

COOPERATION WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

The EU Delegation to Vietnam acknowledges the importance of engagement with Civil Society, manifested in our continuous political and financial support over the years. In 2014, the EU Delegation and EU Member States developed an EU Roadmap for Engagement with Civil Society (CSO) in Vietnam, outlining EU's key priorities in cooperation with CSOs in the country. An updated version of the Roadmap, which has taken into account the evolving nature of EU relations with Vietnam, was endorsed by the EU Delegation and 20 EU Member States in Vietnam in April 2018.

The EU provides financial support to Civil Society in Vietnam through its thematic programmes: (1) The European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR); (2) the Civil Society Organizations and Local Authorities Thematic Programmes (CSO-LA). A number of Calls for Proposals under the framework of these two thematic programmes have been launched since 2004 for actions in Vietnam, resulting to date in 96 grants awarded with a total funding of over €40 million covering diverse areas such as healthcare, labour, community development, child protection, water and sanitation, access to energy, capacity building for youth, climate change, gender equality, empowerment of ethnic minority, land rights, freedom of expression, CSO and Free Trade Agreements (FTA) and Sustainable Development Goals.

The EU Roadmap for engagement with CSOs and EU support to civil society goes beyond mere funding of projects. The EU, in close cooperation with EU Member States, has engaged with civil society through its political work, policy dialogues and throughout the negotiation of the EU-VN Free Trade Agreement. The EU has an active Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with Vietnam which covers civil society and many other fields in a comprehensive approach. The EU-VN Free Trade Agreement foresees a mechanism for the involvement of civil society in the implementation of the chapter on trade and sustainable development.

Civil Society Organizations that wish to apply for EU funding should regularly check the "Work with us" section of the EU Delegation to Vietnam's home page:

https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/vietnam/area/jobs-funds_en