



Cofinancé par l'Union européenne

Projet ELLE - Entreprenariat Local et Leadership
féminin pour l'Egalité des chances CSO-
LA/2019/412-889

CALL FOR MICRO-PROJECTS

“Promoting the empowerment of women and young people through technical and material support for their entrepreneurial micro-projects in the West, East and Adamaoua Regions”

Background and Rationale

Since 2020 the ELLE project "Local Entrepreneurship and Women's Leadership for Equal Opportunities" CSO-LA/2019/412-899 has been implemented in Cameroon in the West, East and Adamaoua Regions, with the co-financing of the Delegation of the European Union in Cameroon. The project covers a period of 36 months. Its overall objective is to strengthen the inclusion of the most vulnerable groups, particularly women and young girls, who play a leading role in the life of their communities. The specific objective is to promote the role that women and girls play as agents of development and change in their own communities, by means of an increased ownership of their economic and social rights, their empowerment and active participation in the economic, social, cultural, civil and political life of the country.

The NGOs, ARCS (Archi Culture Solidali) and CIPCRE ensure the general coordination of the project. For the effectiveness of activities in the field, a consortium of local partners, namely APCRE, AJVN, NIDD, CMO, is responsible for relaying activities in the 12 target municipalities of the project.

Output 1 of this project reads as follows: "the access to employment, production and community life for women and young people is promoted through the establishment of incubators of entrepreneurial and cultural initiatives." It is within the framework of this Output that a call for micro-projects is launched, in order to select the 40 best innovative micro-projects led by groups of women and young people in the areas of intervention of the Project (360 people).

The first edition took place in May 2021 and sparked the interest of 269 groups, out of which 43 were selected. All groups have received technical support and 41 groups also received material support. The projects have been launched and the beneficiaries receive the support of a group of experts dedicated to this purpose. The second edition - which is the subject of this call - aims to raise the same interest among the target populations.

Objective of the call for Micro-projects

The Call for micro-projects aims to select the 40 best micro-projects (more precisely, the selected micro-projects will be distributed in the three (3) project Regions, including twenty (20) micro-projects supported in the West, ten (10) in Adamaoua and ten (10) in the East) to support the creation/best development of efficient micro-enterprises, adapted to the local market.

Upon being received, the applications will be studied to identify the most innovative micro-projects, led by groups of women and young people, that promote the emergence of entrepreneurial initiatives and innovative ideas likely to boost the local economy and fit to the aspirations and skills of target groups; this shall be done by carrying out an evaluation of local value chains with high economic potential.

Eligibility criteria for micro-project proposers:

Micro-project proposers must meet the following criteria:

- Be an organized group of at least 9 members for each micro-project, of which at least 70% are women;

- Be a group composed of women under the age of 60 and/or young people under the age of 35;
- Be a group capable of communicating (speaking-writing-reading) in one of two official languages (French, English);
- Be an active group for at least one (1) year and some or all of whose members have experience and/or knowledge in the field of the proposed micro-project;
- Be present in one of the areas of intervention of the project (Mbouda, Bafoussam 1st, Bafoussam 2nd, Foubot, Fouban, Koutaba, Ngaoundéré 1, Ngaoundéré 2, Nganha, Bertoua 1, Bertoua 2, Manjou)

NB: Priority will be given to groups composed of vulnerable people (at least 30% of IDPs, widows, GBV survivors etc.)

Eligibility criteria for micro-projects:

To be eligible, the micro-project submitted must meet the following criteria:

- Aim for one of the following areas: Agroecology and agribusiness, Renewable energies, Sustainable production and processing techniques, Crafts and design;
- Propose innovative solutions that guarantee the relevance of the project on the market;
- Have a guarantee of feasibility of the project, which should be adapted to its economic, social and cultural environment (market, community, access to material, human and financial resources);
- Have an effective start-up period of up to three (3) months;
- Provide reliable mechanisms that guarantee the sustainability of the project;
- Commit to mobilize at least **10% of the project budget** (in-kind, cash or human resources);
- Commit to mobilize at least **30,000 FCFA** for the formalization of their company or cooperative;
- Submit a request for support for a minimum of 500,000 FCFA and a maximum of 1,500,000 FCFA;
- Be able to generate income for its members and contribute to generating jobs for the community (possibly);
- Respect the environment, biodiversity and social cohesion (e.g. priority will be given to agro-ecological or organic production initiatives);
- Be located in the target areas of the project;
- Have a site for the implementation of the project (field, office, etc.)
- Sign a contract for the proper use of the equipment with the GD of the ELLE project.

Calendar of the Call for micro-projects:

Launch Call for Micro-projects	23 rd August 2022
Submission of Applications to Micro-projects	23 rd August – 19 th September 2022
Pre-selection at Regional Level	20 th – 24 th September 2022
Final selection at GD Level	26 th – 30 th September 2022
Publication of Results	3 rd October 2022

Selection procedures:

The micro-projects will be evaluated and ranked in order of merit at the regional level and then transmitted to the central level in Bafoussam to the project headquarters for a final selection by an independent committee of experts composed for the occasion.

Modality of accompaniment and proposed support:

- Technical support: 40 micro-projects (at least 360 people) will benefit from the services of the micro-enterprise incubator created as part of the project; that is: training of members, support for the development of micro-project ideas, provision of information regarding funding windows (public and/or private funds) and other opportunities, coaching by experts for a better understanding of submission frameworks and necessary procedures, coaching for the start-up of micro-enterprises;
- Formalization: the 20 best micro-projects among the 40 selected will benefit from support for the formalization (legalization) of their microenterprises.
- Material support: The 20 best micro-projects among the 40 selected will benefit from material and/or in-

kind support for the start of the planned activities, within the limits of their request (as indicated in the Eligibility criteria for micro-projects' Section). The support will be effective throughout the duration of the project and may benefit all members of the group/organization;

NB: the material support will be made available only after the group has been formalized and a contract has been signed between the ELLE Project and each group for the use of the equipment.

How to apply?

Application file to be submitted to the Partner Organization present in the Region and to the project staff.

REGION	PARTNER	ADRESS
Adamaoua	AJVN	Immeuble Laking Textiles, Centre Commercial, Ngaoundéré
East	APCRE	BP 476, behind Total Station, Kano, Bertoua.
West	NIDD	Opposite ancien dépôt Brasserie, Bafoussam
	CIPCRE	BP 1256, Bafoussam, Behind SPC Tel :694 02 14 74 Email: cipcre_cameroun @cipcre.org

For the project General Direction,

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