



Republic of Congo - Agency Selection - Civil Society Engagement
Support Programme
Adopted by email on 22 February 2022

EB.2022.02

Considering:

- a) Decision [EB.2019.16](#) on the Letter of Intent with the Republic of Congo and the country allocation;
- b) Decision [EB.2019.22](#) on the Republic of Congo and the subsequent joint validation by the CAFI Executive Board (EB) and the Government of the Republic of Congo of the background documents for a Call for Expression of Interest (Programmatic Framework, Call, Terms of Reference);
- c) The Call for Expression of Interest (EOI 2020/01/CONGO) launched by the CAFI Secretariat on 31 January 2020;
- d) The evaluation by the CAFI Executive Board, in close consultation with the working group set up by the Republic of Congo, of the seven expressions of interest received on 29 February 2020;
- e) Decision [EB.2020.15](#) requesting to clarify, through the creation of a working group, the orientations of the programme to support civil society engagement;
- f) The revised Terms of Reference of the programme to support civil society engagement in the Republic of Congo submitted on 27 October 2021;
- g) Decision [EB.2021.21](#) requesting the re-launch of a restricted Call for Expression of Interest on the basis of the revised Terms of Reference and the EOI 2021/01/CONGO launched by the CAFI Secretariat on 18 November 2021;
- h) The Expression of Interest received on 20 December 2021;

The CAFI Executive Board:

1. Requests the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to develop a programme to support civil society engagement in the implementation and monitoring of the Letter of Intent over two years and up to USD 2 million. This programme will enable the creation of a Congolese civil society forum: a dialogue space for the benefit of all platforms and CSOs active in the sectors concerned by the commitments of the Letter of Intent, in order to facilitate information sharing, collaboration and the creation of synergies in civil society interventions in this area, and to strengthen its capacity to carry out collective advocacy, as described in the call for EOI Terms of Reference;
2. Stresses that, while the UNDP EOI demonstrates sufficient capacity and programmatic experience for the programme implementation, in line with the evaluation criteria of the EOI 2021/01/CONGO, the proposed approach does not meet the expectations of the EOI terms of reference. The approach proposed in the EOI must therefore be revised accordingly;
3. Requests UNDP to develop and submit to CAFI a technical proposal in advance of the programme document development work including
 - The description of the scope of the programme and expected results in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the EOI 2021/01/CONGO;
 - The names, responsibilities and roles of responsible parties and their agreement to collaborate in the implementation of the programme;
 - An identification of national institutions likely to carry the programme with UNDP support as well as a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) analysis. The decision to carry the programme will be taken jointly by CAFI and the government with UNDP support;
 - The identification of other programmes contributing to the achievement of the objectives of this programme and the synergies to be considered, which will be detailed in the programme document;
 - The work plan (activities and timetable) foreseen for the elaboration of the programme document, not to exceed 4 months from the adoption of this decision. The activities should include consultations with the stakeholders who contributed to the elaboration of the revised terms of reference of the call for expression of interest, in particular the representatives of the Civil Society;
 - The curricula vitae of the consultants in charge of the elaboration of the programme document.
4. Offers to contribute to the costs of the feasibility study upon request of the executing agency. These costs shall not exceed USD 30,000 and shall be estimated by the agency and detailed in the technical proposal submitted to CAFI for the preparation of the project document. These costs will be included in the programme document budget and will be reimbursed upon transfer of funds for programme implementation, if approved;

5. Requests that the programme document includes a detailed analysis of the risks inherent in the programme, in particular regarding the representativeness of civil society organizations and participants, conflicts of interest, non-appropriation of results and the respect of socio-environmental safeguards in general. Based on this analysis, risk mitigation strategies and measures will be clearly identified and integrated into the programme implementation approach;
6. Recalls that according to the Terms of Reference of the Trust Fund and the Letter of Intent signed between CAFI and the Republic of Congo, the financing decision will only be taken after positive independent evaluations of the programme document submitted to the CAFI Executive Board and the Government, and upon approval by the CAFI Executive Board, and will be taken in light of the progress achieved in relation to the milestones of the Letter of Intent (LOI);
7. Stresses that UNDP will be required to report on progress against the outcomes and milestones of the LOI as well as the indicators of the National REDD+ Investment Plan and the CAFI results framework. It will also need to integrate gender considerations into programme planning and implementation to better address the links between gender and climate change. This implies that the implementing agency should: (i) strengthen gender equality within the programme's governance structure and day-to-day operations, (ii) promote gender equality and women's empowerment objectives through activity design, funding allocation, operations and overall impact (including specific output and outcome indicators disaggregated in the programme's Theory of Change and results framework). These requirements should be integrated into the project document and reflected in the budget plan.