contributions; our support is wholeheartedly provided.
- **Community-Based Actions** that generate the most impactful transformations and spark the most significant change will be prominently showcased on various platforms associated with the Anna Lindh Foundation, gaining international recognition.

YOUR MISSION: TO EMPOWER YOUR COMMUNITY AND BE AN AGENT FOR TRANSFORMATION!

JOIN THE CHANGE AND PLEDGE TO:

- Engage in information and training sessions, demonstrate your enthusiasm for learning. Attend and actively participate in enlightening sessions designed to enhance your skills and knowledge.



- Design and implement inspirational Community-Based Actions, take an active role in bringing your innovative ideas to life by getting involved and taking charge. Step up as a leader and make real, positive changes within your communities.
- Lead the way in the knowledge revolution and play a crucial role in shaping the future of social inclusion with your invaluable contributions. Become an essential component of a dynamic knowledge-sharing system that sparks the learning process, driving this programme forward.

IT'S NOT JUST A COMMITMENT; IT'S A JOURNEY OF GROWTH AND CHANGE!

Programme priorities and prospects in community-based actions

The Challenging Inequalities' overall objective is promoting social inclusion in eight Southern to reach development goals and contribute to poverty eradication in the following priority areas:

- **Youth**
- **Gender equality**
- **Green transition, environment and water**
- **Employment and creation of opportunities**

PROGRAMME PHASING

The programme will be implemented over 4 phases:

1. Selection

This phase will identify grass root Community based Organisations (CBOs) from the 8 countries to benefit from the intervention and capacity building around the concepts of social inclusion and fight against inequalities.

- Community based Organisations (CBOs) are invited to submit outlines proposals, adhering to the priorities detailed above.
- Out of the submissions received, the best (up to 50) proposals will be pre-selected to participate in an induction online session that will dive into the key aspects of project development. Following this session, these pre-selected organisations will have the opportunity to refine and enhance their outline proposals.
- Upon an initial evaluation of these draft proposals, a group of 32 CBOs will be shortlisted to attend a comprehensive online training programme, which will be distributed over time to reach two full days of dedication.
- Following this training, CBOs will be tasked with submitting their final community-based proposals. A careful final screening process will then determine which of them will advance to the next phase, securing funding for implementation.

2. Empowerment and action planning

During this dynamic phase, our selected CBOs will:

- **Boost their capacity:** Experience an enriched training programme that explore deeper into development goals, strategies for social inclusion, and the fight against discrimination and intolerance. We prioritize active involvement of both youth and women, ensuring their substantial participation.
- **Exchange knowledge in Spain:** Receive an enriching face-to-face training opportunity in Spain and engage in in-depth discussions about the components of the winning proposals, with a keen focus on practical execution and methods for measuring impact and networking with peer beneficiary organisations.

This phase is all about empowerment, knowledge, and taking tangible steps toward making a difference in your community. Get ready to unlock your organisation 's full potential!



3. Community based actions implementation

This phase aims at empowering the selected CBOs through guidance, technical assistance, and networking to implement the actions at the local level and share experiences at the regional level.

- Financial support: Receive of up to 10.000 euro of financial support to bring your vision to life through the implementation of the proposed community-based actions.
- The CBOs will benefit from ongoing **technical assistance** during the implementation phase of the community-based actions.

The **technical assistance** is a strategic and tailored support system aimed at enhancing the grass root organisation 's capabilities, effectiveness, and impact in pursuing its mission and serving its community. It encompasses a wide range of services and expertise provided by experienced professionals in areas such as programme development, capacity building, governance, and resource mobilization. This assistance begins with a thorough needs assessment to identify the grass root CBO's specific challenges and gaps, enabling the development of a customized plan to address these issues effectively.

This empowers the organisation to manage its programmes efficiently, engage in effective implementation, and maintain strong technical performance.

- The CBOs will attend an online mid-term guidance seminar with a purpose of making a proactive analysis of the community-based actions to jointly overcome potential difficulties and sharing lessons learnt and promote networking.

4. Drawing Conclusions and harnessing knowledge

This phase capitalises on the knowledge generated throughout the different phases of the programme and the community-based actions and gathers the methodologies applied, the good practices identified, lessons learned and conclusions. Here's a closer look at what this phase entails:

- Face-to-Face Seminar in Spain: To facilitate sharing of experiences and insights, representatives from the 32 CBOs will come together for a stimulating projects' conclusion seminar. This gathering aims to discuss the challenges encountered and the innovative solutions that were devised. Moreover, it provides a platform for conducting a comprehensive evaluation of the overall impact of the intervention and the experiences of other organisations in the same field.
- Developing a practical guide that effectively captures the knowledge and impact of the Community based Actions implementation and processes. The guide will be developed through systematically gathering insights, data, and experiences from the implementing CBOs, assessing the process's outcomes, and distilling this information into a user-friendly format, to serve as a valuable reference tool, enabling related stakeholders understand the key findings, actionable recommendations, learn from successes and challenges, and make informed decisions moving forward.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Organisations submitting their application through this call must be:

- Registered as legal entities and working at the following countries: Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine
- Active for the past two years
- Applicant organisations must have good track record of community engagement, advocacy and social cohesion and dialogue
- Able to develop a proposal for a community-based action to be implemented at the local level

Selection criteria

1. Pre-selection of the best –up to 50- community-based outlines proposals against the eligibility criteria indicated above, and a set of pre-established criteria such as:



- Organisation background
- Context and problem analysis
- Proposed activities and social inclusion approach
- Target beneficiaries and potential partnerships

Applications which are incomplete and those not promoting social cohesion or addressing inequalities related to the priorities of the programme detailed above will be discarded.

2. Pre-selection of the best 32 community-based drafts proposals submitted after attending the online orientation session against the following criteria:

- In-depth analysis of the main problem that will be addressed
- Impact of the proposed action on the community
- Methodology on community engagement
- Tools in planning, implementation and evaluation

3. Selection of the best 16 final community-based proposals submitted after attending the two days online training, against the following criteria:

- Alignment with social inclusion priorities of the program
- Clearly defining the target population and communities
- Innovation, creativity and sustainability
- Clear implementation plan: realistic goals, objectives and timelines
- Technical and financial feasibility: well defined budget and a realistic assessment of resources
- Monitoring and evaluation plan that assess the progress and impact
- Tools and mechanisms to capture and document the impact and the learning outcome generated

BACKGROUND

The **Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation, AECID** (<https://www.aecid.es/en/>), is a state agency, responsible for the promotion, programming, operational coordination, management and execution of public policies of Spanish cooperation for sustainable development, humanitarian action and education for sustainable development and global citizenship. AECID, together with its partners, works in more than 30 countries through its network of Spanish Cooperation Offices.

The **Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures, ALF**, (<https://www.annalindhfoundation.org>), created in 2005 as an international intergovernmental organisation based in Alexandria. The Foundation, inspired by Anna Lindh's legacy, is committed to fostering intercultural dialogue within its mission of nurturing inclusive societies where diversity is celebrated and everyone's voice is valued. By promoting peace, justice, and strong partnerships, the Foundation strives to create a world where people from diverse backgrounds live in harmony through open and meaningful intercultural exchanges.

ALF brings together organisations, institutions, policy makers, and other change makers from all Euro-Med countries to open a dialogue and cooperate. People meet, learn, and collaborate, through the Foundation's different projects and initiatives in different fields to empower them to create a chain of positive change that touches more lives and communities. Its action grounds on the two main bodies of the Foundation: It's Civil National Networks with more than 4,500 members and the 42 Members States of its Board of Governors.

How to apply

Interested organisations can submit their community based outline proposals **in Arabic, English or French** via the available [online form only](#) **before March 13, 2024 23.59 Central European Time, CET.**



Only complete applications, meeting the eligibility criteria and submitted before the deadline will be considered. **Artificial intelligence, AI-generated proposals will be automatically rejected.**

Please note that it is not possible to save the application as a draft or to make any changes after submitting it. At the close of the call, the most recently submitted version of the application will be processed. The same organisation cannot submit more than one proposal under this call.

Due to the high volume of expected applications, responses to individual requests will not be provided. Only pre-screened candidates will be contacted.

In case of technical problems or questions related to the call, please send questions to: challenginginequalities@annalindhfoundation.org

Indicative timeline

31/01/24	Launch of the call
21/02/24	Informative session for interested CBO (see details on the ALF' website)
13/03/24	Deadline to submit community-based outline proposals
27/03/24	Communication pre-selected outlines
03/04/24	Online induction session (see details on the ALF' website)
17/04/24	Deadline to submit draft proposals
02/05/24	Communication pre-selected draft proposals
May	Online trainings
11/06/24	Deadline to submit final proposals
25/06/24	Communication selected final proposals
09-12/07/24	Face-to-face training in Spain
08/2024 –02/2025	Implementation of community based actions
October 2024	Mid-term online guidance seminar
March 2025	Face-to-face evaluation and conclusions seminar



Application form

About the organisation:

Name of the organisation (as per the registration certificate):

Establishment year: (drop down menu)

Country: Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine

Organisation contact details (E-mail Address, Mobile Number)

Responsible person for this call:

Responsible person's position in the organisation:

Responsible person's email address:

Responsible person's direct phone number with international country codes:

Is your organisation a member of one of the ALF National Civil Society Networks? Yes/No

If yes, please paste your profile link on the ALF corporate website

If no, have you submitted an application to become an ALF member? Yes/No when?

(Please note that membership is offered free of charge)

About the community based proposal:

Main theme of the community-based proposal (drop down menu)

Youth

Gender equality

Green transition, environment and water

Employment and creation of opportunities

Title of the community-based proposal

Specific implementation location

Organisation background (20%)

Please, detail the experience of your organisation promoting social cohesion and addressing inequalities

Context and problem analysis (15%)

Please describe the situation, needs and challenges in the local community

Proposed activities (25%)

Please detail the activities that you intend to carry out to address the local needs/challenges identified

Social inclusion approach (25%)

Please explain how does your proposal will actively promote social inclusion

Target beneficiaries (10%)

Please elaborate on the population that will benefit from your proposal

Partnerships (5%)

Please provide the names of potential partners you may work with

Where did you hear about this call?

By participating in this call the applicant accepts the provisions of the ALF regarding patents, privacy and intellectual property, the protection of personal data

Subscribe me to the ALF monthly Newsletter to stay updated about new opportunities

