

COOPERATION WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

The EU Delegation to Vietnam acknowledged 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 State developed an EU Roadmap for Engagement with Civil Society (CSO) in Vietnam, outlining EU's key priorities in cooperation with CSOs in the country.

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) and (3) Environment and Sustainable Natural Resource Management, including Energy. Several Calls for Proposals under the framework of these thematic programmes have been launched since 2008 for actions in Vietnam, resulting to date 48 grants awarded with a total funding of over €16.5 million in the areas of human rights, good governance, healthcare, labour, community development, child protection, water and sanitation and sustainable consumption and production.

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 trade agreement. The EU is in the process of ratifying a Partnership and Cooperation Agreement which covers civil society and many other fields in a comprehensive approach. The EU-VN Free Trade Agreement also foresees a mechanism for the involvement of civil society in the implementation of chapter on trade and sustainable development.

Civil Society Organizations that wish to apply for funding shall regularly check the grant & tenders section of the EU Delegation in Vietnam's home page http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/vietnam/grants_tenders/grants/index_en.htm

Detailed information about EU Call for Proposals can be also found on the website of the EU Directorate that manages development aid: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&userlanguage=en> (In the search engine on that page mark: Status: Open >Type: Grants> Region: ALL> Country: ALL or Vietnam).