



# CALL FOR PROPOSALS

## PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO WATER WHEN FACING EXTRACTIVE ACTIVITIES

France Libertés –Danielle Mitterrand Foundation is launching a call for proposals to support projects, led by non-profit organizations, promoting the right to water when facing extractive activities.

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### GUIDELINES

#### France Libertés –Danielle Mitterrand Foundation

France Libertés Foundation was set up by Danielle Mitterrand in 1986. It has always defended human rights and supported oppressed peoples' resistance struggles. Today the Foundation is still defending fundamental rights. It develops its activities around two main programmes: « Peoples' rights to freely dispose of their natural wealth » and « Water – humanity's Common Good ». This call for proposals links the two themes.

France Libertés acts through awareness-raising and advocacy activities (including at the United Nations' Human Rights Council) and through support to field projects.

# 1. Overall context of this call for proposals

## France Libertés

Since its creation in 1986, France Libertés actively promotes **human rights**. This historical commitment has focused on promoting the right of peoples to self-determination when confronted with oppression by authoritarian regimes. This mobilization with concerned populations increasingly resulted in supporting their struggle to have control over their natural resources, against their lands' spoliation or to preserve their traditional knowledge. About fifteen years ago, this dialogue with oppressed populations led us to concentrate on the right to water for all as our main line of work.

Water is essential to life and is a Commons, both of humanity and of the living. The Foundation stands clearly against its commodification and considers that this Common Good has to be managed in a democratic, public, participative and sustainable way. A symbol of sharing, water is vital for all, poor and rich alike. Danielle Mitterrand used to say that depriving anyone of their fundamental right to access water is a crime. This is why France Libertés has strongly supported recognition of the right to water and sanitation and calls for full implementation of this right by States and other parties<sup>1</sup>.

According to Danielle Mitterrand, *“Protecting the future of humanity and of our earth implies a paradigm shift and a radical change in the way we manage our natural resources in order to pool them for the benefit of all, north and south countries alike.”*

France Libertés has always supported the struggles of oppressed peoples, indigenous peoples or minorities for the respect of their fundamental rights. This has been a central commitment, especially since their natural resources, cultures and traditional lifestyles tend to be threatened by the dominant system. Extractives activities count among the threats on these peoples as they often endanger their right to water.

The extractive activities issue is at the center of many actions led by France Libertés within our programmes on the right to water and on the rights of peoples. We accompany certain stakeholders in the defense of their rights endangered by these activities and we carry out advocacy actions on this issue.

## The call for proposals

**In this call, we focus on how extractive activities and the full enjoyment of the right to water are interconnected.** By extractive activities, we mean all activity involving « [...] extraction of mineral products naturally occurring in a solid (coal and ore), liquid (oil) or gaseous (natural gas) form ». (INSEE definition)

This call for proposals is highly topical as we observe **an intensification of extractive activities**. This results in a multiplication and a greater visibility of conflicts or resistance movements to extractive projects and attempts at controlling them, particularly concerning the respect of fundamental human rights and concerning transparency (for example, the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative EITI).

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<sup>1</sup> The Right to water and sanitation has been officially recognized by the UN general Assembly resolutions 64/292 on July 28<sup>th</sup> 2010 and 68/157 on December 18<sup>th</sup> 2013 and by the Human Right Council resolution 15/9 on September 30<sup>th</sup> 2010.

Extractive activities raise the issue of natural resources management and of development choices. Extraction of natural resources is central to the economies of many countries and frequently cited as a major source of development. We may question our choices of development model and their sustainability. **Extractive activities often boost a country's growth and its external trade statistics but we need to ask questions about their impact on populations' living conditions.** As Kofi Annan wrote in his article "Momentum Rises to Lift Africa's Resource Curse" (New York Times, September 14, 2012): *"sadly, history teaches us that a more destructive path is likely — conflict, spiraling inequality, corruption and environmental disasters are far more common consequences of resource bonanzas. The cliché remains true: striking oil is as much a curse as a blessing."*

This call for proposals therefore intends to **highlight the interconnections between extractive activities and right to water.** Extractive activities can adversely affect the right to water by impacting the quality and quantity of water available for populations (putting at risk groundwater recharge and river sources, gradual destruction of glaciers, acid mine drainage, surface and groundwater pollution, massive water use for certain extractive activities, water spoliation etc.), endangering water accessibility, availability and potability.

That is why **France Libertés seeks to support stakeholders who, facing extractive activities, work to promote and protect the right to water, to preserve this Common Good and to encourage its sustainable management.** Through the around ten selected projects, France Libertés wants to uphold sustainable development methods (in social, human, environmental and economic terms), peoples' rights and the Commons.

France Libertés wishes to learn from these projects, about the threats on the right to water due to extractive activities, as well as the action taken to protect this right and to mitigate the risks.

The group of chosen projects will help us drive advocacy efforts on national, international and UN levels. Through this call for proposals we aim to gather ideas to challenge and rethink dominant paradigms in these areas and to promote actions or solutions implemented.

## 2. Selection criteria

### General characteristics of projects

**Eligibility of applicants: any non-profit making organisations** (organised local communities, associations, representative structures, NGOs, universities, research institutes, trade unions...)

We give priority to proposals directly from peoples themselves or organizations working directly with them.

Applicants must be in charge of undertaking the projects and not be simple intermediaries.

**Eligible geographic area: no restrictions (France included).**

**Project period: between 6 and 18 months.**

**Extractive activities definition:** Activity of extraction of mineral products naturally occurring in a solid (coal and ore), liquid (oil) or gaseous (natural gas) form.

**Eligible project activities:** awareness raising, information, advocacy, capacity building, legal work, research, strengthening of water management, governance and preservation systems.

Project actions must focus on the human right to water.

Support will not be given to projects that are purely scientific or technical, nor purely ecological or environmental. The human being must be at the center of the project (based, for example, on notions of environmental justice, of environmental inequalities, dealing with the dispossession or repossession of populations' natural resources etc.).

Projects centered on making a film or documentary and then broadcasting it will not be considered. Films or documentaries can however be a minor part of a much wider project.

**Aims :**

- To contribute to defend or protect the right to water of populations affected by extractive activities;
- To promote participatory, democratic, transparent and sustainable use and management of water as a Commons.
- To defend a sustainable use and management of natural resources ;
- To encourage the social and environmental aspects' consideration in development political and economic choices.

**Expected methodological project characteristics :**

Projects should :

- meet the needs and aspirations expressed by concerned local populations;
- ensure direct involvement of local populations in project definition and undertaking;
- be adapted to the local and national context;
- be feasible (their programme and schedule should be consistent with the organisation's financial capacity and available human resources and with local capacity for project management);
- include an evaluation process and intend to build upon and use its results.

**List of criteria :**

The projects' selection will be based on 5 criteria:

- **Relevance** (to principles and values defended by France Libertés, to the needs and aspirations of concerned populations, to the local context and to characteristics outlined in this call for proposals) : 25 points
- **Organisation's operational capacity** : 20 points
- **Project methodology** : 20 points
- **Intended impact** : 20 points
- **Financial capacity, cost-effectiveness, budget**: 15 points.

**About ten projects will be supported.**

### 3. Financial aspects

#### Grants

The grant requested should be between **8000 € and 15000 €**.

The grant will not exceed 80% of total costs of the estimated project budget.

#### Budgetary criteria

Applicants' minimum financial contribution should be 5% of total costs of the estimated project budget.

Indirect costs (administrative costs of applicant and its partners) are accepted but should not exceed 7 % of total costs of the estimated direct expenses.

Estimations of the monetary value of contributions in kind in the budget are accepted (maximum 25% of total costs of the estimated project budget).

Eligible expenditures are all expenses that are necessary for project implementation and that can be recorded, proven and accounted for.

#### Grant payment

**First instalment of 70%** of the grant will be made after the partnership agreement is signed. **The balance** will be paid at the end of the project, **after the expenditure justification and the approval of the final report**, established according to the terms of the partnership agreement.

The terms of payment will be more specified in the partnership agreement.

The grant should be registered in the summary of accounts of the applicants. An accountancy copy could be required.

### 4. How to apply

#### Schedule

The deadline for the presentation of the proposals is **15<sup>th</sup> May 2014**. All proposals must be received before midnight (Paris time).

Incomplete or late applications will not be studied.

The results of analysis of applications will be published on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2014.

Afterwards, partnership agreements will be drawn up with successful applicants.

## List of documents to be attached

In order for your application to be considered, please provide the following documents:

- **Filled-in application form.** This should not exceed 15 pages length (Times New Roman 12pt or Calibri/Arial 11pt), not including appendices ;
- **Additional documents attached** (see the full list in the application form).

Forms may be filled in using English, French or Spanish.

All these documents should be sent by e-mail to: [extrac@france-libertes.fr](mailto:extrac@france-libertes.fr)

The « object line » of the e-mail should be composed as follows: **name of the organization – application – n°** (the number will be added if many sending are necessary to apply because of the appendices for example).

## **5. Follow-up and monitoring of selected projects**

The applicant commits itself to report on progress of the project by sending intermediate report by email on a regular and continuous basis and to transmit a final report, according to the partnership agreement.

Production of videos and photos will complete the intermediate and final reports.