

PISCCA 2020-2021

Call for Civil Society's Innovative Projects

PISCCA stands for « **Innovative projects from civil societies and coalitions of actors** » and is a small-grant programme intended for Laotian civil society organisations funded by the French Embassy to Lao PDR.

PISCCA aims at funding small-scale projects and development initiatives that contribute to strengthen civil society in Laos and to promote social, economic and environmental rights.

This call for project is open until 31/08/2020.

MAIN OBJECTIVES

- Contribute to Lao PDR's development objectives
- Improve the living conditions of vulnerable populations
- Promote local initiatives led by civil society organizations
- Foster networking and synergies between stake-holders on the field
- Strengthen capacities of beneficiaries and civil society organizations

FIELDS OF INTERVENTION

Two kinds of project could be supported:

Component 1: Support for innovative micro-projects to improve the access of all individuals to social, economic and environmental rights.

- Development projects carried out by Laotian organization in Lao PDR
- Intermediate and small-scale organisations will be prioritized
- Priority intervention areas: Vientiane capital and Southern provinces with highest poverty rates

Component 2: Support innovative and pilot actions that foster structuration, advocacy and dialogue.

- Specially orientated on social, economic or environmental rights
- Civil society coalitions or, failing that, locally agreed INGOs will take part in a mentoring process with emerging local associations/coalitions.

For both components, joint proposals run by several CSOs will be accepted and encouraged.

➤ Focus on the most vulnerable and marginalized populations

The fund aims at developing the principles of inclusion, non-discrimination and non-stigmatization, equality and equity, giving priority to the most vulnerable and marginalized populations, particularly women, youth, children, rural populations in remote areas, ethnic groups, people affected by epidemics or diseases, people experiencing physical or mental disabilities, etc.

PISCCA aims to promote initiatives led *by* and/or *for* vulnerable populations to strengthen their participation, representation and empowerment.

➤ Inclusion of gender and youth

Projects contributing to the socio-economic inclusion of women, to end violence and discrimination against women, and/or promoting effective access to their rights will be favoured.

Priority will also be given to projects involving Laotian youth in the implementation of activities (students, volunteers, young professionals) or offering activities in which young people will be the main beneficiaries.

Particular attention will be paid to the definition of gender indicators and disaggregated data collection (gender, age, etc.).

➤ Examples of supported projects

Component 1

- support to vulnerable and disabled people
- support to social, professional and economic integration
- rural/local development
- access to health
- promotion of women's rights
- preservation of biodiversity and fight against climate change

Component 2

- mobilization of women, youth, minorities
- improved cooperation between the civil society and the administration
- Capacity building for CSOs
- support to thematic NGO forum
- partnership between NPAs and local authorities

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Project eligibility:

- The grant must fall between a minimum of 10.000 euros and a maximum of 50 000 euros (500 000 000 LAK maximum)
- The applicant institution must be able to contribute financially to the project (at least 10%) on its own resources. Human resources and administration budget share must not exceed 30% of the total budget
- Project implementation must not exceed 12 months and be over on October 31st, 2021 (reports sent)

Beneficiaries of the civil society fund are:

- Non-profit association (NPA) locally registered or pending of registration according to Lao PDR legislation
- Registered social enterprise or foundation
- Civil society coalition involved in a mentoring process with local associations

EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- Incomplete applications
- Purely emergency project (humanitarian action)
- Project outside sectorial and geographical priorities previously identified
- Organisation of one-time events without economic, social or environmental goal (conferences, etc.)
- Specific measures (scholarships, invitations, expert missions, logistical support)
- Operations or equipment, when not part of a real development project

SELECTION AND IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES

A selection committee will select the projects according to the following criteria:

- Contribution to the development objectives of Lao PDR;
- Relevance of the project in relation to the area of intervention, target beneficiaries and other development partners activities;
- Expected impact of the grant on the strengthening of the organization;
- Innovative aspect of the proposed action and possible leverage;
- Inclusion of a gender and youth perspective;
- Inclusion of climate change stakes and environmental rights
- Co-financing and commitment of partners;
- Technical and financial coherence of the project;
- Sustainability approach to the supporting structure and the project.
- Project coherence with other actions financed by the French Cooperation.

Project promoters will be invited to present their proposal at the selection committee in September 2020.

Following the signature of a financing protocol between the French Embassy and the selected organisation, the grant will be disbursed in one instalment. Partial refund of the subsidy shall be claimed if the implementation of the project is proved not to be in accordance with the above protocol mentioned.

During the implementation of the project, continuous monitoring will be ensured by the French Embassy. A brief evaluation of the project will be conducted following the completion of the project.

APPLICATION FORM

The grant application form should be completed carefully (Choose Component 1 or Component 2 on page 2 of the form)

In addition to the completed form, please join to the application the following documents:

- ☐ Certification of registration or proof of submission to the Ministry of Home Affairs;
- ☐ Last two annual reports (if available);
- ☐ Any other document that the applicant deems useful can be included.

All the documents have to be submitted in French or English.

The amounts must be written in EUROS and LAK. However, the grant will be paid in local currency (the equivalent amount according to the exchange rate of the Consulate in effect at the time of the payment).

The deadline for submission is 31/08/2020.

An electronic version: PDF format, subject «PISCCA project proposal» by email to scac.vientiane-amba@diplomatie.gouv.fr

And/Or

A printed version: Subject « PISCCA project proposal » to Cooperation and Cultural Action Service (SCAC) French Embassy to Lao PDR Setthathirath Avenue P.O Box 06 Vientiane, Laos

