

## Women and Youth in Democracy Initiative WYDE-Civic Engagement

### ***Cluster 1: Generate Democracy: involving youth CSOs in democracy support***

#### Regranting scheme

Capitalization - Call for proposals.

#### **Context:**

The Youth Participation in Public Affairs program of the EU's, [WYDE Civic Engagement](#) is funded by the European Union. It aims to improve the enfranchisement, empowerment, and inclusion of **youth** in all levels of democratic participation at the national, regional, and global scales. WYDE-Civic Engagement's three-pronged approach is informed by the need for youth engagement and inclusion not only at national level, but beyond and above it. With half of the world's population being under 30, the continued survival of democracy is highly dependent on buy-in and support among its youth.

The project will also implement **5 different projects called "Clusters"**, coordinated by the European Partnership for Democracy (EPD)'s members, and aiming at engaging young people active in public affairs, from civil society activists to politicians in an effort to empower them to advocate for more youth inclusion in society.

Cluster 1, named "Generate Democracy: involving youth CSOs in democracy support" is dedicated to providing youth CSOs with the chance to put into practice the lessons learnt in the other clusters and undertake responsibilities over concrete actions promoting civic engagement and democracy. This cluster is therefore cross-cutting and strongly interlinked with the other four. Under the leadership of the [European Association of Local Democracy \(ALDA\)](#) and in partnership with [Elbarlament](#) & [People In Need](#) this cross-cutting cluster will consist of a funding mechanism that will function on a rolling basis, reviewing applications in three subsequent rounds, across the four-year project duration.

#### **Overall architecture of the regranting scheme**

The regranting scheme will be articulated in **three rounds**.

The call will be launched on the **3<sup>rd</sup> of April 2023**, and it will remain open for three years, until 31<sup>st</sup> July **2025**.

Applications will be received on rolling basis. Evaluation committee will gather once a year, therefore resulting in the three rounds.

- 1- The first selection committee will gather in September 2023, and it will assess the project proposals received up to the **15.08.2023**.

- 2- The second selection committee will take place in May 2024, and it will assess the project proposals received up to the **15.04.2024**.
- 3- The third selection committee will take place in September 2025, and it will assess the project proposals received up to the **15.01.2025**.

The third round, although open with the same criteria of the previous two rounds, will particularly prioritize capitalization projects, meaning those projects that aim to capitalize previous experiences, projects, or initiatives, developed in the frame of the WYDE-Civic Engagement project or other frames, provided that they are in line with the goals of WYDE-Civic Engagement and of the re-granting scheme.

## Objectives

### Overall objective

Through the re-granting scheme, the cluster 1 of the WYDE-Civic Engagement project is aiming at funding and implementing national and transnational projects in support of youth civic engagement and participation in the decision-making processes across the Sub-Saharan Countries.

### Specific objectives

- Empower organisations working in the field of youth to play a relevant role in supporting the democratic participation of youth.
- Support peer to peer learning among youth organisations
- Reinforce an international network of youth organisations and youth leaders.
- Improve the cooperation between the youth civil society and public policy makers, at local, national, and international level.
- Advocate for the establishment or improvement of representative youth structures (such as youth councils or youth parliaments)

### Crosscutting priorities

This call for proposals will finance actions that respect the five working principles of the [Human Rights Based Approach methodology](#):

1. Applying all human rights for all
2. Meaningful and inclusive participation and access to decision-making
3. Non-discrimination and equality; accountability and rule of law for all
4. Transparency
5. Access to information supported by disaggregated data.

These principles should be rigorously applied throughout programming, design, and implementation and across all sectors.

**Gender equality** should be mainstreamed throughout these working principles. The working principles are equally relevant to the process. Therefore, all proposals under this call for proposals shall be designed according to a HRBA. Please note that this aspect will be highly considered during the projects assessment.

## Eligibility criteria

### Eligibility of the applicants

Each organization must be:

- Legally registered
- Civil society organization working for and with youth.

Please note that Local Authorities are not eligible to apply, although it is highly recommended to the applicants to cooperate with them.

**Organizations with limited experience are highly encouraged to apply. Those selected will be offered customized training and tailor-made technical support.**

### Eligibility of the actions

Activities eligible for financial support (not exhaustive list):

- Advocacy campaigns,
- civic mobilization and awareness raising initiatives,
- Capacity building for youth
- CSOs networking events,
- National and transnational study visits,
- job shadowing,
- capacity building on participatory democracy

Activities non-eligible for financial support (not exhaustive list):

- actions concerned only or mainly with individual sponsorships for participation in workshops, seminars, conferences, and congresses.
- actions concerned only or mainly with individual scholarships for studies or training courses.
- actions concerned only or mainly with directly delivering social services to target groups.
- actions supporting political or religious proselytism.

### Eligibility of the costs

Only eligible costs will be reimbursed.

Eligible costs are actual costs incurred by the sub-grantee which meet all the following criteria:

- they are incurred during the implementation period of the action.
- they are indicated in the estimated overall budget for the action.
- they are necessary for the implementation of the action.

The reimbursement of eligible costs that will be based exclusively on the actual costs incurred by the beneficiary(ies), and upon presentation of documents (invoices, receipts) justifying the expenses incurred.

The following costs are not eligible:

- Debts and debt service charges (interest).
- Provisions for losses or potential future liabilities.
- Costs declared by the beneficiary(ies) and financed by another action or work programme receiving a European Union (including through EDF) grant.
- Purchases of land or buildings, except where necessary for the direct implementation of the action, in which case ownership must be transferred in accordance with Article 7.5 of the general conditions of the standard grant contract, at the latest at the end of the action.
- Currency exchange losses.
- Credit to third parties.
- Salary costs of the personnel of national administrations.

### Target groups and final beneficiaries

The action considers as young people aged between 15 and 35 years old as its main beneficiaries, in line with the African Union Youth Charter<sup>1</sup>. WYDE-Civic Engagement's principal actions will therefore cover this age category. However, it will not limit its grantees and other beneficiaries from working with a wider definition of youth, notably to include children (defined here as the age group of 9-14 years)<sup>2</sup> or to work through the Summit for Democracy's Youth Participation Cohort<sup>3</sup> who sometimes consider active citizens up to 40 years old.

**When reporting and measuring, the action will pay attention to disaggregate group of beneficiaries, not only by sex, but also by age.**

Considering that youth participation has different dimensions, the Action distinguishes between five target groups depending on their level of engagement in public affairs to better ascertain their needs and fine-tune its support:

- Young citizens
- Youth-led organizations and Movements
- Young aspiring/Inspiring Leaders
- Young decision makers
- Local Authorities
- CSOs working for/ With Youth (not necessarily led by Youth)

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<sup>1</sup> The African Youth Charter was adopted by the AU Assembly, gathered in Banjul on July 2nd, 2006.

## Project location

Selected entities should be implementing National/ transnational projects in support of youth civic engagement and participation in the decision-making processes across the **Global South countries** with a special focus on **Sub Saharan African Countries**.

## Projects duration

The duration of the action will depend on the amount of funding requested, which will be articulated in three lots.

For LOT 1: the action will need to last maximum 6 months.

For LOT 2: the action will need to last maximum 9 months.

For LOT 3: the action will need to last maximum 12 months.

Two additional months will be included in the contract for ensuring the procedures related to the final reporting of the project and the disbursement of the final financial instalment.

## Reporting

LOT 1: the beneficiaries will provide the necessary narrative and financial reports in English or French accompanied by the justificatory documents (invoices, receipts etc.), using the templates provided, including photos/pictures and its outreach (online links, publications, lists of participants etc.). The reports will be provided within a month after the end of the implementation period of the action.

LOT 2 and LOT 3: the beneficiaries commit to submit an interim narrative and financial reports and a final financial and narrative reports.

Both interim and final reports must be in English or French accompanied by the justificatory documents (invoices, receipts etc.), using the templates provided, including photos/pictures and its outreach (online links, publications, lists of participants etc.)

## Financial allocation

Each applicant will be able to apply to three different lots and it will need to request the following grant amounts (potential co-funding is excluded):

- LOT 1: 10.000€

- LOT 2: 20.000€

- LOT 3: 30.000€

In order to be eligible for each lot, the CSOs will need to respect the following rules:

For LOT1: (National call) The applicant will be able to candidate alone or in partnership. This lot is specifically conceived for actions at local / national level.

For LOT2: The consortium will need to be made of minimum two partners (including the lead applicant) belonging to the same Country or to different Countries.

For LOT3: (international call) The consortium will need to be made of minimum three partners (including the lead applicant), belonging to at least two different Countries. This lot is specifically conceived for international activities.

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The pre – selected initiatives in the African continent will benefit from a financial support of €10,000 to €30,000 and a technical accompaniment aiming at the structural reinforcement of the CSOs and the support in the piloting of the initiatives.

Total financial envelope: 200000€.

Not all the funds of each envelope will necessarily be allocated for the round itself and, if this is the case, they will enter in the budget envelope of the subsequent calls for proposals (in 2024 and 2025 respectively).

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### **Payments of the grant**

LOT1: The payment will be realized in two instalments:

The first instalment of 75% of the grant contribution will be submitted after the signature of the Partnership Agreement and upon submission of the corresponding Request for Payment.

The final settlement of 25% of the grant contribution will be paid upon submission of the second Request for Payment and the final report (narrative and financial reports, accompanied by all justificatory documents and attachments in originals), duly completed according to the clauses of the Partnership Agreement.

LOT2 and LOT3: Payments for the total budget will be executed through 3 instalments. The 1st instalment of 50% of the total amount will be submitted within 60 days from the signature of the grant agreement and upon submission of the corresponding request for payment and the financial identification form.

The second instalment of 40% will be paid upon approval of interim reports (narrative & financial reports, accompanied by all justificatory documents and attachments) and submission of the second Request for payment.

The final instalment of 10% will be paid after the final narrative and financial report have been validated and the third Request for payment has been submitted. ALDA may also suspend the payment in the case of presentation of not satisfactory reports and necessary documents in time.

### **Submission of applications and selection of the projects**

The application, attached to this call for application, must be sent exclusively by e-mail to [wydeafrica@alda-europe.eu](mailto:wydeafrica@alda-europe.eu)

The application form must be accompanied by:

- The proof of the association's legal identity (certificate of registration)

- Association's Statute
- [The project Proposal Form \(Annex A\)](#)

Link to Project proposal form:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1bjagVfIZmxyBGckUYBU3kkZwlpUenmZ?usp=sharing>

This may be supplemented by additional information.

Incomplete application documents will not be included in the selection process.

Projects that are not selected may be put on a waiting list.

## Selection Criteria

Projects will be selected against various established criteria and follow [an evaluation grid](#).

The grid includes criteria the relevance of the action to the objectives of the call and to the needs of the beneficiaries, the effectiveness and feasibility of the action, the quality of the design, and synergies with CSOs past or current initiatives.

- The actions will have to guarantee that their activities will ensure equal opportunities to vulnerable groups (migrants, people with disabilities etc.).
- Additional scores will be given to projects between CSOs and Public Authorities, at local or National/international level.
- Each organization will be allowed to take part in one project only in the present call.

## Match-making Event

If you are still looking for a partner organisation, we invite you to take part in the virtual matchmaking event to be held in **October 2024**. This event will help you find partners who can support you in the design and implementation of your project activities.

The aim of this virtual meeting is to enable organisations with a relatively low level of experience to develop their network and benefit from the experience and support of other organisations. It will also help you to prepare better proposals for this call for projects.

All participating organisations will be asked to describe their background and interests. Based on this information, we will identify needs and potential connections that could be beneficial to the organisations.

If you are interested in participating in the event, please register using [this link](#).

## Indicative timeline

January 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2025, 23.59 CET time	Deadline of the 3rd round of the call for proposals
August 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 - 12am <b>CET time</b>	<a href="#">Info day</a> – Q&A – <a href="#">Link</a>
January 16 <sup>th</sup> – January 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2025	Evaluation and pre - selection of the candidatures received up to 15 <sup>th</sup> April, 2024
February 1 <sup>st</sup> – February 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	Capacity Building for funded entities
March 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2025, to April 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	Coaching on project development, submission of full proposals
May 1 <sup>st</sup> – May 31 <sup>st</sup> 2025	Final approval and contract stipulation
June 2025 to June 2026	Projects kick off and implementation
Lot 1: December 2025	Final narrative and financial report submission
Lot 2: March 2026	
Lot 3: June 2026	

## Contact

WYDE-Civic Engagement Project Coordinator for Cluster 1  
Abdelaziz Bouslah  
[Abdelaziz@alda-europe.eu](mailto:Abdelaziz@alda-europe.eu)