

Small Scale Projects (SSP) - Initiative of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation with Somalia

Rationale of the Intervention

Despite progress being made, Somalia still struggles with fragmented and weak governance and institutional systems, including poor health, education, statistical and legal systems. The country remains one of the largest and most complex emergencies in the world, as it still experiences protracted conflict in addition to natural disasters such as drought, floods and cyclones. In 2017, millions of Somalis are at risk of famine due to a severe drought, in what may constitute one of worst humanitarian crisis since World War II. High poverty, gender inequalities, lack of reliable data for decision-making, state building and governance issues remain serious challenges for the country.

However, in recent years, social indicators have started to improve. After more than two decades of civil conflict, Somalia is currently at a “turning point” in terms of positive political and security developments as well as the commitment of the international community for a sustainable resolution of the protracted crisis in the country. Somalia has entered a new phase of peace-building, stability and recovery. With a new Federal Government of Somalia (FGS), a provisional Constitution and a Parliament. However, the situation remains extremely fragile. Joint and concerted domestic and international efforts need to be sustained and enhanced to ensure national reconciliation, durable peace, stability and state building.

The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation in Somalia

In this context, the formal entry into office of the new Italian Agency for Development Cooperation for Somalia, with an office in Mogadiscio since January 1, 2017 states the priority that Italy ascribes to Somalia with regard to development cooperation. The Italian commitment has focused, in particular, over recent years, on programs and activities which try to bridge the gap between humanitarian and development, strengthening public institutions and the rehabilitation of infrastructures, with a view to promoting Resumption of the private sector. Italy is also committed to ensure equitable social services, focusing on the health sector; to support the modernization of fisheries, agriculture and tertiary education; to overcome the humanitarian approach generally used to address many of the current problems in Somalia. Still, the problem of resilience persists. Just in these days a severe drought is striking the country, and it is affecting millions of people, predominantly women and children. Lastly, the issue of displaced persons and the population pushed to return from refugee camps from Kenya or the Gulf of Aden remains central, both for the presence of the Somali population in the Horn of Africa and for emigration in Europe, as well as that one of women's participation in political life that precludes more than 50 percent of the population from making their indispensable contribution to the country.

Areas of Interventions

The SSP covers the areas of intervention prioritized in the Annual Program by AICS Mogadiscio according to the Three Years Indicative Plan 2016-2018 of Italian Development Cooperation.

Priority areas of intervention can be summarized as follows:

- Promotion of basic health services, vaccination, maternal and child protection and disability
- Promotion of nutrition services for the fight against malnutrition and food support.
- Provision of agricultural tools and seeds for carrying out agricultural self-restraint activities.
- Rehabilitation / construction / protection of water points and strengthening the management of water systems both for agricultural purposes and for hygiene;
- Primary education
- Strengthening good hygienic sanitation practices;
- Child protection

The initiative has been defined based on the idea that the SSP should be implemented in the framework of ongoing projects. These can be projects implemented in any of the above mentioned sectors/areas of intervention and can be funded by any donor, provided that the applicant CSO, in the application process provides clear reference to it.

The project proposals should give a clear description of how the SSP is part of the main project and how the activities funded under this initiative will increase / improve the achievement of the main project's objectives.

Here below a non-exhaustive list of eligible activities.

- Workshop and training
- Conference
- Purchase of goods and services
- Publications
- Video production
- Maintenance of building and premises.
- Small construction works
- Reconstruction and rehabilitation of existing facilities
- Basic health or education services

The SSP will not provide funds to activities which are meant to cover the following costs:

- Operational and running costs
- Meals
- Security
- Overheads
- Coordination costs
- Salaries
- VAT, if reimbursable

Intervention logic and implementation modalities

In the general context described above, the AICS Somalia, with this Call for Proposals, establishes a selection process for project proposals submitted by CSOs operating in Somalia for the implementation of activities as stated above, for a total amount of 60,000 Euros.

The SSP should be implemented easily in order to strengthen the management capacity of local realities, cover gaps of ongoing projects, achieve more effective results or enhance the future sustainability of ongoing projects.

Proposals for this Call may be submitted by non-profit entities who, at the date of publication of this document, have the following requirements:

- For Italian organization registration on the list of Civil Society organization as for art. 26, paragraph 3 of Law 125/2014;
- For Somali Non-Profit Entities with no head office in Italy be constituted and in accordance with the regulations in force in the country of affiliation;
- Approval of the proposal by local authorities / communities and / or ministries. Where the political or security situation in the country makes it impossible to obtain a letter of appreciation from the local Authorities, approval is requested to the competent Italian diplomatic representation;
- Have no debts to the DGCS of MAECI and / or AICS for certain, liquid and due debts, including pending administrative process for projects approved or concluded;
- Absence of misconduct with gross negligence or maladjustment in the implementation of DGCS / MAECI, AICS, projects.

Project Proposal requirements

- Maximum duration of project activities covered under this Call: 3 months;
- Funding requested to AICS not lower than 5,000 Euro (five thousand) and not higher than 10,000 Euro (ten thousand)
- Clear adherence to main project activities and objectives
- Compliance with the aims, objectives, sectors and cross-themes indicated in this document.
- Each CSO may only submit two proposals ensuring that sum of the two does not exceed the maximum allowed allocation (10,000 Euros).
- The project proposal must be submitted in English language and, if approved, English will be the official language for all the documentation.

The project proposals should be concise and straightforward. The concept note should describe a small-scale project and short-term initiative, designed to have an immediate impact.

Selection process

The AICS Mogadishu Office in Nairobi is responsible for selecting, evaluating and approving the proposals.

- The project proposals have to be submitted within 30 days from the launch of the call.
- The selection process will take 15 days.
- The selected CSOs will receive a Selection letter to be returned in two working days duly countersigned by the CSO for acceptance of the Grant terms and conditions as per the present Call.
- The selected CSOs have 7 days to start the project from the day of the communication of approval.
- The activities must be completed within 90 days.
- The report must be submitted within 15 days of completion of the project.

Financial arrangements

The grant will be disbursed in the form of a reimbursement at the successful completion of the project, within 30 days from the submission of the report and supporting documents. The final report must include a full financial reconciliation in Euro, using the monthly convention rate of Infoeuro or Banca d'Italia and, in case no visit of AICS occurred to the project, a documented proof of realization such as photographs complete of geographical coordinates. In any case, AICS reserves the right of binding the reimbursement to the complete and verified realization of the intervention.

The reimbursement will occur through bank transfer on an account in the name of the CSO.

Application process

Project proposals (drawn up in accordance with the model set out in Annex A1 and complete of the documentation referred to in the previous paragraph) must be submitted in PDF format by the proposing organizations to the AICS Mogadiscio Office in Nairobi by 12:30 pm (Kenya time) on 21-7-2017 by email specifying in the subject "Small-Scale Project" – AID 8568 at the following address:

mogadiscio@aics.gov.it

segreteria.mogadiscio@aics.gov.it

Copy to

Aicssom.segreteria@gmail.com

Documents to be submitted for application

- Project proposal (Annex A)
- Evidence of registration
- Evidence of ongoing intervention

List of ANNEXES

- Annex A: Project Proposal
- Annex B: Summary of the supported project
- Annex C: Final Report
- Annex D: Project reimbursement request