

## Call for Applications/Proposals

### Dialogue and Participation Project Grants in the field of climate change, women and youths - Iraq

Project: Quality and Effectiveness in Dialogue and Participation in Iraq

End of call: 08 February 2024 or until the positions are filled; proposals will be reviewed on a running basis.

Elbarlament is pleased to announce the call for applications for Dialogue and Participation Grants for four civil society organisations in the field of climate change, women and youth. The activity is part of the project “Quality and Effectiveness in Dialogue and Participation in Iraq”.

Elbarlament is a peacebuilding and democracy support organisation, with a special focus on empowering women and youth. We implement democracy support and peacebuilding projects in four thematic fields: Arts & Culture; Civic Education; Environment & Climate Change; Women, Peace and Security. We support parliaments, governments, civil society actors and international institutions, implementing projects and delivering consulting services in German, English, French and Arabic. Our international and multilingual team is based in Berlin, Cologne and Erbil (Iraq).

Background of the project:

In the project *Quality and Effectiveness in Dialogue and Participation in Iraq*, elbarlament focuses on different aspects of dialogue and participation in Iraq. Participation and dialogue between governmental actors and different societal groups as well as between civil society, the private sector and political decision makers is essential for good collaboration, reconciliation, good governance and conflict resolution. Within the project, elbarlament focuses on past and ongoing processes while also sharpening and designing new processes and implementing a full dialogue process together with a local NGO and other collaborating partners.

Elbarlament supports Iraqi civil society organisations (CSOs) in the design and implementation of dialogue processes. In this phase, four civil society organisations will be supported in the grounding phase of dialogue processes as part of this tender. In this light, four CSOs will be selected and together with the CSOs, the grounding phase, in which the dialogue processes will be designed, will be conducted. This includes the identification of entry points with relevant governmental actors to conduct a fruitful dialogue as well as budget planning and proposal development. External experts will support elbarlament as well as the CSOs in this phase. A possible implementation of the full dialogue process that is designed in the grounding phase is subject to further funding.

#### 1. Objective of the Dialogue and Participation Grant

The objective of the dialogue and participation grants is to support Iraqi civil society organisations that are active in the field of climate change, women and youth in launching dialogue and participation activities with governmental actors. The grant will cover the activities

of the grounding phases of dialogue processes, i.e. the participatory process should be defined and grounded. The supported activities include:

- Planning of a dialogue process with governmental stakeholders in close cooperation with elbarlament
- The effort for the organisations is to negotiate and shape the dialogues, to design and agree upon dialogue processes/ formats, to create ownership and to make them successful.
- The result is the design of a conducive and effective dialogue process: dialogue processes on topics fostered/convened by governmental actors that are interested in real implementation, list of participants related to the decision taking on the topic, design of methods and sessions.

In this phase, joint governmental - community dialogue processes shall be prepared and a clear outcome of these processes shall be defined. Within this preparatory phase, ***the main effort of CSOs will be finding counterparts, identifying relevant topics for which ownership – especially from the government side – is secured and agreeing on the future dialogues: topics, expected outcome, convened community, governmental role and participants, etc.*** As a result, dialogue processes agreed between governmental and community members should be proposed for future support of dialogue and participation (D&P). Governmental actors should be the drivers behind the dialogues.

Topics of the dialogues could revolve around climate change and environmental issues, empowerment of women, youth and minorities or other topical themes within the governorates that are already existing opportunities and could serve as entry points. If there are existing policies, strategies and action plans or challenges that the governorate has already identified, then these will be taken as such entry points for the dialogue formats as this approach would enhance the ownership and sustainability at the same time. The ownership and involvement of the government stakeholders at governorate level – e.g., the Directorate of Citizen Affairs (DCA) – is key for the whole dialogue processes. With the support of elbarlament, these governmental stakeholders should be invited to the dialogues in the implementation phase. Hence, the state stakeholders will be consulted in the very beginning and be in the lead to get in contact with the CSOs. Elbarlament will support 4 CSOs in this first grounding phase with the outlook that the dialogues will be implemented in the future (second phase) if agreed upon by relevant stakeholders. One complete dialogue process shall be planned and prepared as well as implemented with one organisation in this project.

Topic of dialogue and participation processes:

The Grant will be disbursed to dialogue and participation initiatives in the field of climate change, women and youth.

Topics could include but are not limited to issues related to:

- Climate change and environmental policies
- Water management
- Unemployment as a consequence of climate change

- Effects of climate change on girls and women
- Climate change and environmental rights
- displacement as a consequence of climate change
- adaptation to climate change
- Awareness building on climate change and its implications

Link to dialogue and participation opportunities:

The grants must be geared towards a dialogue and participation processes between civil society and governmental actors on the governorate level. The dialogue and participation processes must aim at the implementation of the results of the dialogues in political action. This could be the adoption of policy recommendations by political actors, joint developments of action plans, a submission of a strategy to tackle climate change, etc. The focus of this phase supported by the grant is the grounding phase of participatory processes, i.e. the preparation of proposals and participatory processes and the identification of entry points with governmental initiatives and/or actors.

## 2. Overview of Eligibility

Four organisations will be selected for this call. The project proposal can also be submitted through joint submissions of more than one organisation.

To be eligible for funding, the applicant must be:

- a registered civil society organisation or initiative in Iraq and
- a not-for-profit organisation working in the field of climate change and environment, women, and/or youth
- Furthermore, the organisation must adhere to the [Peace Track Initiative Global Code of Conduct and the Safeguarding policy](#).

Eligible costs and activities:

The following types of activities are eligible (the list is not exhaustive): Desk research, baseline studies and participatory analyses; Facilitation of contacts, consultations and discussions between different stakeholders (CSOs and Public Authorities); Development of a dialogue process (conception, budget planning, activity planning, stakeholder mapping); conducting the grounding phase of a dialogue process.

The following types of activities are ineligible: a) actions concerned only or mainly with individual sponsorships for participation in workshops, seminars, conferences, congresses; b) actions concerned only or mainly with individual scholarships for studies or training courses; c) actions supporting political parties or candidates in elections; d) retroactive financing for projects already in implementation or completed; e) projects for the exclusive benefit of individuals or restricted groups of individuals. Environmentally harmful projects will also not be financed.

Operational costs that are eligible include: Staff costs; Travel and subsistence costs; Costs of consumables and small equipment; Costs of service and supply contracts.

**Ineligible operational costs include:** VAT costs, debts and service charges; Provisions for losses, debts, or potential future liabilities; Purchases of land or buildings; Currency exchange losses; Bank transfer losses.

The selected organisations will be exempted from VAT from the costs incurred within this grant, hence the budget proposal should contain the planned costs excluding VAT.

### 3. Methodology

The selection is application based. Civil society organisations in the field of climate change, women and youth will be invited to apply. The project strategic steering committee of elbarlament will review the applications and create a score based on the criteria of selection. Project proposals should reflect the basic principles, such as human rights-based approach, partnership with other stakeholders, project design with the potential for replication, acceleration and sustainability, among others.

Moreover, the proposed projects should aim to achieve outcomes at policy level. After the selection, the project team will coach the organisations and support them in finalising the project proposal, dialogue and participation approach, work plan and budget.

### 4. Grant size

The overall budget available under the current call is for a maximum of 10.000EUR per organisation, to be awarded to a total of four organisations. The grant will be used to support the design of grounding phases for dialogue and participation processes in the field of climate change, women and youth to be developed by 21 March 2024.

### 5. Application and selection process

Application process:

- A pre-application Question and Answer session will take place on 17 January 2024. Please indicate your interest and participation via email.
- The applicants will receive a confirmation email of receipt upon sending the application.
- The project team will pose additional inquiries regarding the application(s) if needed, and will also conduct a more thorough financial evaluation if required.
- The awarded applications will be announced via email.

#### 5.1. Indicative timeline

Opening of the Call: Wednesday, 10 January 2024.
Q&A session for clarification: Wednesday, 17 January 2024.
Deadline to submit proposals: Thursday, 08 February 2024, 23:59 Baghdad time.
Evaluation of the proposals: Starts on Thursday, 08 February 2024

<b>Negotiation, finalisation &amp; Award: Tuesday, 13 February 2024.</b>
<b>Implementation start date: Thursday, 15 February 2024.</b>
<b>Implementation end date (i.e. completion of the grounding phase): Sunday, 21 March 2024.</b>
<b>Final reports: Thursday, 28 March 2024.</b>

## 5.2. Full application submission:

The application period is open immediately and will close on Thursday, 08 February 2024, 23:59 Baghdad time.

The full application package is composed of:

1. Organisation Portfolio.
2. Project/dialogue and participation proposal, including
  - a. situation analysis
  - b. theory of change
  - c. dialogue and participation strategy
  - d. foreseen governmental entry points on the governorate level and information on existing contacts
3. Financial proposal with the budget.

While it is not mandatory, applicants are encouraged to submit a portfolio of their former campaigns concerning dialogue and participation in Iraq.

The application should be sent to the following address:  
[info@elbarlament.org](mailto:info@elbarlament.org).

Project language: Arabic or English will be the language used in this dialogue and participation project, so applications submitted in response to the Call must be written in English or Arabic.