**Experience in similar actions** **in the past** **5 years**: (1)

|  |
| --- |
| **Name of the organisation: CIVITAS Institute****Lead applicant Co-applicant Affiliated entity**X |
| **Project title: CITIZEN First** | **Sector: Civil Society Organizations as Actors of Governance and Development** |
| **Location**  | **Cost of the action**  **(EUR)** | **Role: Coordinator,****co-beneficiary, affiliated entity** | **Donors to the action (name)** | **Amount contributed (by donor)** | **Dates** (from..to)dd/mm/yyyy  |
| Palestine/Gaza Strip | **851,000 EUR** | Leader: CIVITAS institute | European Commission | **851,000 EUR** | From: 01/04/2021 to 31/03/2024 (Still running) |
| **Objectives and results of the action** | **The action's overall objective is:**To empower Civil Society Organizations (CSO’s) to be effective force for socio-economic and political reform and increased accountability in society, as well as pushing for greater responsibility among the DBs and holding them more accountable and respondents to citizenry.**The action's specific objectives are:**1. Promoting and strengthening the enabling environment and enhanced space for both CSO’s and citizens to operate and advocate for their rights in Palestine;
2. Empowered and well-aware CSO’s, and facilitating and fostering their engagement in governance to fulfil their assumed role in promoting human rights and democratic reform;
3. Creating a dialogue policy and watchdog at the local and national levels between empowered CS actors, and the formal authorities and DBs;
4. Improved gender equality among CSO's that reflects and ensures gender equality at local and national plans as well as at society at wide; and
5. Facilitating peaceful conciliation of group interests, promoting democratic culture and practices, and grassroots’ real representation and engagement, particularly women CSO’s, in the making decisions at social, economic, and political life.

**Project Activities:**1. Identification of project’s stakeholders and motivating target groups and beneficiaries; and follow up orientation workshops and meetings with the (85) member-CSO’s of the Consortium for Rule of Law & Democracy (CROLD) in G/WB and East Jerusalem, and other identified stakeholders on project mission and objectives; formation of a project Task Force;
2. Carrying thematic, technical, and administrative needs assessments via participatory approach (3-DoD) for (85) member-CSO’s of the (CROLD), aiming at coming up with lists and classifications of capacity building needs and required interventions in three areas: (1) Administration and management; (2) Capacities towards improved technical performance; (3) Thematic capacity in sub-themes of participation and engagement in governance; also, assessment of DBs needs on building their capacities to grassroots’ engagement and inclusion, and participatory democracy, and common agenda building and policy reform.
3. Networking with universities in G/WB towards developing curricula and sharing expertise and knowledge to be invested in the universities’ curricula in political science, scientific research methodologies, and sociology, as well as exploring innovative approaches to be shared and exchanged that more related to and filling the skills and knowledge gap, and finding common approaches between educational institutions and civil society;
4. Developing training modules’ curricula, training manuals, handbooks, and toolkits within a well-structured capacity building program includes training, orientation, consultancy, and coaching throughout the action’s timeframe;
5. Carrying a Gender Auditing for the selected CSO’s among CROLD members, to identify the required interventions and measures to be adopted by the CSO’s towards improved policies and procedures that ensure gender equality based on signing a Gender Code of Ethics;
6. Promoting sectoral partnerships, coordination, networking, knowledge producing and sharing, and internal dialogue between project stakeholders, and other levels of CSO’s and universities to explore and strengthen common approaches and agendas on democracy issues amongst Palestinian NSA, CSO's and CBO's in Gaza Strip, West Bank and East Jerusalem;
7. Conduct three capacity building programs (administrative, technical, and thematic) for 2 groups of CSO’s (1 group in Gaza), and (1 group in WB/East Jerusalem); totally 2 groups, each of 25 member-CSO; totally demonstrate (50 CSO’s); each group will receive 3 capacity building programs; each program will include 4 modules, vary from:

(a) **regular administrative and management topics** to be identified by the results of needs assessment;(b) **technical topics** including, training of trainers, training on youth inclusion and gender equality, ToC and strategic planning, research skills and policy analysis, advocacy and community mobilisation, and budget analysis for PNA and municipalities;(c) **thematic topics** on policy dialogue and civic engagement, good governance, ITA (Integrity, transparency, and accountability, and watchdog for government via social audit and shadow reports formulation. Totally there will be 288 training hours for each group, where the two groups of trainees in G/WB & East Jerusalem will receive 576 training hours (3 training programs X 4 modules X 24 hrs X 2 groups), in addition to consultancy and coaching throughout the project’s framework.1. Evaluating the training courses by pre and post-questionnaires and evaluation point sheet system for assessing the learning and performance improvements, while practicing acquired knowledge and skills at their CSO’s;
2. Delivering a three manual handbooks for targeted CSO’s following to training courses to the groups of beneficiaries as guidance; 1000 copies will be delivered to CSO’s and community at wide on each topic includes each the 4 modules; totally, 3,000 copies;
3. Conducting interim assessment and evaluation for the first project phase; and incorporating the learned lessons into the action’s plan and making the proper adjustments and corrections;
4. Coaching the targeted (50) CSO’s and CBO’s members of CROLD and other engaged CSO’s to produce strategic plans and that reflect their engagement in the processes of the good governance and social responsibility to foster strategies aiming at enhancing accountability and social cohesion and inclusion, particularly for vulnerable groups and minorities, laying for intercultural dialogue, and adopting participatory and gender-based perspectives and approaches as well as other crosscutting issues within their adopted strategic plans and strategies;
5. Providing sub-granting to 3 third parties, each of 50,000 EUR, as well as providing perdiem for engaged associates in the action to carry local activities and actions, under supervision of the PARTNERs to reflect beneficiaries’ understanding and best practices of project management in areas of governance and to examine their capabilities and extent of engagement as effective CSO’s that pushing for greater social cohesion and accountability, inclusion, and participatory democracy;
6. Conduct 3 consultancy and orientation workshops; each of 3 days, for 2 groups of DBs at mayors’ levels and ministry directorates levels in both G/WB on building their capacities on how to ensure grassroots’ engagement and inclusion, and participatory democracy; common agenda building and policy reform; and 2030 Agenda for SDGs;
7. Motivate and supervise the targeted CSO's and other granted parties, while carrying and implementing well-designed small actions via sub-granting and perdiem for associates and volunteers; the actions will carry activities and events including public meetings (PMs), social audit and shadow reports, Polls, bulletins productions, press releases, HEARINGs, and civic education for grassroots’ awareness and campaigns including posters, leaflets, brochures, and social media tools usage; also, the PARTNERs will launch a YouTube channel to be used for broadcasting its audio-visuals deliverables including movies and sketches, in addition to radio episodes, TV talk shows, oppressed theatre drama shows, and cinema club to be followed all by a public debates;
8. Supporting and facilitating the CSO's in their efforts of policy dialogue and development, towards ensuring social justice, equality, and rule of law through advocacy and watchdog tactics, and policy dialogue with local and national authorities;
9. Conduct media coverage, documentation, reporting, and planned visibility actions; also, conducting periodic reporting, and feedback mechanisms to ensure the achievement of project’s stated objectives;
10. Holding 3 annual conferences named “status of accountability and good governance in Palestine” that would adopt production of working papers in four pillars: 1) civil society space and recognition; 2) participation and policy dialogue; 3) Rule of Law and social justice; and 4) Peaceful Change & Democratic Transformation;
11. Evaluating the project quantitatively and qualitatively by external consultant/evaluator; the evaluation will assess the impact on the target groups, the beneficiaries, stakeholders and involved actors to measure the appropriate improvements on the beneficiaries, as well as impact on the community at wide.
 |

**Experience in similar actions** **in the past** **5 years**: (2)

|  |
| --- |
| **Name of the organisation: CIVITAS Institute****Lead applicant Co-applicant Affiliated entity**X |
| **Project title:** Civic Engagement and Accountability in Gaza | **Sector:** Citizen Participation |
| **Location**  | **Cost of the action**  **(EUR)** | **Role: Coordinator,****co-beneficiary, affiliated entity** | **Donors to the action (name)** | **Amount contributed (by donor)** | **Dates** (from..to)dd/mm/yyyy  |
| Palestine/Gaza Strip | **$ 72,700** | Leader: CIVITAS institute | National Endowment for Democracy (NED) | **$ 72,700** | From: 01/07/2022 to 30/06/2024 (Still running) |
| **Objectives and results of the action** | **The overall objective**: To engage youth in civic action, oversight of public spending, and interaction with local representatives on accountability, good governance, and transparency measures.**Project Summary:**The Civitas Institute will strengthen youth ability to engage in local oversight and accountability efforts in the Gaza Strip. Civitas will work through a civil society coalition, the Consortium for Rule of Law and Democracy (CROLD), which was formed with previous Endowment funding:· Civitas will train Social Audit Team (SAT) members to produce 30 social audit reports, conduct public discussions, and lead a three-day conference where the findings will be shared. In the second year, Civitas will monitor the progress on the findings recommended in the first year, produce additional social audit reports where progress is still needed, and hold 30 public policy dialogue events. Civitas staff, CROLD members, and previous trainees will guide the trainees in the research and production of 30 social audit reports that monitor local government adherence to transparency efforts and other good governance measures. The reports, between 15 to 20 pages, will provide status updates for the public on previously highlighted issues, and cover new relevant issues such as raw material import, vocational training, and public services quality. Trainees, working in four-member teams, will use internally produced materials, such as *Structured Dialogue with Duty* Bearers guide, produced with previous Endowment support, and relevant public documents, such as accounting records, wage rolls, stakeholders' interviews, surveys, and discussion groups to shed light on transparency and accountability outcomes. The reports will include civil society working groups from each of Gaza’s five districts to ensure a comprehensive audit, and each report will provide recommendations on further advocacy.For each social audit report, the Civitas team will facilitate a discussion of the findings at a public awareness-raising session, and disseminate the conclusions in a video on its YouTube channel, (https://bit.ly/2WcdTiO), or Facebook page, (https://bit.ly/2WbaoJI). At each two-hour session, Civitas will brief the audience on the report’s scope and findings, and then facilitate a question and-answer period. Each session will draw a minimum of 20 students, labour and women’s activists, volunteers from community-based organizations, and political and social activists. A youth trained by Civitas will facilitate each session, and sessions will be equally distributed among the Gaza Strip’s districts. Civitas staff, CROLD members, and trainees will also record and edit each session to produce at least 30 videos that Civitas will post on its YouTube channel and Facebook pages.· Civitas will lead its three-day, *Annual Accountability Conference*, in Gaza City on the findings of the 30 reports. The event will draw a daily average of 120 issue specialists, stakeholders, academics and policymakers to a discussion of the reports. The social audit report authors will present their findings and facilitate questions and comments from the audience at a dedicated two-hour session for each report. The three-day conference will comprise of five reports presentation per day. Civitas will draw comprehensive conclusions on the state of social accountability in Gaza at a concluding session.· Civitas staff will lead 30 policy dialogue sessions, two on each report in different locations. The locations will be in the north Gaza district, Gaza city, middle Gaza district, Khan Younis, and Rafah to share new findings or updates regarding previous reports. It will draw a minimum of 20 NGOs representatives, civil society leaders, and other stakeholders to each session, where SAT team members will present their findings and field questions and answers.· Civitas will launch public awareness campaigns tackling transparency, accountability, and good governance concepts. The awareness campaign will be accompanied by a digital content production through 30 YouTube videos, 15 videos per year, to raise visibility and access to a variety of audiences and age groups. The Civitas staff will use the momentum from theawareness campaigns to host its fourth *Annual Week on Accountability* conference. The conference will centre the discussion on the findings from the social audit reports from both years, share the status of accountability, and offer future recommendations for improvements. |

**Experience in similar actions** **in the past** **5 years**: (3)

|  |
| --- |
| **Name of the organisation: CIVITAS Institute****Lead applicant Co-applicant Affiliated entity**X |
| **Project title:** Civic Engagement and Accountability in Gaza | **Sector:** Citizen Participation |
| **Location**  | **Cost of the action**  **(EUR)** | **Role: Coordinator,****co-beneficiary, affiliated entity** | **Donors to the action (name)** | **Amount contributed (by donor)** | **Dates** (from..to)dd/mm/yyyy  |
| Palestine/Gaza Strip | **$ 72,000** | Leader: CIVITAS institute | National Endowment for Democracy (NED) | **$ 72,000** | From: 01/07/2020 to 30/06/2022 |
| **Objectives and results of the action** | **The overall objective**: To engage youth in civic action, oversight of public spending, and interaction with local representatives.The Civitas Institute will strengthen youth awareness about governance in the Gaza Strip and enhance their ability to engage in local oversight and accountability efforts. Civitas will work through a civil society coalition, the Consortium for Rule of Law and Democracy (CROLD), which was formed with previous Endowment funding. The coalition will aid Civitas in monitoring government adherence to good governance and transparency measures in the Gaza Strip. The 98 coalition members represent local NGOs, while the CROLD 13-member secretariat includes the Palestinian Center for Democracy and Conflict Resolution, and the General Union of Cultural Centers, both current NED grantees; and the AMAN Coalition for Integrity, a former NED grantee. In the first year, Civitas will train Social Audit Team (SAT) members and produce 15 social audit reports, followed by public discussions, and a three-day conference where the findings will be shared. In the second year, Civitas will monitor the progress on the findings recommended in the first year, produce additional social audit reports where progress is still needed, and hold 30 public policy dialogue events.Civitas staff, CROLD members, and previous trainees will guide the trainees in the research and production of 15 social audit reports that monitor local government adherence to transparency efforts and other good governance measures. Trainees, working in four-member teams, will use relevant public documents, such as accounting records and wage rolls, as well as stakeholder interviews, surveys and discussion groups to shed light on transparency and accountability outcomes. The reports will include civil society working groups from each of Gaza’s five districts in order to ensure a comprehensive audit, and each report will provide recommendations on further advocacy. Previous topics have included adherence with UN Convention Against Corruption, monitoring of reconstruction efforts, desalinization of drinking water to produce a healthy water supply, efforts to privatize Gaza Beach, and internally displaced persons’ frustration with the reconstruction process. For each social audit report, the Civitas team will facilitate a discussion of the findings at a public awareness-raising session, and disseminate the conclusions in a video on its YouTube channel, (<https://bit.ly/2WcdTiO>), or Facebook page, (<https://bit.ly/2WbaoJI>). At each two-hour session, Civitas will brief the audience on the report’s scope and findings, and then facilitate a question-and-answer period. Each session will draw a minimum of 20 students, labor and women’s activists, volunteers from community-based organizations, and political and social activists. A youth trained by Civitas will facilitate each session, and sessions will be equally distributed among the Gaza Strip’s districts. Civitas staff, CROLD members, and trainees will also record and edit each session to produce at least 15 videos that Civitas will post on its YouTube channel and Facebook pages. At the end of both years, Civitas will lead its three-day, Annual Accountability Conference, in Gaza City in March 2021 and 2022 on the findings of the 15 reports. In the event that the COVID-19 pandemic remains a public health concern, Civitas will host the event online. The event will draw a daily average of 120 issue specialists, stakeholders, academics and policymakers to a discussion of the 15 reports. At a dedicated two-hour session for each report, the social audit report authors will present their findings and facilitate questions and comments from the audience. The three-day conference will comprise of five reports presentation per day. Civitas will draw comprehensive conclusions on the state of social accountability in Gaza at a concluding session.Over eight months, Civitas staff will conduct a minimum of two follow-up meetings a month with relevant stakeholders to gather information on progress regarding points highlighted in previous reports. Equipped with new knowledge and a grasp on changing realities on the ground, Civitas SAT members and staff will produce 15 additional social audit reports to highlight remaining gaps in accountability and transparency. The reports, between 15 to 20 pages, will provide status updates for the public on previously highlighted issues, and cover issues such as Ministry of Health (MOH)’s response to COVID-19 in Gaza, monitoring the centralization of local governance offices, and public expenditure track system monitoring (PETs). Civitas staff will lead 30 policy-dialogue sessions, two on each report in different locations. The locations will be in the north Gaza district, Gaza city, middle Gaza district, Khan Younis, and Rafah to share new findings or updates regarding previous reports. It will draw a minimum of 20 NGOs representatives, civil society leaders, and other stakeholders to each session, where SAT team members will present their findings and field questions and answers.Finally, Civitas will launch public awareness campaigns tackling transparency, accountability, and good governance concepts. The awareness campaign will be accompanied by a digital content production through 30 YouTube videos, 15 videos per year, to raise visibility and access to a variety of audiences and age groups. The Civitas staff will use the momentum from the awareness campaigns to host its fourth Annual Week on Accountability conference. The conference will focus the discussion on the findings from the social audit reports from both years, share the status of accountability, and offer future recommendations for improvements.  |

**Experience in similar actions** **in the past** **5 years**: (4)

|  |
| --- |
| **Name of the organisation: CIVITAS Institute****Lead applicant Co-applicant Affiliated entity**X |
| **Project title:** Citizen Participation | **Sector:** Strengthening civil society |
| **Location**  | **Cost of the action**  **(EUR)** | **Role: Coordinator,****co-beneficiary, affiliated entity** | **Donors to the action (name)** | **Amount contributed (by donor)** | **Dates** (from..to)dd/mm/yyyy  |
| (Gaza) | 793,744 EUR | Leader: CIVITAS institute | HEKS/EPERSwitzerland | 793,744 EUR | From 01/10/2014 To 31/12/2014;Extended to 30/6/2016Then, new project approved from 1/7/2016 to 31/12/2019 |
| **Objectives and results of the action** | **The overall objective**: To seek to achieve the social cohesion and sustainable community development through reform, democratization, social accountability, peace-building, and civic engagement and participation*.***The specific objectives are**:1. Strengthening the capacity of IDPs to prevent, interact, oversight, respond, and advocate about their rights better;
2. To ensure justice, equal opportunities, transparent, effective and constructive environment for vulnerable groups in the service delivery process of IDPs that ensure their accommodation and re-cope*.*

**the project has achieved the following outcomes**:* The IDPsLeague functions as a real representative of the IDPs in Gaza and is accountable and responsible to IDPs;
* Protection of IDPs and increased awareness about their rights particularly the women on their legal rights; and
* The authorities and entities improve their responses to IDPs needs and rights, via adapting their policies, procedures and measures.

**The project achieved the following results and outputs:**1. Expanding and deepening HR practices and behaviours among Palestinians towards IDPs based on HRBA;
2. Creating linkages between the CS represented by IDPsLeague who works on review of the duty bearers’ policies, procedures, and measures that affecting the IDPs;
3. Wide support and momentum among the IDPs grassroots support and demonstrate a constituent base for the action campaign towards ensuring their rights and concerns to be adopted and responded to throughout the Gaza reconstruction plan adopted by the PNA and was proposed to the donors’ conference last Oct. 2014 in Egypt.
* The action has been extended from May 2015 – April 2016 with a budget of 138,833 $.
* However, this action has been extended currently for a three-year action towards expansion its outreach, as well as institutionalization of the IDPsLeague as a formal representative of the IDPs and displaced people; moreover, the action focuses on adopting a policy dialogue with the authorities at local and national level and the International Key actor son the IDPs rights towards ensuring HRBA adoption in their policies and measures. Furthermore, the action includes series of sub-actions including training, counselling, legal assistance, awareness, and advocacy and campaigning, and hearings and accountability activities for the duty bearers.
 |

**Experience in similar actions** **in the past** **5 years**: 5

|  |
| --- |
| **Name of the organisation: CIVITAS Institute**X**Lead applicant Co-applicant Affiliated entity** |
| **Project title:** Civil Society Strengthening | **Sector:** Civil Society Strengthening |
| **Location**  | **Cost of the action**  **(EUR)** | **Role: Coordinator,****co-beneficiary, affiliated entity** | **Donors to the action (name)** | **Amount contributed (by donor)** | **Dates** (from.to)dd/mm/yyyy  |
| Palestine/Gaza & Regional) | 312,189 EURO | Leader: CIVITAS institute | Socialdemokrater för tro och solidaritet (STS)/via SIDA | Project #: 36 082 U312,189 EURO | From: 01/01/2016To: 31/12/2019Renewed and running from 2020-2024 of an amount of 2,500,000 SEK= $ 250,000 (Still running) |
| **Objectives and results of the action** | **The overall objective**: To enhancing Civil Society through Empowerment and Capacity Building of CSO’s. The action (long term program) focuses on strengthening the selected CSO’s and Community Associations to improve their efficiency, (organizational capacity building) and increase their ability to implement their stated goals for the benefit of the people (program development, design and implementation). The process took the selected CBOs through basic human rights and rights-based approaches to development. The focus has been on building the internal capacity of the NGO’s & CBOs to engage with duty bearers on issues of concern for the poor and marginalized, using people-centered-advocacy.**The specific objectives are**:1) To build the capacity of the CBOs and associations on annual basis, to engage in people-centered advocacy from a rights-based perspective regarding specific broad issues of their choice that require change;2) To facilitate a process of bringing together the selected CBOs into a network for presenting a collective voice and for mutual support; 3) To facilitate a process of internal capacity strengthening for the selected CBOs to enable them deliver more effectively and efficiently on their work, particularly regarding their engagement with local power structures;4) To strengthen the position of civil society in implementation of development strategies, complimentarily with the Palestinian Authority’s strategies and actions, through building the capacities of CSO's to qualify them to hold accountability and make the government more responsible towards its citizens and constituents.**The project achieved the following results and outputs:**1) Training and capacity building in the rights-based approach to development with emphasis on civic engagement, strategic communication, stakeholder consultation, social accountability, lobbying, advocacy and human rights. This covered the provision of knowledge and skills aimed at developing and strengthening the competencies of the participating groups, associations and organizations to effectively carry out their goals; the action in 5 years reached to more than 60 CSO's in Gaza and 30 CSO's at the regional level;2) Facilitate organizational capacity building, strengthening and performance effectiveness of the associations and CBOs.3) Facilitate engagement with the power structures on particular issues of choice to arrive at the desired outcome.4) Working through a collective, consultative and participatory approach to facilitate the formation of a network of these participating local organizations. Supporting this network process in establishing links and relationships with other locally based coalitions in other areas where similar initiatives are taking place.5) Conduct regular on-site visits to the participating associations, CBOs for coaching and mentoring. |

**Experience in similar actions** **in the past** **5 years**: (6)

|  |
| --- |
| **Name of the organisation: CIVITAS Institute****Lead applicant Co-applicant Affiliated entity**X |
| **Project title:** Strengthening civil society | **Sector:** Citizen Participation |
| **Location**  | **Cost of the action**  **(EUR)** | **Role: Coordinator,****co-beneficiary, affiliated entity** | **Donors to the action (name)** | **Amount contributed (by donor)** | **Dates** (from..to)dd/mm/yyyy  |
| Palestine/Gaza Strip | **165,861 EUR** | Leader: CIVITAS institute | National Endowment for Democracy (NED) | **165,861 EUR** | From: 01/02/2015 to 30/06/2020 |
| **Objectives and results of the action** | **The overall objective**: To engage civil society in civic action, oversight to and interaction to ensure a transparent, effective, and constructive environment for Gaza reconstruction process.**Project purpose :To** contribute to enhance the capabilities of both the NCs and CBO's as grassroots' representatives towards vibrant and democratic society through civic engagement of citizens as well as organizing and encouraging civil society to lobby and networking via formation of the Civil Society Coalition for Reconstruction Monitoring (CROLD: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1400931080217197/> ), to campaigning to address the necessity for reinforcing policy dialogue at variety of levels towards spreading this culture deeply among Palestinian Society, where the project would contribute to creating the required momentum from downstairs towards upstairs to ensure the dialogue culture and dialogue policy as well as ensuring not going back to the state of security's chaos and disorder and anarchy that manifested itself in the past years and was the most prominent features including the numerous and serious violations of the rule of law, wide spread corruption phenomena, and haphazard performance of authorities and the public institutions.**The specific objectives are:**1. To ensure a transparent, effective, and constructive environment for Gaza reconstruction process;
2. To engage youth in civic action, oversight to and interaction with local representatives; and
3. To strengthen the role of CSO's in decision making process of Palestinian context.

**Project result:*** Increasing the level of citizens’ responses and requests for participation in the campaign activities in order to gauge citizens’ interest in the oversight of acting agencies of the Gaza reconstruction process.
* Civitas will document and analyse the level of engagement between youth volunteer network's members and (CROLD) based on engagement, surrounding the events that youth lead. Civitas will also assess (CROLD) feedback to the quality of analysis provided by youth on the reconstruction process.
* Civitas will devote particular attention to the follow-on capacities of the YCs, NCs, and GYG, along with the (CROLD), as an indication of they are staying powerful.
 |