



TAKAMUL IV Call for Proposals

Local Initiatives

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BRIDGE | Strengthening the Capacity of the Syrian Civil Society



Implemented by

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



Local Initiatives

Space for creativity and innovation

Local Initiatives under TAKAMUL IV

Small-scale, community-driven interventions implemented **inside Syria** by **local NGOs** to strengthen social cohesion across different community groups.

Why are Local Initiatives important?

They create practical opportunities for diverse community groups to interact, work together, and address shared challenges, while helping to build trust, strengthen relationships, and support the active participation of women, youth, and other groups in shaping local solutions.





Main Aim:

Strengthen social cohesion and inclusion

Promote meaningful and inclusive participation

Empower marginalized groups

How They Contribute:

- Promote constructive dialogue and non-violent communication.
- Encourage cooperation around shared concerns and challenges.
- Build trust, mutual respect, and positive relationships.
- Strengthen community ownership and active participation.
- Foster interaction across social, ethnic, religious, and other differences.

Target Groups

- Women and Youth (ages 18–27)
- Persons with disabilities (PwDs)
- Residents, returnees, and internally displaced persons (IDPs)
- Different generations and social groups within the target area
- People facing barriers to participation



Objectives of Local Initiatives



- ➔ Promote community ownership and inclusive participation in local development processes particularly focusing on women, youth, and persons with disabilities.
- ➔ Strengthen social cohesion and inclusion among diverse community groups, including residents, returnees, IDPs, minorities, and different generations.
- ➔ Build the institutional and technical capacity of local NGOs to design, implement, and monitor innovative, scalable, and sustainable initiatives.
- ➔ Foster constructive dialogue and cooperation between communities and local public authorities while building youth facilitation and moderation skills.
- ➔ Empower marginalized groups to engage actively in community life.
- ➔ Enhance youth leadership, dialogue skills, and youth-led community engagement.
- ➔ Link social cohesion efforts with local economic participation where relevant to strengthen long-term community resilience.

Proposed Local Initiatives



Depending on the identified local needs and social cohesion challenges, Local Initiatives may include:

- **Community Dialogue & Facilitated Exchange**
Activities that strengthen communication, mutual understanding, and constructive interaction among different community groups.
- **Community Cooperation & Joint Problem-Solving**
Initiatives that bring different groups together to address shared local challenges and work toward common objectives.
- **Inclusive Participation & Representation**
Activities that strengthen the meaningful involvement of diverse community members in local decision-making and collective processes.





Proposed Local Initiatives

Depending on the identified local needs and social cohesion challenges, Local Initiatives may include:

- **Community–Institution Engagement**

Initiatives that improve communication, accountability, cooperation, and trust between communities and relevant local institutions or service providers.

- **Trust & Relationship Building**

Activities that help reduce social divisions, address misconceptions, and strengthen positive interaction and collaboration among different groups.

- **Cross-cutting priority:**

Women and youth should be meaningfully engaged across all Local Initiatives, including in identifying needs, designing and implementing solutions, and participating in decision-making.





Theory of Change

Each local initiative must clearly state its intended community impact and demonstrate how its proposed activities will drive that change

- **What is the local challenge?**
What problem, tension, gap, or social cohesion issue exists in the community?
- **What change do you want to see?**
What should be different after the initiative?
- **How will the initiative create that change?**
Explain how the proposed activities will lead to the expected results.
- **How does it contribute to TAKAMUL IV?**
The initiative should clearly support **social cohesion, inclusion, and active community participation.**





Implementation Strategies

To ensure effective, inclusive, and conflict-sensitive implementation, Local Initiatives should follow these key principles:

Context Analysis

Understand local dynamics, tensions, risks, and opportunities.

Conflict Sensitivity & Do-No-Harm:

Avoid reinforcing or creating local tensions.

Adaptability:

Adjust activities as the local context changes.

Needs-Based Planning:

Respond to identified community needs and set realistic targets.

Capacity Building:

Strengthen the skills of NGOs and community groups.

Partnership & Collaboration:

Engage relevant local actors and institutions.

Inclusion & Participation:

Ensure meaningful participation of women, youth, and (PwDs).

Monitoring & Learning:

Track progress, results, and lessons learned.



Implementation Mechanism & Roles under TAKAMUL IV



Primary Implementer: The **co-applicant in Syria** leads implementation, field coordination, documentation, and reporting of Local Initiatives.

Main Applicant Role: Provides **oversight, compliance, and quality assurance**; does not implement activities directly.

Community-Based Approach: Local Initiatives are implemented in cooperation with **voluntary and community groups**, supporting outreach, facilitation, and community engagement.

Legal Coordination: Implementation is conducted in coordination with **relevant local authorities**, with all required legal approvals obtained prior to activities



Approval Requirement



Prior approval from the GIZ is mandatory for all Local Initiatives



Approval is granted based on the submitted **Local Initiative concept** and **Bill of Quantities (BOQ)**



Implementation may begin **only after formal approval**





Procedural Framework



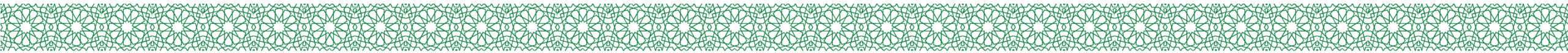
Supports **small-scale, community-driven** activities



Main applicant, in coordination with the co-applicant, leads financial management, documentation, and final reporting to GIZ



All implementation and financial documentation must comply with the **applied policies** and be reviewed prior to submission to GIZ



Expected Outcomes & Sustainability



Expected Outcomes

The implementation of the above initiatives is expected to result in:

- Strengthened social cohesion and increased trust within communities.
- Improved capacities of women, youth, and other vulnerable groups to participate in local development.
- Greater community participation and ownership over identifying and addressing local needs.
- Enhanced institutional capacity of local NGOs.
- Improved access to social services as a result of sustained engagement and advocacy with local authorities.



Expected Outcomes & Sustainability



Sustainability

To ensure long-term impact beyond the project period:

- Strengthen the capacity of local NGOs to independently manage and replicate activities.
- Ensure community ownership by involving key stakeholders including target groups from the planning stage onward.
- Utilize local resources such as community centers, schools, and volunteers to reduce costs and increase sustainability.
- Initiatives should focus on creating informal, low-cost channels; such as shared mobile messaging groups, neighborhood committees, or ongoing volunteer networks, that require no ongoing funding to maintain open communication between targeted groups.



Financial Implementation and Duration



The budget for each local initiative will be **up to 3,000 EUR** to support small-scale, community-driven activities. The main grant recipient will oversee and manage all financial aspects of these initiatives to ensure proper accountability and full compliance with project guidelines.

Each Local Initiative should have an implementation period between **2 (min.) to 8 (max.) weeks**, including all preparatory activities.

Note: More detailed guidance on procurement, eligible costs, supporting documents, and financial procedures will be covered in the Financial guidelines session.

Procurement and Financing of Local Initiatives



Option 1: Cash Payments to Groups for Community Initiatives

- Funds are provided upon proof of initiative completion
- Supporting evidence may include photos, attendance sheets, social media posts, and signed confirmation of receipt
- Selection follows the approved project documentation

Option 2: Supporting Groups for Community Initiatives

- Local teams define the initiative, activities, and required costs
- The partner/co-applicant manages the procurement and purchase of required items/services
- Costs are verified through appropriate supporting documentation

Examples of eligible costs: Stationery and printed materials, participant-related costs, internet vouchers, transportation, refreshments, workshop costs, and other initiative-related expenses.

Note: Further details on procurement procedures, eligible costs, required documentation, and financial settlement will be covered in the Financial guidelines session.



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