

	digital services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Connectivity @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	digital connectivity	YES	NO	
	energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	education and research	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Migration @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>BUDGET INFORMATION</b>				
<b>12. Amounts concerned</b>	Budget lines: 14.020131 (NDICI South and East Asia) Total estimated cost <sup>1</sup> : EUR 6 000 000 <sup>2</sup> Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 6,000,000			
<b>MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION</b>				
<b>13. Type of financing</b>	<b>Indirect management</b> with the entity(ies) to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.4.1			

## 1.2 Summary of the Action

This action aims at contributing via indirect management to the activities of the Nagorikata - Civic Engagement Fund (CEF) in Bangladesh. The European Union (EU) is a long-standing and trusted partner of civil society in the country. They are key partners in devising and implementing policies and programmes that meet people's needs, reduce inequalities and social tensions, realise rights, promote democracy, deliver inclusive services, and fulfil the central commitment of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind. The EU has committed to strengthen Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) as independent actors of good governance and development in their own right, with a specific emphasis on providing support to local CSOs.

Despite a restrictive operational environment, the EU is actively supporting civil society in Bangladesh. This includes grant awards and a governance programme (Platforms for Dialogue) that empowered CSOs to engage with citizens and the government, strengthening governance at local and national levels.

In alignment with the EU's efforts, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) has initiated in 2023 the Civic Engagement Fund (CEF) in Bangladesh to support local and national CSOs in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 16 and 5<sup>3</sup> in the country. In a context of limited space for political and policy engagement, SDG 16 and 5 are avenues for continued support to CSOs and

<sup>1</sup> The total estimated endowment of the Civic Engagement Fund, excluding the EU contribution, amounts to CHF 17,492,810.00.

<sup>2</sup> The Civic Engagement Fund, to which the action will ultimately contribute through a Contribution Agreement, is a multi-donor action with joint co-financing by: (i) The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (CHF 5,000,000); (ii) - The U.S. Agency for International Development (USD 11,000,000); and (iii) Global Affairs Canada (CAD 5,000,000).

<sup>3</sup> SDG 5: Gender equality, SDG 16: Promote Just, Peaceful and Inclusive Societies.