



ANNEX I

Action Document for "Support to in-country civil society actors in conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness"

INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL GRANT APPLICANTS

WORK PROGRAMME FOR GRANTS

This document constitutes the work programme for grants within the meaning of Article 128(1) of the Financial Regulation (Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012) in the following sections concerning calls for proposals: 5.4.1.

1. Title/basic act/ CRIS number	Support to in-country civil society actors in conflict prevention, crisis preparedness and peace-building, financed under the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP). CRIS number: 2018/41357	
2. Zone benefiting from the action/location	Indicative list of regions and countries: Central Asia, South East Asia, Horn of Africa, Haiti, West Africa. Geographical areas will be specified by the Foreign Policy Instruments service (FPI) regional teams in close cooperation with EU Delegations where projects will be funded under this Action.	
3. Programming document	Thematic Strategy Paper 2014-2020 and accompanying Multiannual indicative Programme 2018-2020 of the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace ¹ .	
4. Sector of concentration/ thematic area	Priorities (a), (b) and (d) under Art. 4.1 of IcSP Regulation: (a) promoting early warning and conflict-sensitive risk analysis in the policy-making and the implementation of policy; b) facilitating and building capacity in confidence-building,	DEV. Aid: YES ²

¹ Decision C(2014) 5607 (http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/fpi/key-documents/index_en.htm)

² Official Development Aid is administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as its main objective.

	mediation, dialogue and reconciliation, with particular regard to emerging inter-community tensions; d) improving post-conflict recovery as well as post-disaster recovery with relevance to the political and security situation; e) curbing the use of natural resources to finance conflicts, and supporting compliance by stakeholders with initiatives such as the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, especially as regards the implementation of efficient domestic controls over the production of, and trade in, natural resources.			
5. Amounts concerned	<p>Total estimated cost: EUR 13,000,000</p> <p>Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 12,000,000</p> <p>This action is indicatively co-financed by potential grant beneficiaries for an indicative amount of EUR 1,000,000.</p>			
6. Aid modality(ies) and implementation modality(ies)	<p>Project Modality</p> <p>Direct management – grants – call for proposal</p> <p>Direct management – Procurement</p>			
7 a) DAC code(s)	15220 - Civilian peace building, conflict prevention and resolution			
b) Main Delivery Channel	<p>21000 International non-governmental organisations (NGO)</p> <p>23000 Developing country-based NGO</p>			
8. Markers (from CRIS DAC form)	General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
	Aid to environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality (including Women In Development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Trade Development	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
	Biological diversity	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Climate change adaptation	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) thematic flagships	N/A			
10. SDGs	SDG 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.			

SUMMARY The proposed action aims to continue supporting in-country civil society actors globally in their endeavours to prevent conflicts, respond to crises and build peace. Through Calls for Proposals managed by FPI regional teams (Bangkok, Beirut, Brazil, Dakar and Nairobi) in close cooperation with EU Delegations, it is envisaged to support actions implemented by in-country civil society actors to strengthen their institutional, operational and networking capacity in 4 priority areas relating to both long-term and short-term conflict prevention and peacebuilding activity: Preventing Violent Extremism; Strengthening the engagement of civil society organisations (CSOs) in the security sector; Land-related conflicts; Mediation, dialogue and confidence-building measures.

1 CONTEXT

1.1 Sector/Country/Regional context/Thematic area

1.1.1 Public Policy Assessment and EU Policy Framework

Taking into consideration that root causes driving violent conflicts are often very context-specific and should be addressed in a long-term perspective, it is crucial to support in-country civil society actors in their efforts to build peace and prevent violent conflicts. This helps vulnerable communities be better prepared for managing and defusing tensions and potential triggers for conflicts, including stability and security issues that may arise after a natural or man-made disaster. In this respect, since 2010, constant support has been provided to actions aiming at strengthening capacities of in-country civil society actors through the crisis preparedness component of the Instrument for Stability (IfS) replaced as of 2014 by the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (Article 4).

By targeting specifically in-country civil society actors, this Action is aligned with the general recommendation provided for in the 2014-2020 Strategy Paper³ under Article 4 measures, whereby due attention should be given to contribute to building in-country capacities (particularly of civil society actors). It is also aligned with, and contributes to the implementation of 'the Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign And Security Policy' which calls for stronger and deeper engagement with civil society organisations in order to strengthen societal resilience and nurture positive change in contexts affected by conflict, fragility and weak governance.

³Commission Implementing Decision C(2014)5607 final of 11 August 2014 adopting the Thematic Strategy Paper 2014-2020 and accompanying Multiannual indicative Programme 2014-2017 of the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace

Under this Action, it is proposed to continue engaging with in-country actors via locally managed calls for proposals for civil society-led actions on thematic and/or transversal issues, as already done under the 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 Annual Action Programmes⁴. Under these eight rounds of locally managed calls for proposals, FPI regional teams and EU Delegations across five continents have or will have supported civil society in the fields of: mediation, dialogue, transitional justice and reconciliation; media and conflict; accountability and civilian oversight; Women, Peace and Security; children, youth and conflict, fragility and human security; Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR); Natural Resources and Conflicts; Security Sector Reform; Prevention of Violent Extremism; Prevention of Electoral Violence. The Annual Action Programme for 2018 identifies four priority areas as indicated in section 4.2.

1.1.2 Stakeholder analysis

The main stakeholders are on the one hand: international and national civil society organisations as direct beneficiaries which will receive EU funding; and on the other hand: national and local civil society actors, national and local authorities, conflict-affected communities, community structures including a range of actors such as media, traditional leaders, local governments, trade, youth and women's associations, private sector organizations, cultural operators (both formal and informal) as well as community individuals and in particular conflict-affected women and youth involved directly or indirectly in projects funded under this Action.

1.1.3 Priority areas for support/problem analysis

Support to in-country civil society actors under the AAP 2018 will focus on the following four priority areas which are critical threats to or foundations of conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness:

1) Preventing Violent Extremism:

The threat posed by groups promoting violent narratives and solutions is ever pressing throughout the world. It is putting countries and societies at risk of conflict notably by reinforcing divisions among groups, by undermining the social contract between citizens and their state and by marginalising the forces of positive and constructive change. Responding effectively to the multi-faceted threats posed by violent extremist and terrorist groups requires comprehensive approaches and the engagement of all relevant actors, including civil society. Through this Action, support will be directed to civil society initiatives aiming to strengthen social cohesion and the resilience of communities to the appeal of violent extremism, including through the empowerment of women and youth groups.

2) Strengthening the engagement of CSOs in the security sector:

A responsive security sector providing and guaranteeing security for the people is a critical foundation of sustainable peace. Support to Security Sector Reform (SSR) processes is one of the main EU contribution to building peace and preventing conflict. While SSR efforts focus mostly on state actors, law enforcement authorities and other statutory security forces, the recently adopted *EU-wide strategic framework to support*

⁴ Previous Annual Action Programmes are available on the following link: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/fpi/key-documents/index_en.htm

security sector reform calls for a broader engagement and involve all stakeholders, including non-state and civil society actors. Through this Action civil society will be supported to engage in Security Sector Reform processes in order to make them more participatory, locally owned and people-focused. Beyond the frameworks of formal SSR processes, we will also provide support to civil society organisations who are taking actions to address security challenges and enhance human security.

3) Land-related conflicts:

From violent clashes between farmers and pastoralists over access to grazing land to indigenous communities contesting land acquisition and land grabbing by economic actors, through to tensions resulting from land degradation or informal settlements, unequal access to land and lack of good governance over land issues are major drivers of conflicts globally. Land related grievances often provide a breeding ground for deeper social and inter-ethnic divisions and can jeopardise efforts to prevent conflicts and build sustainable peace. Through this Action, support will be directed to initiatives aiming to strengthen the in-country capacities to tackle land related conflicts in a constructive, inclusive and non-violent manner.

4) Mediation, dialogue and confidence building measures:

Tackling and resolving conflicts require opening spaces for mediation, dialogue and confidence-building between parties and across societies. Such initiatives are crucial to prevent an escalation of tensions or outbreak of violence, to initiate, consolidate or deepen a peace or transition process. Mediation, dialogue and confidence building measures are necessary at all levels, including across societies and communities, to ensure that a transition out of conflicts reflects and draws upon needs and expectations of all groups. Through this Action, civil society organisations will be supported to undertake mediation, dialogue and confidence building measures and to promote non-violent and constructive forms of engagement to tackle conflict and build peace.

In all these four areas of priority Women, Peace and Security considerations will be included and addressed, together with issues related to youth.

2 RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

Risks	Risk level (H/M/L)	Mitigating measures
Lack of a reasonable pool of local civil society actors working on peace-building and conflict prevention issues and capable of effectively implementing projects.	L	Partnership between international and local civil society actors in-country should be actively encouraged.
High levels of instability and lack of security lead to an excessive concentration of projects in safer areas, leaving large parts of a country behind.	L	FPI regional teams, in close cooperation with EU Delegations, may decide, based on a proper risk and cost effectiveness analysis, to indicate specific areas as targeted locations of the actions to be funded.

Deterioration of crisis contexts within selected countries/regions making it impossible or extremely dangerous for implementing partners and final beneficiaries to conduct or take part in the planned activities.	L	FPI regional teams, in close cooperation with EU Delegations, will maintain regular contacts with and ensure that implementing partners put in place adequate security measures adapted to the level of identified risk.
Assumptions		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling political climate leaves enough space and opportunity at country level for civil society actors to engage on conflict prevention and peace-building; • Sufficient interest and capacity within FPI regional teams and EU Delegations to effectively manage Call for Proposals and monitor projects; • Sufficient response from civil society actors in the thematic areas envisaged under this Action: Preventing Violent Extremism; Strengthening the engagement of CSOs in the security sector; Land-related conflicts; Mediation, dialogue and confidence building measures. 		

3 LESSONS LEARNT, COMPLEMENTARITY AND CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

3.1 Lessons learnt

Drawing upon the experience of the previous eight programmes of action under the IfS and IcSP supporting in-country civil society actors to prevent and respond to crisis, and based upon recommendations of the 2014 evaluation of the IfS crisis preparedness component⁵ and those of the 2017 mid-term evaluation of the IcSP, as well as regular exchanges with FPI regional teams and EU Delegations, and annual consultations on the IcSP article 4, the key lessons learnt for this Action are the following:

- Over the past 8 years, tangible results at grassroots level have been achieved through structural support to civil society actors (both international and national). In this regard the former have proven themselves effective in articulating responses to identified local peace-building and conflict prevention needs;
- IcSP support for civil society actors under the article 4 constitutes a unique and flexible tool to support civil society led initiatives in the fields of conflict prevention and peace-building globally and in different types of conflict-affected and transition contexts;
- Sub-delegating the management of Calls for Proposals and grant contracts to FPI regional teams, in close cooperation with EU Delegations, is the most effective management mode for this kind of action, allowing greater local/regional focus, increased cooperation with in-country civil society actors and closer monitoring and follow-up of projects;

3.2 Complementarity, synergy and donor coordination

Subsidiarity and complementarity with other geographic or thematic interventions at country level will be ensured by the respective FPI regional teams, in close cooperation with EU

⁵ http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/fpi/documents/pbp_evaluation_2014_report_en.pdf

Delegations, in charge of identifying and selecting projects to be funded under this action.⁶ The FPI regional teams, in close cooperation with EU Delegations, will also ensure complementarity and cross-fertilisation with other relevant activities under implementation at country level and in particular those funded by the EU (for example, under the Development Cooperation Instrument⁷ Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities, Global Public Goods and Challenges and Pan-African Programmes, under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights⁸, under the African Peace Facility and under the IcSP Articles 3 and 5). Full coordination with EU Country Road Maps for engagement with civil society, in selected countries, will be undertaken by the FPI regional teams, in close cooperation with EU Delegations, selected to implement the action.

3.3 Cross-cutting issues

In line with Article 2 (4) of the IcSP Regulation, the following cross-cutting issues will be considered in the selection of interventions: the promotion of democracy, good governance and human rights and humanitarian law, including women rights and security, the rights of indigenous peoples; non-discrimination; cultural and religious diversity; intercultural dialogue; gender equality and women's empowerment; conflict sensitivity, environmental challenges and climate change.

4 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

4.1 Objectives/results

The overall objective of this Action is to support (sub-)national and regional initiatives in countries affected by/or emerging from conflict or whose peace and stability is at risk and build sustainable, in-country capacities for effective conflict management and peace-building.

The selected initiatives should contribute to create, restore or consolidate appropriate ways, tools and mechanisms at local, national and regional level to prevent conflicts and contribute to durable peace.

The Action aims to achieve the following results:

- a) Strengthened institutional and operational capacity of civil society actors with regards to the four priority areas mentioned below;
- b) Improved in-country civil society actors networking and advocacy skills, including increased civil society involvement in the four thematic areas relating to both long-term and short-term conflict prevention and peace-building;
- c) Established or enhanced cooperation between civil society actors and local, national, regional or international institutions on subjects related to the four priority areas.

This programme is relevant for the Agenda 2030. It contributes primarily to the progressive achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) but

⁶In accordance with Article 2(5) of the IcSP Regulation, activities falling within the scope of Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/96 and Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council which are eligible for funding under those acts shall not be funded under this Regulation.

⁷ Development Cooperation Instrument, Regulation (EU) No 233/2014

⁸ European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights, Regulation (EU) No 235/2014

also promotes progress towards Goal 5 (Gender equality). This does not imply a commitment by the countries benefiting from this programme.

4.2 Main activities

1. Preventing Violent Extremism:

Violent extremism undermines our collective efforts towards maintaining peace and security, fostering sustainable development, protecting human rights, promoting the rule of law and taking humanitarian action. Responding effectively to the multi-faceted threats posed by violent extremist and terrorist groups requires comprehensive approaches and the engagement of all relevant actors, including civil society.

Through this Action, it is proposed to support and empower civil society initiatives aiming to:

- a) Strengthen social cohesion and the resilience of communities to the appeal of violent extremism, promote tolerance and dialogue to settle differences and address grievances;
- b) Prevent youth from joining violent movements and armed groups, and actions aimed at rehabilitating and reintegrating former combatants associated with violent extremist groups.

The following activities, inter alia, could be envisaged:

- Research activities, including through participatory methodologies, aiming to analyse and understand the dynamics, including gender norms, attitudes and perceptions, underpinning violent extremism which are specific to each context, as well as early warning mechanisms aiming to detect vulnerabilities and risks of radicalisation and violent extremism;
- Enhanced participation into decision-making through advocacy towards, and partnerships with, national level authorities and the security and justice sectors, as well as other relevant national, regional and international stakeholders on the design and implementation of conflict-sensitive policy frameworks, strategies and action plans to prevent violent extremism;
- Dialogue and confidence building measures, including through art, culture and sport activities aiming to promote understanding, tolerance and social cohesion across various social, political or religious divides;
- Media and strategic communication actions aiming to promote media literacy, critical thinking against hate speech and propaganda, tolerance and non-violence, to challenge the narratives associated with violent extremism in gender and conflict-sensitive manners;
- Formal and informal peace education actions targeting youth and their communities and aimed at providing young people with alternative models to violence, life-skills education, promoting a culture of peace, intercultural dialogue and cooperation, respect for diversity and tolerance, including cultural diversity, strengthening their skills in mediation, negotiation, conflict resolution, consensus building, positive social norms etc;
- Community level engagement through processes like confidence-building, dialogue, community policing, capacity building and initiatives aiming to detect, prevent,

protect individuals from radicalisation and joining violent extremist groups or initiatives to accompany individuals and communities in the reintegration and rehabilitation of former members of extremist groups.

- Lessons learning and stock taking initiatives aiming to share good practices and experiences among practitioners so as to improve respective and joined up work at all level;

2. Strengthening the engagement of CSOs in the security sector:

A responsive security sector providing and guaranteeing security for the people is a critical foundation of sustainable peace. Support to Security Sector Reform processes is one of the main EU contribution to building peace and preventing conflict. While SSR efforts focus mostly on state actors, law enforcement authorities and other statutory security forces, the recently adopted EU-wide strategic framework to support security sector reform calls for a broader engagement that involves all stakeholders, including non-state and civil society actors. Through this Action civil society will be supported to engage in Security Sector Reform processes in order to make them more participatory, locally owned and people-focused. Beyond the frameworks of formal SSR processes, we will also provide support to civil society organisations who are taking actions to address security challenges and enhance human security.

Through this Action, it is proposed to support and empower civil society organisations to:

- a) Take part in, inform and support the design and implementation SSR processes so these can better take into account, and address, people's different security needs and concerns, including from a gender perspective;
- b) Undertake their own initiatives to tackle context-specific security challenges, including by establishing sustainable partnerships and trust between relevant state and non-state stakeholders.

The following activities, inter alia, could be envisaged:

- Security assessments and other SSR relevant types of analysis aiming to better understand perceptions of and drivers and root-causes of insecurity, security risks and conflict dynamics as well as governance and political economy types of analysis to identify the key challenges and opportunities for change in the security sector;
- Establishment of, or support to existing, civil society networks aiming to rationalize and enhance civil society engagement with security sector stakeholders (national and international);
- Capacity building of civil society organisations, networks and communities on security sector related issues, through training, accompaniment, peer - learning and exchanges;
- Enhanced participation into decision-making through advocacy towards, and partnerships with, national level authorities and the security and justice sectors, as well as other relevant national, regional and international stakeholders on the design and implementation of SSR frameworks, action plans and activities;
- Monitoring and oversight initiatives to ensure security actors comply with rule of law and human rights principles and effectively respond to the security needs of the population;

- Media and communications related initiatives aiming to build capacity of relevant media stakeholder to understand and monitor SSR related developments, and to report about security related matters in a conflict-sensitive manner to the broad public;
- Community security and other community-level types of initiatives aiming to mobilise communities, local authorities, security actors and other relevant stakeholders in the identification of security challenges and the implementation of action plans to address them, and to create safe spaces for dialogue on security issues;
- Engagement with non-state security actors such as customary authorities, traditional courts, vigilante groups and other local non-state security providers, private military and security companies, and the private sector to improve their performance to provide security and justice in a conflict and gender-sensitive manner and according to human rights and non-discriminatory principles.
- Support to women's organization's engagement with security actors and initiatives aiming to make SSR processes more gender-sensitive, including through capacity building, and security and justice actors more effective at tackling gender based violence.

3) Land-related conflicts:

From violent clashes between farmers and pastoralists over access to grazing land to indigenous communities contesting land acquisition and land grabbing by economic actors, through to inter-community tensions resulting from land degradation or informal settlements, unequal access to land and lack of good governance over land issues are major drivers of conflicts globally. Land related grievances often provide a breeding ground for deeper social and inter-ethnic divisions and can jeopardize efforts to prevent conflicts and build sustainable peace. Through this Action, support initiatives will aim to strengthen the in-country capacities to tackle land related conflicts in a constructive, inclusive and non-violent manner.

Through this Action, it is proposed to support and empower civil society initiatives aiming to:

- a) Address the conflicts dynamics revolving around land tenure and access to natural resources;
- b) Engage authorities and other relevant actors to improve land governance and management, including natural resources, to prevent tensions and conflicts;

The following activities, inter alia, could be envisaged:

- Context-specific participatory research, awareness raising and advocacy activities initiatives aiming to document and bring out critical facts and analyses on land related conflicts, including access to natural resources, as well as recommendations on responses.
- Capacity building and accompaniment of media to investigate and report on land - related conflicts in a conflict-sensitive manner and to keep the broader public informed or engaged in an interactive way.
- Capacity building and accompaniment of communities affected by land - related conflicts to settle land related disputes and to demand better land governance to their authorities.

- Inclusive land mediation initiatives involving communities, economic actors, local and national authorities, traditional leaders and other relevant stakeholders, including through follow up monitoring and verification activities to enhance accountability and through support to the implementation of an agreement provisions.
- Support to women's and youth organisations engagement and networking on land related issues, their role and participation in settling conflicts and their participation in land related decision making.
- Initiatives aiming to engage local and national authorities in order to bring about policy changes and reforms on land and natural resources management, or to strengthen their capacities to take decisions in an inclusive manner.

4) Mediation, dialogue and confidence building measures:

Tackling and resolving conflicts require opening spaces for mediation, dialogue and confidence-building between parties and across societies. Such initiatives are crucial to prevent an escalation of tensions or outbreak of violence, to initiate, consolidate or deepen a peace or transition process. Mediation, dialogue and confidence building measures are necessary at all levels, including across societies and communities, to ensure that a transition out of conflicts reflects and draws upon needs and expectations of all groups. Through this Action, support will be given to civil society organisations to undertake mediation, dialogue and confidence building measures and to promote non-violent and constructive forms of engagement to tackle conflict and build peace.

Through this Action, it is proposed to support and empower civil society initiatives aiming to build trust and confidence across conflict divides in order to have a significant impact on the dynamics of a conflict.

The following activities, inter alia, could be envisaged:

- Research and conflict analyses aiming to provide a better understanding of a conflict's dynamics as well as opportunities to establish dialogue, cooperation and confidence-building measures.
- Capacity building and accompaniment of "inside mediators" to lead or take part in dialogue processes, to develop peace-building strategies and to engage and inform track 2 and track 1 mediation processes.
- Initiatives aiming to promote inclusiveness of peacebuilding processes and political transition settlements, including through the capacity building and accompaniment of women and youth organisation as well as ethnic and religious groups;
- Engagement with influential stakeholders in conflict settings, such as security and military actors, local and national authorities, religious and traditional leaders, economic actors, in order to secure a space for dialogue, cooperation, protection of civilians, in order to raise their awareness and seek opportunities for their engagement in dialogue and confidence-building processes.
- Support to the implementation of conflict settlements provisions and to grassroots community mobilisation and cooperation across conflict divides, including through small grant schemes.
- Promotion of a culture of peace, tolerance and respect for diversity, through media activities, education, art, sport or other kinds of public mobilisation initiatives.

- Lessons learning and peer exchanges at regional level aiming to mobilise expertise for dialogue, share good practices and experiences between civil society organisations, and to inform broader practices in the field of dialogue, mediation and confidence-building measures.

4.3 Intervention logic

It is envisaged that through the support to civil society actors in the four areas mentioned above, the related in-country capacities and processes will be more effective at tackling conflict and security challenges because:

- Civil society actors themselves will better able to engage on these issues on their own and in collaboration with others;
- State capacities and state led processes will benefit from civil society expertise, analysis and support;
- Partnerships between relevant actors active in specific fields will be strengthened and collective efforts and impact will be maximised;

5 IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Financing agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the partner country, referred to in Article 184(2)(b) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

5.2 Indicative implementation period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 4.1 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 60 months from the date of adoption by the Commission of this Action Document.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's authorising officer responsible by amending this decision and the relevant contracts and agreements; such amendments to this decision constitute technical amendments in the sense of point (i) of Article 2(3)(c) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014.

5.3 Implementation modalities

5.3.1 Grants: call for proposals – Call for Proposals for "Support to in-country civil society actors in conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness" (direct management)

(a) Objectives of the grants, fields of intervention, priorities of the year and expected results

The specific objectives and expected results of the grants are specified under section 4.1 while the priorities of the year and type of actions to be supported at national or regional level are those indicated under section 4.2.

All funded actions, under any priority, shall be gender sensitive recognizing that the experiences, grievances, vulnerabilities and needs of girls, boys, young women, young men, women and men as a result of conflict and violence as well as their roles and aspirations in conflict are often "gendered" namely affecting them differently according to sex and age.

Actions aiming at developing mechanisms to enhance coordination and operational cooperation between separate entities and organisations will be particularly encouraged.

(b) Eligibility conditions

Eligibility criteria for applicants: civil society actors as defined in Article 1.3 of the IcSP Regulation No 230/2014 are considered eligible under this Action.

Targeted countries: Interventions will target: countries affected by/emerging from a conflict; countries affected by high levels of violence, or whose peace and stability is threatened; fragile states with weak capacity to perform core governance functions; countries in democratic transition, or where the lack of civic engagement and opportunities for participation in public life is seen as a factor threatening peace.

The Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI) has provisionally identified the regions and countries⁹ (see the table below) where calls for proposals will be launched in order to ensure optimal capitalisation on the results of previous actions funded under IcSP to support civil society-based conflict prevention and peace-building activities.

This indicative list is informed by the EU Conflict Early Warning System¹⁰ as well as interest as expressed by Head Quarter services, FPI regional teams and Delegations. Decision making also takes into consideration FPI regional team and Delegations capacity to manage Calls for Proposals and subsequent contracts, other EU financing instruments' engagement, and the degree of coordination envisaged with EU Member States present on the ground as well as with other international donors. Calls for Proposals launched may have a national or regional scope.

Indicative list of countries or regions:

Countries or Regions	Indicative financial allocations (in EUR)
Central Asia Regional	2,000,000
South Asia and South East Asia Regional	3,000,000
Haiti	1,000,000
Horn of Africa	3,000,000
West Africa Regional	3,000,000

Subject to information to be published in the Calls for Proposals managed by each respective FPI Regional teams, in close cooperation with the corresponding EU Delegation, the indicative amount of the EU contribution per grant can vary from EUR 300,000 to EUR 1,000,000. The grants may be awarded to sole beneficiaries and to consortia of beneficiaries (coordinator and co-beneficiaries). The indicative duration of the grant (its implementation period) is 36 months.

⁹ In exceptional circumstances, countries other than those cited below may be identified using the EU Conflict Early Warning System.

¹⁰ http://www.eeas.europa.eu/cfsp/conflict_prevention/docs/201409_factsheet_conflict_earth_warning_en.pdf

(c) Essential selection and award criteria

The essential selection criteria are financial and operational capacity of the applicant.

The essential award criteria are relevance of the proposed action to the objectives of the call; design, effectiveness, feasibility, sustainability and cost-effectiveness of the action.

(d) Maximum rate of co-financing

The maximum possible rate of co-financing for grants under this call is 90% of the eligible costs of the action.

In accordance with Articles 192 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, if full funding is essential for the action to be carried out, the maximum possible rate of co-financing may be increased up to 100 %. The essentiality of full funding will be justified by the Commission's authorising officer responsible in the award decision, in respect of the principles of equal treatment and sound financial management.

(e) Indicative timing to launch the call

Calls for proposals are expected to be published as from the last quarter of 2017.

5.3.1.1 Procurement (direct management)

Subject in generic terms, if possible	Type (works, supplies, services)	Indicative number of contracts	Indicative trimester of launch of the procedure
Support Measures (CfP related awareness raising, information, publication costs etc.)	Services	12	As of last quarter 2018

5.4 Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

The geographical eligibility in terms of place of establishment for participating in procurement and grant award procedures and in terms of origin of supplies purchased as established in the basic act and set out in the relevant contractual documents shall apply.

5.5 Indicative budget

	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	Indicative third party contribution, in currency identified
5.3.1 – Call for proposals (direct management)	11,880,000	1,000,000
5.3.1.1 – Procurement (direct management)	120,000	
Totals	12,000,000	1,000,000

5.6 Organisational set-up and responsibilities

From EU side, the European Commission Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI – Unit 2) will oversee the Action as a whole and provide ad-hoc support to the selected FPI regional teams and EU Delegations, while the management of the sub-delegated calls for proposals as well as the projects resulting from each call for proposals will fall under the responsibility of the respective FPI regional teams, in close cooperation with the relevant EU Delegations, and as contracting authority. Each FPI regional teams, in close cooperation with the relevant EU Delegations will define the specific projects' arrangements including potential role in the governance of the projects, participation in steering committee, etc. FPI regional teams will monitor and report against the specific objectives and expected results indicated in section 4.1 above, using as reference the details of the Logical framework provided in Appendix.

5.7 Performance monitoring and reporting

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of projects resulting from a Call for Proposals will be a continuous process and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partner shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (outputs and direct outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the log frame matrix (for project modality) or the list of result indicators (for budget support). The report shall be laid out in such a way as to allow monitoring of the means envisaged and employed and of the budget details for the action. The final report, narrative and financial, will cover the entire period of the action implementation.

The Commission may undertake additional project monitoring visits both through its own staff and through independent consultants recruited directly by the Commission for independent monitoring reviews (or recruited by the responsible agent contracted by the Commission for implementing such reviews).

5.8 Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, a final evaluation will not be carried out for this action or its components.

The Commission may, during implementation, decide to undertake such an evaluation for duly justified reasons either on its own decision or on the initiative of the partner.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least 30 days in advance of the dates foreseen for the evaluation missions. The implementing partner shall collaborate efficiently and effectively with the evaluation experts, and inter alia provide them with all necessary information and documentation, as well as access to the project premises and activities.

The evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner country and other key stakeholders. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner

country, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project.

The financing of the evaluations, if needed, shall be covered by another measure constituting a financing decision.

5.9 Audit

Without prejudice to the obligations applicable to contracts concluded for the implementation of this action, the Commission may, on the basis of a risk assessment, contract independent audits or expenditure verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements.

The financing of the audit shall be covered by another measure constituting a financing decision.

5.10 Communication and visibility

Communication and visibility of the EU is a legal obligation for all external actions funded by the EU.

This action shall contain communication and visibility measures which shall be based on a specific Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action, to be elaborated at the start of implementation and supported with the budget indicated in section 5.4 above.

In terms of legal obligations on communication and visibility, the measures shall be implemented by the Commission, the partner country, contractors, grant beneficiaries and/or entrusted entities. Appropriate contractual obligations shall be included in, respectively, the financing agreement, procurement and grant contracts, and delegation agreements.

The Communication and Visibility Manual for European Union External Action shall be used to establish the Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action and the appropriate contractual obligations.

[APPENDIX - INDICATIVE LOGFRAME MATRIX (FOR PROJECT MODALITY) ¹¹]

The activities, the expected outputs and all the indicators, targets and baselines included in the logframe matrix are indicative and may be updated during the implementation of the action, no amendment being required to the financing decision. When it is not possible to determine the outputs of an action at formulation stage, intermediary outcomes should be presented and the outputs defined during inception of the overall programme and its components. The indicative logframe matrix will evolve during the lifetime of the action: new lines will be added for including the activities as well as new columns for intermediary targets (milestones) for the output and outcome indicators whenever it is relevant for monitoring and reporting purposes. Note also that indicators should be disaggregated by sex whenever relevant.

	Results chain	Indicators	Baselines (incl. reference year)	Targets (incl. reference year)	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
Overall objective: Impact	State and non-state capacities in selected countries are better prepared for managing and defusing tensions and potential triggers for conflicts in particular with regards to the four identified priority areas.	. % of violent incidents reported by state authorities in a given year; . % of people feeling safe in a given year.	Each selected EU Delegation will establish the baseline according to its country/context of reference.	Each selected EU Delegation will fix country relevant targets.	a) Citizen-based perception surveys b) Annual reports of relevant state agencies	There is enough and regularly updated date available in-country.
Specific objective(s): Outcome(s)	a) Strengthened institutional and operational capacity of civil society actors with regard to the four priority areas mentioned below; b) Improved in-country civil society actors networking and advocacy skills, including increased civil society involvement in the four thematic areas relating to both long-term and short-term conflict prevention and peace-building; c) Established or enhanced dialogue between civil society actors and local, national, regional or international institutions on subjects related to the four priority areas.	The indicative indicators below shall be adapted according to each country context and priority area(s): . % of targeted population expressing confidence in and satisfaction towards civil society's effectiveness in tackling conflict risks, managing conflicts and building peace. . Number of appropriate measures identified and	Each selected EU Delegation will specify the starting point or current value of the indicators.	Each selected EU Delegation will determine the intended value of the indicator.	Each selected EU Delegation will identify the relevant sources of information and data collection methods.	There is enough and regularly updated date available in-country.

¹¹ Mark indicators aligned with the relevant programming document mark with '*' and indicators aligned to the EU Results Framework with '**'.

		<p>implemented by civil society to prevent conflicts and their outcomes.</p> <p>. Number and type of policy advocacy actions undertaken by in-country civil society actors and their outcomes.</p> <p>. Number (%) of civil society actors consulted by local/national authorities and involved in peace processes (e.g. conflict resolution initiatives, recovery plans).</p>				
Outputs	The direct/tangible outputs will differ depending on the priority areas selected by each EU Delegations					