

Civil Society Dialogues

The European Commission is seeking to strengthen the dialogue between members of EU and US civil societies by addressing a wide range of issues and encouraging the involvement of a broad set of stakeholders. These dialogues will complement the formal policy dialogues held at intergovernmental level.

Under the current cycle the dialogues will focus on the following areas:

- 1) The continuation of the transatlantic Consumer Dialogue.
- 2) A transatlantic development and humanitarian dialogue with a special focus on the security nexus in development.
- 3) A transatlantic environmental dialogue focusing on energy issues in the context of climate change.

The call for proposals can be found here: http://eeas.europa.eu/us/grants/index_en.htm

Following the selection of the proposals the following beneficiaries have been identified:

Theme	Beneficiary	Duration	Budget	Objectives as outlined in the call for proposals
Transatlantic Consumer Dialogue.	Lead Applicant: Consumer International Partner organisation in the US: Consumer Union of the United States (Consumer Reports)	18 months. Activities start on 1 st April 2013.	Total Budget: €266.221,14 EU Contribution: €199.665,85	Activities undertaken in response to this Call for Proposals should aim to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide for a formal mechanism for EU and US consumer representatives to provide input into EU and US political discussions and policies;• organise meetings with policy officials and regulators to promote and advocate consumer interests with public authorities;• identify common consumers issues and challenges, and promote consumer views in the context of transatlantic relations;• promote debate and exchange of knowledge among consumer representatives;

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • contribute to the exchange and dissemination of expertise and knowledge on consumer issues in the EU and the US; • contribute to the discussions in relevant transatlantic dialogues and on relevant areas discussed in the Transatlantic Economic Council under the auspices of the Transatlantic Economic Framework agreed at the Washington EU-US Summit of 2007; • produce/publish joint policy recommendations which should be disseminated as widely as possible in the EU and in the US.
Transatlantic development and humanitarian dialogue with a special focus on the security nexus in development.	<p>Lead Applicant: Global Public Policy Institute</p> <p>Partner Organisations in the US: InterAction</p> <p>Additional Partner organisation: Saferworld</p>	<p>15 months.</p> <p>Activities start on 1st February 2013.</p>	<p>Total Budget: €263,145,</p> <p>EU Contribution: €197,358.83</p>	<p>The EU-US Summit of 2010 opened the door for a more fruitful cooperation in the field of security and development, covering areas such as conflict prevention, crisis response, and long-term development. In this light, it was agreed to confront major international issues and global challenges with a more strategic approach¹.</p> <p>Activities undertaken in response to this Call for Proposals should aim to foster exchange of views and information, improve awareness of related EU and US policies and positions, and identify areas for potential closer transatlantic cooperation, focusing for instance, on (1) the Millennium Development Goals, (2) water (3) food security, nutrition and agricultural research for development purposes, (4) development-related aspects of climate change, (5) responding to humanitarian crises (e.g. crisis management response, emergency assistance, conflict prevention), (6) health, (7) migrations..</p>

¹ For instance, the 2011 EU-US Summit agreed on the importance of close cooperation on security and development in the Sahel, the Horn of Africa and Afghanistan.

				<p>Against this background the activities should aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to the discussions in the recently re-launched EU-US High Level Consultative Group on Development; • Contribute to better awareness on the importance of making joint efforts between the EU and the US in favour of developing countries in the field of crisis management response, conflict prevention, fragile states and aid effectiveness. • produce/publish joint policy recommendations which should be disseminated as widely as possible in the EU and in the US.
Transatlantic environmental dialogue focusing on energy issues in the context of climate change.	<p>Lead Applicant: Ecologic Institute (Berlin office)</p> <p>Partner Organisations in the US:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atlantic Council of the United States. • Ecologic Institute (Washington office). 	<p>15 months.</p> <p>Activities start on 1st January 2013.</p>	<p>Total Budget: €266.299,06</p> <p>EU Contribution: €199.724,30</p>	<p>Activities undertaken in response to this Call for Proposals should aim to identify areas for closer cooperation on developing effective strategies that could help fighting against climate change at local level, for instance by improving the deployment of energy efficient technologies. The dialogue should also strengthen networking activities between EU and US' civil society on issues dealt with on occasion of major international climate change negotiations so to influence and support policymakers in the EU and in the US to take action against global warming and to support sustainable development at international level.</p> <p>Activities under this call could aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • foster the exchange of information about mitigation measures to climate change at the local level in the EU and US; • showcase good practices and successful strategies

				<p>in the field of sustainable development at local level in the EU and in the US². These could include: examples of successful low carbon/energy efficient strategies at local level, example of innovative business models in the field of green technologies and renewable energies that have contributed to job creation and emission reduction, and examples of models of civil-society participation that have significantly contributed to boost awareness of the challenges related to climate change and environmental degradation at the local level;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise events and conferences at the sides of major international climate change negotiations and act as catalyst of international efforts in the fight against climate change and in support of the strengthening of the green economy worldwide • evaluating the potential opportunities and challenges of interconnecting existing regional emission trading schemes; • produce/publish joint policy recommendations which should be disseminated as widely as possible in the EU and in the US.
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² On the EU side, co-operation could also be foreseen with the Covenant of Mayors and other organisations representing EU and US cities and regions. http://www.eumayors.eu/about/covenant-of-mayors_en.html