



NGO SUPPORT CENTRE and GRANTXPRT CONSULTING LTD

In their capacity as the Fund Operator (FO) for the EEA & Norway Grants programme “Active Citizens Fund in Cyprus” (ACF Cyprus), announce an Open Call for:

Bilateral Cooperation Initiatives

AVAILABLE FUNDING: €12,000

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION:
08/05/2023

www.activecitizensfund.cy
EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021

SUMMARY OF THE BILATERAL COOPERATION INITIATIVES CALL	
Focus of the Call	The Call for Bilateral Cooperation Initiatives aims at enhancing the relations between Civil Society Organisations that are established in the Republic of Cyprus and entities in the Donor States (Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway) of the Active Citizens Fund Cyprus programme (EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021).
Call Aims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of cooperation and partnerships between CSOs in the Republic of Cyprus and entities from the Donor States. • Development and Implementation of Initiatives for cooperation, networking and exchange between CSOs in the Republic of Cyprus and entities from the Donor States. • Enhancement of the capacity and sustainability of civil society (organisations and the sector) in the Republic of Cyprus and in the Donor States.
Total available funding of the Call	€ 12,000
Maximum Grant Amount per Initiative	€ 4,000
Initiative Duration	1-6 months
Co-financing	No co-financing is required. Up to 100% financing of the eligible expenditures may be provided.
Who can apply	CSOs legally registered in the Republic of Cyprus and Entities legally established in the Donor States (Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein)
Partners	Entities legally established in the Donor States (Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein) CSOs legally registered in the Republic of Cyprus
Consortium Requirements	All consortiums must include, at least , one (1) CSO legally registered in the Republic of Cyprus and one (1) entity legally established in the Donor States.
Application Deadline	08/05/2023 at 13:00 EEST (Cyprus local time)

Active Citizens Fund Cyprus Programme

The Active Citizens Fund programme in Cyprus (ACF Cyprus) is supported through a €1.5m grant from Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway under the EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021, aiming to contribute to reducing economic and social disparities and strengthening bilateral relations and cooperation between the beneficiary states and the donor states. The ACF Cyprus programme is part of the contribution of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway (Donor States) to 15 EU countries in Central and Southern Europe and the Baltics (Beneficiary States).

The Fund Operator (FO) for the Active Citizens Fund in Cyprus is [NGO Support Centre](#) in consortium with [GrantXpert Consulting](#).

Focus of the Call

The Call for Bilateral Cooperation Initiatives is intended to support activities aiming at enhancing relations between CSOs in the Republic of Cyprus and entities in the Donor States (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway) and contribute to the overall objectives of the Active Citizens Fund: strengthening civil society and active citizenship and empowering vulnerable groups.

The scope of the Call is in line with Article 5.1 of the Programme Implementation Agreement ([PIA](#)) and **the aims of the Call** are the following:

- Establishment of cooperation and partnerships between CSOs in the Republic of Cyprus and entities from the Donor States.
- Development and implementation of initiatives for cooperation, networking, exchange, sharing and transfer of knowledge, technology, experience and best practice between civil society organisations and other entities in the Beneficiary States and in the Donors States.
- Enhancement of the capacity and sustainability of civil society (organisations and the sector) in the Republic of Cyprus and in the Donor States.

Any proposed Initiatives for bilateral cooperation must address **one of the following outcomes of the Active Citizens Fund Cyprus Programme**:

- Outcome 1 - “Increased citizen participation in civic activities”

Suggested thematic areas: human rights defence, media freedom, activism, advocacy work

- Outcome 2 - “Vulnerable groups empowered”

Suggested thematic areas: migrant inclusion and social cohesion, tackling gender-based violence, disability inclusion.

Indicative list of Activities

Eligible activities **may include (the list is non-exhaustive):**

Outcome 1 - “Increased citizen participation in civic activities”

- networking, exchange, sharing and transfer of knowledge, technology, experience and best practice for increasing citizen participation in civic activities in any of the Donor States and in the Republic of Cyprus;
- visits by CSO experts/ experts from any of the Donor States and/or the Republic of Cyprus for training/ coaching purposes on topics related to citizen participation and engagement (e.g., rule of law, right of association, democratic dialogue processes etc.);
- attendance or organisation of conferences or workshops with a concrete impact on bilateral partnerships and relations and for exchange of knowledge on increasing civic participation;
- visits aiming at deepening partnerships through specific common activities such as advocacy work on increasing citizen participation and engagement (e.g., advocating for the role of citizens in public consultation procedures in any of the Donor States and/ or the Republic of Cyprus);
- attendance or organisation of conferences or workshops with a concrete impact on bilateral partnerships and relations and supporting the work being done to increase citizen participation in civic activities in any of the Donor States and in the Republic of Cyprus.

Outcome 2 - “Vulnerable groups empowered”

- networking, exchange, sharing and transfer of knowledge, technology, experience and best practice for service provision for specific vulnerable groups in any of the Donor States and/or the Republic of Cyprus;
- visits by CSO experts/ experts from any of the Donor States and/ or the Republic of Cyprus for training/ coaching purposes on training/coaching purposes;
- attendance or organisation of conferences or workshops with a concrete impact on bilateral partnerships and relations and for exchange of knowledge on working with and for vulnerable groups;
- visits aiming at deepening partnerships through specific common activities such as advocacy work for the rights of specific vulnerable groups in any of the Donor States and/ or the Republic of Cyprus;
- attendance or organisation of conferences or workshops with a concrete impact on bilateral partnerships and relations and supporting efforts to empower vulnerable groups in society in any of the Donor States and in the Republic of Cyprus.

Indicative Call Timeline:

February 2023	Pre-announcement of the Bilateral Cooperation Initiatives Call
March 2023	Announcement of the Bilateral Cooperation Initiatives Call
March 2023	Online workshop for potential applicants
8 May 2023 (13:00 EEST)	Deadline for submission of initiative applications
June 2023	The Fund Operator team will provide a response of approval/rejection of an application no later than thirty (30) working days after the deadline for submission of applications
June - July 2023	Signing of contracts for initiatives
September 2023 – February 2024	Implementation period of initiatives