



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION TO SUPPORT CAPRI IN IMPLEMENTING ACTIONS UNDER THE PROJECT 'CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS AS ACTORS OF GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT' CFP# 202001CAPRI

Under the European Union Thematic Programme "Civil Society Organizations and Local Authorities 2014 – 2020", the Caribbean Policy Research Institute (CAPRI) received European Union funding to implement actions under the theme 'Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) as Actors of Governance and Development.' The overall objective is to enable CSOs to engage as actors of governance and development at the country level.

Financial support to third parties is considered essential to achieve the objective of the action and as a result the award includes financial support for capacity building of a third-party CSO to assist CAPRI. In compliance with the mandate of the EU, CAPRI invites CSOs such as community-based organizations or other non-profit, non-state legal entities operating at the community level, established in Jamaica, operating on an independent and accountable basis, to respond to the call for proposals. Only one CSO will be selected to receive financial support. The support from the third party will be over eighteen months.

Questions related to this call for proposals are to be submitted by email to info@capricaribbean.org no later than February 14, 2020 indicating clearly the reference number of the call for proposals. CAPRI has no obligation to provide clarifications to questions received after this date. Replies will be given no later than February 21, 2020. To ensure equal treatment of applicants, CAPRI cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of applicants, an action or specific activities.

No individual replies will be given to questions. All questions and answers as well as other important notices to applicants during the course of the evaluation process will be published on CAPRI's website, capricaribbean.org as the need arises. It is therefore advisable to consult the abovementioned website regularly in order to be informed of the questions and answers published.

All proposals shall include a valid Tax Compliance Certificate and a valid Certificate of Registration of a Registered Charitable Organization. Proposals shall be submitted by email to info@capricaribbean.org by midnight February 29, 2020.

Proposals sent by any other means (e.g. by post, hand delivered, by courier or fax) will be rejected. Please note that incomplete proposals may be rejected. Late proposals will be rejected.

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1. BACKGROUND

The Caribbean Policy Research Institute (CAPRI) is an independent public policy think tank based at the University of the West Indies, Mona. Our mission is to conduct evidence-based policy research on topics that are germane to Caribbean development, and to communicate the findings of that research to policy makers, stakeholders, and the general public. Our work is motivated by the conviction that evidence-informed policies are essential to good decision-making, and that presently this does not obtain to the extent that it ought to, in Jamaica and the Caribbean.

CAPRI's research is carried out by our in-house researchers, in addition to, as the particular topic dictates, local and international external consultants in our network. In order to leverage our research for maximum impact, CAPRI expends considerable resources in communicating its research findings to policy makers, policy influencers, relevant stakeholders, and the general public.

Our research agenda is organized under four thematic areas: governance, sustainability, social issues, and the economy, and is driven by timeliness. Specific research topics are selected based on what we discern are the issues where governments presently face policy dilemmas, and/or will be confronting in the next triennium. In this way, we aim to align our interventions with the most propitious policy window. Our agenda also includes long-standing or recurring issues that, precisely because they are not a focus of government, we think ought to be on the policy agenda.

CAPRI's outputs include:

1. Policy reports which utilize transparent, established methodologies, which take account of the particular social and economic context of the problem, to produce policy recommendations that are specific, actionable, and feasible.
2. Public fora at which relevant stakeholders, and members of the public, engage with our work, toward informing and empowering them to demand sound stewardship on the part of their government.
3. High level, private meetings to discuss the research with the government, the private sector, and other relevant stakeholders.

Actions under the theme 'Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) as Actors of Governance and Development' are being undertaken by CAPRI, and the topics of research fall under two of its four thematic areas: Social Issues and Governance. The policy topics, covering these two themes, will form the subject of the research to be conducted. The areas of research are outlined below:

Social issues:

1. Decriminalization of termination of pregnancies

The action will play a role in advocating for the review of the policy to terminate pregnancies and the empowerment of women through having control over their reproductive health through access to safe, affordable and legal procedures to terminate pregnancies and ensure that the policy dialogue and development process are informed. In addition, it will assess the socio-economic benefits of legal

access to abortion, both in special cases, and on demand, to inform policy change in this particular area of reproductive health. An advocacy strategy based on the findings of this research, including partnerships with other CSOs, seeks to further inform a more progressive public outlook on an issue which, in Jamaica, involves a complex set of legal, moral, religious, social and cultural aspects.

2. Implications of Women's Investment in Higher and Continuing Education for their Labour Market Participation

The research will answer the questions: What are the implications of women's investment in further education for their participation in the labour market? How much more time do women spend on further education than men? What returns do they realize from this investment with regard to their remuneration, especially relative to men, their advancement in the labour market, and their propensity to migrate to realize greater returns on their investment?

The answers will inform thinking and policy on women's higher education and labour market participation in Jamaica's developmental context. As CAPRI continues its work on gendered economic issues, we build out the multi-dimensionality of our research and advocacy and improve our ability to propose more inclusive policies for social wellbeing, productivity, diversification and economic growth.

3. Care Economy I: Unpaid Care Work vs Forgone Paid Productive Work: A Cost Benefit Analysis

By quantifying the discrimination that women face in the labour market by monetizing and costing how the unequal allocation of unpaid care work impinges on their ability to participate more fully in the labour market, this research will form the basis of relevant proposals that will relieve women of the care obligations that prevent them from performing more productive, income-earning work, and finding and keeping quality jobs.

4. Care Economy II: Prospects, Feasibility and Design of Support Programmes for Workers with Care Needs

This research will explore employers' responses/programmes to employees' care needs in Jamaica, with a view to exploring the prospects, feasibility and design of support programmes/systems for workers with care obligations, based on employers' and employees' needs, and best practice in Jamaica and elsewhere. Included in this research will be an assessment of the attitudes and understanding of public policy makers and private sector decision makers towards women's unpaid care work and its relationship to paid work.

The research on the care economy in Jamaica, from the perspective of labour market participation and productivity, is in its infancy, and CAPRI is well-placed to further the building of the knowledge base towards policy advocacy. There are still many questions to be answered and data to be collected as Jamaica moves forward in formulating policy to address care economy needs with a view to improving women's labour market participation and productivity.

5. Women in Crime

The research will examine the available data on the female population in adult correctional facilities, providing insight into the types of crimes, the age group and a possible geographical mapping of communities in which these women live. Acknowledging and understanding the role that women have in the Jamaican crime scene, allows for better intervention, prevention and control strategies by stakeholders. Identifying the various roles that women play in crime, especially those that have

been prosecuted, will enable the policy makers to provide these beneficiaries of the action with focused alternatives and social interventions.

6. Mental Health Among Youth

This research will serve as a benchmark for Jamaica towards the implementation of the necessary economic and social policies that will address mental health among youth. It will answer specific questions such as, “Why is there such a dearth of mental health professionals when the need is so great? And what would have to change to increase the numbers of adequately trained mental health professionals to what Jamaica’s youth needs?” In doing so the study will measure the professional needs of the mental health sector, assess the causes of the dearth of same, and examine what feasible measures could be taken to remedy the situation. The proposed research will also enable the creation of a governance framework that will address mental health in Jamaica’s youth.

Governance

7. Quality of State Care for Children

This report will assess the standard of care provided to wards of the state and will examine ways in which the care of children in state custody can be improved, or what alternatives might exist that would better meet the needs of children in crisis. This research will address the gaps in the state child care system that fail to prepare wards of the state to be capable, productive adult citizens who can contribute to their nation’s development.

8. Inclusive Growth

Recent economic forms, under the auspices of two successive IMF programmes, have put Jamaica on the threshold of significant economic growth after decades of stagnation. All of the country’s macroeconomic indicators have shown improvement over the last two years. However, Jamaica remains a country with glaring economic inequality, which poses both economic and social risks. The economic reform consensus on which the incipient growth rests is not sustainable if the benefits of that growth are seen to accrue to only a few, and worse, the usual few. This research will propose policies to promote economic inclusiveness – by ensuring that economic opportunity is geographically and socially dispersed – while not impairing the basis of the current economic reform agenda.

9. Financial Inclusion

An estimated 40 percent of the Jamaican adult population is “unbanked” – they do not hold an account in any formal financial institution and therefore do not have access to financial services. Such persons operate almost entirely in the cash economy. Moreover, many of those in the banked majority remain “underbanked” in that they continue to conduct a large proportion of their financial transactions outside of the banking system. The implications of a large unbanked and underbanked population are widespread. The friction on financial transactions that take place outside of the banking system make life more costly and arduous and prevent the exploitation of economic opportunities. The difficulty and cost of cheque-cashing presents a good example. It is harder for the unbanked to accumulate equity and escape poverty, thus promoting inequality because of an expanding divergence of the opportunities facing the banked and unbanked. Finally, financial transactions outside the banking system facilitate the informal economy and illegal activity.

This research will explore practical ways of overcoming the two overlapping and related challenges to increasing the banked population. The vast majority of the unbanked cannot meet the so-called know-your-customer (KYC) requirements – proof of address, proof of income, identification, etc. At the same time, liberal efforts to accommodate a vast number without KYC credentials exposes the banking system to the risks of money laundering, which in turn, apart from the inherent consequences of laundering illegal gains, further exposes the local banking system to being de-risked by international banks.

10. Assessment of Intervention Programmes Targeting Unattached Youth

CAPRI’s in depth research on crime and security has firmly reinforced the conclusion that diverting young unattached males from crime and violence is the most important goal for any intervention strategy. The perpetrators of the vast majority of violent crimes in Jamaica are young, unattached males—unskilled, unemployed, undereducated men, 15-29 years old, from poor urban neighbourhoods. This research seeks to do an inventory of the many projects and programmes targeting unattached youth in Jamaica over the past 20 years, to track their trajectories with a view to establishing the categories and types of interventions they conducted, to better understanding why they have not had success and/or not been sustained, and to proffer recommendations for more effective and sustainable programmes aimed at rehabilitating unattached youth in Jamaica.

2. FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO BE GIVEN

Financial support of EUR 49,300 is available to fund capacity development of a third party, to assist CAPRI in the achievement of the objectives of the action. Co-financing is not required from the third party.

3. THE OBJECTIVES AND RESULTS TO BE OBTAINED WITH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The objectives are to enhance governance and accountability in the areas of gender equality and youth, by stimulating policy innovation and improving the responsiveness of policies in the specific areas of empowerment of women and youth advocacy. The action will also improve the capacity of a CSO which is active in women’s economic empowerment and youth upliftment. The estimated results to be obtained are: strengthened governance framework and targeted interventions for vulnerable youth; gender-specific social policy changes; greater accountability on the part of policy-making and implementing bodies; a more inclusive and participatory policy process; and ultimately an improved and more inclusive and sustainable Jamaican economy.

4. THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF ACTIVITIES ELIGIBLE FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The activities which will be eligible for financial support shall pursue the following objectives:

1. **To enhance efforts to promote a conducive environment for the CSO working at the country level.** CSOs need a set of guarantees (conducive environment) that ensures rights and opportunities to operate, act and perform. A conducive environment entails a legal and policy environment and or institutional and capacity development to enhance CSOs effectiveness
2. **To promote a meaningful and structured participation of the CSOs in matters of governance and domestic policies.** The activities will support CSOs to hold public authorities to account at all administrative levels (both local and national), with a view to ultimately empowering citizens especially the most vulnerable groups such as women and children, young men, persons with disabilities, the poor and persons from minority groups including LGBTI persons and indigenous populations.
3. **To increase CSOs capacity to perform their roles as independent development actors more effectively.** These activities will entail enhancing the CSO's capacity to deliver initiatives aimed at:
 - stimulating policy innovation and improving responsiveness of policies to populations' needs in relevant sectors
 - improving capacities to participate in multi-actor partnerships with the private sector and public authorities.

The specific activities which are eligible for third party funding include provision of data to support any of the ten research papers to be undertaken by CAPRI; communicating research findings to the media and general public and advocating implementing recommendations to policy changes arising from research findings.

2. The following types of action are ineligible:

- actions concerned only or mainly with individual sponsorships for participation in workshops, seminars, conferences and congresses;
- actions concerned only or mainly with individual scholarships for studies or training courses; one-off conferences
- actions which consist exclusively or primarily in capital expenditure, e.g. land, buildings, equipment and vehicles, except in special circumstances;
- support to political parties;
- actions involving proselytism

3. The following costs are ineligible

- debts and debt service charges (interest);
- provisions for losses or potential future liabilities;
- costs declared by the beneficiary(ies) and financed by another action or work programme receiving a European Union (including through EDF) grant;
- purchases of land or buildings
- currency exchange losses;
- credit to other parties.
- salary costs of the personnel of national administrations

Recommendations to award a grant are always subject to the condition that the checks preceding the signing of the grant contract do not reveal problems requiring changes to the budget (such as arithmetical errors, inaccuracies, unrealistic costs and ineligible costs). The

checks may give rise to requests for clarification and may lead CAPRI to impose modifications to address such mistakes or inaccuracies. It is not possible to increase the grant as a result of these corrections. It is therefore in the applicants' interest to provide a realistic and cost-effective budget.

5. INSTRUCTIONS

Respond to the following with responses in the order requested. The answers should be concise and clear.

- a. Provide the primary contact, telephone numbers and address of the CSO that will support this project
- b. Provide a description of the organization
- c. Demonstrate that the organization is registered (provide a valid certificate of registration or Certificate of registration of a registered charitable organization.
- d. Describe the organisation's ability to carry out the activities which will pursue the objectives (provide examples of relevant projects that highlight the experience)
- e. Describe the proposed methodology that will be used in giving support to CAPRI (the methods of implementation (including equipment and personnel to be procured); rationale for such methodology; the organisational structure and the team proposed for the implementation of the action (by function: there is no need to include the names of individuals);
- f. Using an Excel Spreadsheet, provide a budget in EURO, with justification for each proposed expenditure, that shall not exceed the financial support available. Include the specific activities and funding required for each activity to meet the objectives.

6. THE EVALUATION PROCESS

To ensure transparency in the selection process, an evaluation panel will be established by CAPRI comprising of its executive team, researchers and external independent stakeholders who are not directly affiliated with the applicant, Civil Society Actor(s) and/or who are deemed to be disinterested parties. To this end, all potential members of the evaluation panel will be asked to declare any potential conflicts of interest, and these will be borne in mind when constituting the evaluation panel. The panel will be tasked with evaluating the proposals submitted using an evaluation grid consisting of objective evaluation criteria and a scoring system. The panel will include a representative from the EU who will be an Observer. Each proposal will receive an overall score out of 50. A list will be generated after each proposal is scored and the proposals ranked based on their total score. The third party with the highest score will be selected to receive financial support and will be notified accordingly.

A grant contract will be prepared between the selected third party and CAPRI to indicate:

- Payment arrangements
- Narrative and financial reporting requirements
- Implementation period

7. SCORING

The evaluation grid is divided into Sections and subsections and is presented in the section below.

8. EVALUATION GRID

Section	Maximum Score
1. Financial and operational capacity	20
1.1. Do the applicants have sufficient technical in-house expertise (especially knowledge of the issues to be addressed)?	10
1.2. Do the applicants have sufficient management in-house capacity (including staff and ability to handle the budget for the action)?	10
2. Relevance of the proposal	15
2.1. How relevant is the proposal to the particular needs of CAPRI?	10
2.2. Does the proposal contain particular added-value elements (e.g. innovation, best practices)?	5
3. Design of the proposal	5
3.1. Are the activities proposed appropriate, practical, and consistent with the envisaged outputs and outcome(s)?	5
4. Implementation approach	5
4.1. Is the action plan for implementing the activities clear and feasible? Is the timeline realistic?	5
5. Budget	5
5.1. Are the activities appropriately reflected in the budget?	5
Maximum total score	50

If the total score for Section 1 (financial and operational capacity) is less than 12 points, the application will be rejected. If the score for at least one of the subsections under Section 1 is 1, the application will also be rejected.