

ANNEX 2: PROJECT DESCRIPTION - NANHRI

05 DECEMBER 2016

1 INTRODUCTION

DIHR REF. 15444

The Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR) manages a global project that benefits all National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) worldwide, both individually and via collective actions. DIHR implements the project through various sub-projects, including one that supports the Network of African NHRIs (NANHRI). EU funds the project that ends in December 2018. Section 2 is an introduction to the overall project, while section 3 and 4 describe the actual envisaged sub-project for NANHRI. It is the latter sub-project where NANHRI and DIHR needs external experts.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

Overall Objective: *The global and the four regional networks improve interactions with human rights mechanisms at regional and global levels*

Indicator: Improved collective actions to protect and promote human rights by NHRIs through regional networks and GANHRI

National human rights institutions (NHRIs) are public bodies, independent of government, with a broad mandate to promote and protect human rights. Although the specific mandates of NHRIs may differ, they generally have functions that include monitoring, research, advising government and parliament, reporting to international treaty bodies, complaints handling, providing legal assistance, human rights education, training, and awareness raising.

NHRIs are accredited by the Global Alliance of NHRIs (GANHRI), which assesses their compliance with the United Nations' Principles Relating to the Status of National Institutions ('the UN Paris Principles') to ensure that NHRIs are independent, impartial, accountable, effective, and representative of the society in their jurisdiction. The accreditation system is linked to the UN human rights system and A-status NHRIs can provide their assessment of the government's compliance with international human rights treaties to the UN.

While there has been an enormous global increase in the establishment of NHRIs and while A-status NHRIs now have the opportunity to exert

significant influence on standard setting and oversight processes in the UN, many NHRIs still face multiple challenges in fulfilling their mandates. Almost one-third of NHRIs worldwide do not fully meet the UN Paris Principles, as required for A-status accreditation. Lack of full cooperation or adherence by governments or other public authorities with NHRIs' recommendations or decisions hinders NHRIs from effectively monitoring and remedying human rights violations. Many NHRIs face challenges in addressing new serious and transboundary threats to human rights as they emerge in the areas of business and human rights and economic, social and cultural rights.

NHRIs are facing an increasing number of tasks and functions as a result of new international instruments, standards, principles and processes defining additional specific roles for NHRIs, such as the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Increasingly, the UN and civil society movements are calling for coordinated NHRI responses and approaches to address human rights violations at structural, institutional and policy levels. These developments and demands for increasing international engagement require NHRIs to coordinate more closely and to raise the quality of their activities and organization, so that NHRIs have the capacity to fulfil their role and obligations to the international, regional and national human rights systems, and ultimately to secure prevention and remediation of human rights violations of individuals and groups. As a result, the global and regional networks of NHRIs and their secretariats require capacity to coordinate common efforts, build individual capacity of NHRIs in their regions and to support NHRIs in supplying authoritative inputs to the UN human rights system.

The activities of the action will ensure capacity strengthening of NHRIs in functional and thematic issues via the four regional networks/ secretariats and the GANHRI, by applying verified capacity development methodologies and increasing inter-regional cooperation and actions. The action will furthermore build capacity to ensure professional and sustainable secretariats at regional and global level fit for strategy implementation, coordination and communication. Finally, the action will strengthen the cooperation between and collective capacity of regional networks of NHRIs and the GANHRI and their interaction with human rights mechanisms at regional and global levels.

Specific Objective: *By the end of the project all the regional networks of NHRIs gain acknowledgment as a key international human rights stakeholder and act as recognized regional networks of NHRIs*

Indicator 1: Progressive increased representation at regional and international level meetings

Target value: regional networks increase annual representation in these meetings by 50% each year

Indicator 2: Reports and Submissions on policy developments increased

Target value: Regional networks make two submissions to regional and international HR bodies in first year and increase by 50% in second year

Indicator 3: Audit reports and organisational development assessments/reports indicate improved institutional capacity

Target value: all partners receive positive external assessments of their capacity

Result: *The sustainable institutional capacity, effectiveness and impact of all the regional networks are increased*

Indicator 1: 75% fulfilment of goals aiming at enhancing institutional capacity, effectiveness and impact created by regional networks

It is expected that the four regional networks as a result of planned activities will have developed either credible secretariats or equivalent institutional capacity to fulfil their role and started implementing their regional strategies according to the needs of their member organizations and the strategies guiding the directions of the regional interventions. The regional and global secretariats will receive systematic institutional capacity development support. Strengthened secretariats will support improved capacity building and coordination amongst NHRIs, which will lead to higher quality and impact in NHRI collective actions and interventions at regional and international levels.

The regional networks secretariats will have increased capacity, through training for efficient project and funds management, clear and transparent communication, fundraising strategies and institutional development support. This will facilitate enhanced support for their

NHRI members, more effective and Paris Principles-compliant NHRIs, improved interaction between NHRIs and regional and international supervisory mechanisms, and ultimately more effective enjoyment of human rights. The inception phase has to ensure that a way forward is in line with the regional networks strategic priorities and aligned with the actions objectives and results.

Outputs:

- Inception phase recommending and defining exact capacity building activities of the regional secretariats and support to selected other activities
- Capacity building and technical assistance to regional networks/secretariats target professionalization of management and organising of activities
- TA on accreditation support to regional networks and secretariats enabling improved assistance to NHRI members
- Support to engage in international meetings to influence HR topics of relevance to NHRIs

A.1.1 Inception phase

During the process of developing the project document the regional NHRI networks and GANHRI have been consulted to ensure continued support and engagement. Inputs have been collected on choice of topics to focus on and to assess and prioritize needs in relation to capacity building in order to achieve clear project objectives, results and activities.

The overall aim of the inception phase is to conclude the consultations and draw the necessary conclusions, which all partners support. The phase will take point of departure in collected partner inputs and involve i) selection of thematic and functional priorities, ii) balance between regions and GANHRI, and iii) prioritizing partner inputs on capacity building and ensure alignment with project objectives relating to capacity building. The result of this will subsequently go to the regional networks and GANHRI for formal approval.

Capacity building and other selected activities is envisaged to be included and fully developed as a result of the inception phase with the purpose of enhancing the capacity of the regional secretariats and implementation of selected strategic activities. These might include support to additional staff related to other supported activities, organisational development assistance and targeted technical assistance to specific needs e.g. developing sub-strategies and

implementing those. Other activities will be drawn from the existing regional strategies which are not yet funded.

A.1.2 Capacity building

Separate organisational development programmes will be developed for the four regional networks/secretariats. These will build on needs assessments of each regional network or secretariat. Technical assistance might be provided to develop internal guidelines, policies or sub-strategies to regulate internal systems and procedures. Assistance might also be provided by support recruitment of new staff taking on new functions in these areas.

A.1.3 Accreditation support

Provide TA to develop activities of the four regional networks/secretariats supporting and provide high level accreditation advice to NHRI members in the regions.

A.1.4 International meetings

Develop activity plans for each of the four regional networks/secretariats to direct their attendance in regional/ international meetings etc so that they are guided by strategic considerations of which human rights topic should be addressed and the relevant regional and international bodies best suitable.

3 ABOUT NANHRI

NANHRI is the network of African NHRIs and currently has 44 members. The network is organised with a permanent secretariat based in Nairobi, Kenya and it has a governing body consisting of nine of its member's chairs. NANHRI's mandate is to support the establishment and strengthening of NHRIs in Africa. NANHRI provides capacity building and facilitates coordination and cooperation amongst NHRIs by linking them with other key human rights actors at regional and global level.

Kindly see this website for more information: www.nanhri.org

4 NANHRI PRIORITIES

DIHR and NANHRI now looks for external expertise that can help support and guide DIHR and NANHRI during the implementation of the envisaged project, and who can contribute with new and innovative approaches to organisational development. DIHR and NANHRI have

formulated a frame for a project that reflects NANHRI's priorities. However, concrete implementation plan and preferred methodology is neither developed nor chosen. Furthermore, some priorities requires specific content expertise. Below is a summary of the envisaged project:

- 1) Implementation of NANHRI's Resource Mobilisation Strategy (RMS), in particular mobilisation of financial resources. Concrete ideas to actual activities includes an internal workshop on how to implement the RMS effective and efficient, and to host a donor round-table discussion, at a select conference.
- 2) Development of a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework and tools. The M&E framework have to be able to track and measure all NANHRI's activities, but a specific requirement is that the framework measures results achieved via the RMS, and thereby facilitates follow-up actions to the RMS.
- 3) Increased participation at Africa Union meetings to secure increased and coordinated interaction between AU and the African NHRIs. Increased participation during the NHRI accreditation processes to secure better understanding and fulfilment of UN's Paris Principles amongst African NHRIs and to increase the number of NHRIs in compliance with the Paris Principles.

NANHRI prefers project proposals that adds synergies to the three priorities, and that facilitates increased interaction amongst the networks members.