

TADAMON تضامن

IsDB - ISFD NGO Empowerment
for Poverty Reduction Program



Where good
organizations
become better

#Tadamon

#TadamonMeansSolidarity

#NGOEmpowerment



Context and Global Trends

57 Member Countries (MCs) of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) continue to face daunting development challenges. Despite steady progress in poverty reduction and boosting healthcare and education services; political instability, recurrent conflicts and income inequality still present major challenges for implementing 2030 Agenda. The global COVID-19 pandemic is even more widening social and economic division, and amplifying and exploiting the fragilities that MCs face on a daily base.

In OIC countries as of 2016, out of 1.77 billion population, only 681 million is part of the labour force. The remaining 480 million people remain economically inactive, with more than 50 million are unemployed (OIC Labour

Market Strategy 2025). In 2018, there were 68.5 million forcibly displaced people by violent conflicts. Eight of the top 12 refugees hosting countries are MCs. Lack of access to education and skills development of refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs) still remains as a critical challenge.

Traditional financing is also insufficient. OIC MCs need to tap into innovative financing channels and technological developments.

Addressing these challenges requires the consolidated and coordinated efforts of all development actors, including governments, civil society, donors and others. MCs development challenges are vast, multifaceted and even increasing. As such, these are beyond the scope of any individual institution but require consolidated strategy and action.

The Rationale for Engaging with Civil Society Organizations

The work that Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) are doing on the ground gives them in-depth understanding of development challenges facing the most marginalized and hard-to-reach communities. CSOs are playing an important role in addressing the above mentioned challenges through the delivery of humanitarian aid and sustainable development interventions. Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) include non - governmental organizations, community groups, cooperatives, and farmers' organizations, philanthropy groups, networks, foundations etc.

Around USD\$ 20 billion of Official Development Assistance (ODA) is annually channelled through CSOs (OECD DAC 2018). Social infrastructure and services were the main sector of intervention for bilateral ODA, with humanitarian assistance and emergency response as the second most important area of aid channelled through CSOs.

The SDGs call for a greater role of the civil society in the delivery of development programs and projects improving the wellbeing of hard-to-reach communities. Recognizing

this importance, the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) is making CSOs engagement as an organizational priority and seeks new partnership model that involve them and other stakeholders to a greater extent.

This is in line with new innovative partnership approaches that bring on board non-traditional partners in efforts to be more proactive, responsive and at the forefront of development. The engagement of CSOs as key development partners significantly contributes to creating pro-poor growth and catalyzing the poor in productive economic and social activities.

MCs, in general, recognize this crucial role of cooperation with a multi range of stakeholders in their national development plan with the ultimate aim to meet the population's economic and social needs. CSOs are valuable partners who help to promote participation, enhance sustainability and alleviate poverty. In this framework, the mainstreaming of CSOs in the development of the national development plans and pro-poor community projects are opportunities to engage mechanism by which CSOs can participate in initiatives. They contribute to improving the inclusiveness of its development model while reducing social inequalities and to create a new culture based on human capital, entrepreneurship, self-reliance, and accountability.

Role of Innovative Financing

It is estimated that there is a gap of US\$2.5 trillion of development investment for achieving the SDGs agenda. Around 2.5 billion people in the world have no access to a formal bank account.

Therefore, innovative finance mechanisms, including crowdfunding, are growing to bridge this gap. By 2025, the World Bank estimates that crowdfunding is expected to grow to US\$300 billion from US\$ 1 billion in 2011 and

US\$ 60-70 billion in 2016. Currently, crowdfunding is one of the largest sources of financing for SMEs. Blending crowdfunding with Islamic finance such as ISFD Waqf towards the pursuit of SDGs and humanitarian purpose bear a significant potential for initiating or empowering crowdfunding activities. In this regard, crowdfunding elements bring technological improvement to the existing cultural flows of Islamic finance, which is expected to surpass US\$ 3 trillion by 2020.

IsDB - ISFD NGO Empowerment for Poverty Reduction Program

The IsDB and the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD) with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have forged the "IsDB - ISFD NGO Empowerment for Poverty Reduction Program", a 5-year regional program, as a product to materialize their broader policies, strategies and existing mechanisms of cooperation with CSOs including the: "IsDB Engagement with Civil Society Policy", "IsDB NGO Grant Program", and "Strategy of ISFD and existing UNDP experiences with supporting CSOs". With the main goal to support CSOs through increased participation, visibility, access to funding and better connections with partners.

The "IsDB - ISFD NGO Empowerment for Poverty Reduction Program" is aligned with the inclusive social

development pillar of the Bank's 10-Year Strategy and the President's 5-Year Program, which calls for more participation of Civil Society Organizations as a network of developers. The Program supports the Bank Member Countries to attain the targets of Sustainable Development Goals.

Our belief is that we need CSOs, citizens, philanthropists, and the private sector to complement the work of development organizations and banks.

Traditional financing is also insufficient, and the program taps into innovative financing channels and technological developments. **Islamic Finance, crowdfunding and crowd investing**, and the emergence of **blockchain technologies**, give us a strong foundation on which to build.



Program Activities

The scope of the Program includes:

- 1. Mapping**, screening and categorizing national CSOs in the Member Countries which endorse the program. The mapping exercise will enable the program to:
 1. Have a roster of CSOs that can partner with the IsDB/ISFD;
 2. Identify the institutional capacity gaps, specialisations and landscape of the CSOs; and
 3. Locate other actors such as international and local CSOs, philanthropies, foundations and platforms.
- 2. Building capacity of local CSOs** from IsDB MCs through dialogue and institutional capacity. The aim is to mainstream CSOs in the Bank country engagement to contribute to improving the operational efficiency and effectiveness; and support them to have strong institutional capacity to raise funds, manage, implement, monitor and evaluate of the grant projects as well as participate in the aggregated and crowdfunding platform to have sustainable financing.
- 3. Promoting innovative and transformative projects** of mapped CSOs to contribute to reducing poverty in their communities and therefore to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These transformative projects will focus on:
 1. Improving the lives of refugees and orphans through basic education, skills development, and
 2. Empowering vulnerable communities through income-generating opportunities and job creation for youth. They will feed in the crowdfund and aggregated platform as ideas and success stories to attract donors to scale them up.
- 4. Setting up the Tadamon crowdfund and aggregated platform** that will support mapped CSOs to get more visibility, connections, training and funding, to serve as a “Trip advisor” for citizens and private sector to make it easier to financially support the humanitarian and development efforts of CSOs.
- 5. Establishing the program management** and coordinating the work of partners towards supporting CSOs.

6. Implementation Arrangements

The Program will be implemented within a period of five years starting from 2019. It has a strategic steering committee comprising IsDB, ISFD, UNDP, Development Banks and larger partners (such as Spark, Save the Children Humanitarian Leadership Academy).

More specifically, ISFD is the main sponsor of the Program and IsDB is responsible for the overall management and implementation of the Program, while UNDP - as a service provider to the Bank - is responsible for managing Tadamon platform, mapping CSOs and their capacity building. MCs Governments are requested to endorse the Program so that activities are able to be performed in the countries.

CSOs will be responsible for the implementation of the respective projects and will participate in and benefit from crowdfunding and aggregated Tadamon platform. The resources generated from the platform will go directly to the participating CSOs with close supervision of UNDP and the Bank.

Launching Tadamon, the IsDB - ISFD NGO Empowerment for Poverty Reduction Program on the sidelines of the 74th UN General Assembly in New York



New York, USA, 27th September 2019 – Development stakeholders committed to tackling issues around poverty launched the “IsDB - ISFD NGO Empowerment for Poverty Reduction Program”, during the United Nations General Assembly Week 2019, with a large number of high ranking officials and senior participants from various countries. Amongst the high profile participants

were representatives from various international, regional and local CSOs, donors’ representatives, crowdfunding organizations, as well as regional and international institutions including the IsDB, ISFD, UNDP, Save the Children Humanitarian Leadership Academy, Spark, Plan International, the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), and UNCHR.



Tadamon platform

We are building stronger communities & helping those less fortunate. Equality, transparency, accountability and development stand at the core of everything we do.

IsDB - ISFD NGO Empowerment for Poverty Reduction is a project financed by ISFD, managed by IsDB and implemented by UNDP. Tadamon platform is empowering CSOs (Civil Society Organizations) in 57 OIC (Organization of Islamic Cooperation) Member Countries by providing visibility, funding and knowledge.

1. A web-platform that lists high-quality CSOs and provides them visibility.

As a web-platform, Tadamon offers a comprehensive, easily searchable list of high-quality CSOs with a proven record in 57 countries (members of the IsDB). Local partners can be easily searched on the platform.

2. An educational program that makes CSOs better at what they're doing.

As an educational program, Tadamon offers cutting edge skill-building for everything CSOs need: from fundraising and management to communication and public relations.

3. A bridge between different countries, CSOs and stakeholders.

As a bridge, Tadamon connects grassroots communities in OIC member countries working on development issues. It connects donors and practitioners; it connects Africa, Asia, Europe and MENA; it connects CSOs, partnering organizations and donors

Distance Learning Platform to Build the Capacity of CSOs

The Program will provide access to a tailored learning portal on development and humanitarian topics. The platform will support their institutional capacity efforts to raise funds, manage, implement, monitor and evaluate projects for grassroots communities.

Save the Children through its Humanitarian Leadership Academy will provide access to its learning resources, tools to 500 CSOs across the mapped CSOs in IsDB Member Countries. The distance learning platform will also create and share innovative, relevant learnings that meet the CSOs needs.

Benefits of Joining the program:

For Partners

- Leverage the funding and resources made available by IsDB, ISFD and UNDP.
- Develop internal capacities in alternative finance and innovation in developing countries (such as in Blockchain, Crowdfunding and Impact Investment).
- Strengthen the role of CSOs working in the development area.
- Facilitate and influence the development of national regulation frameworks together with established national Crowdfunding Hubs.
- Access to knowledge and expertise from other partners on the platform.

For CSOs

- Online database with CSO from IsDB Member Countries - Explore organizations in order to collaborate with them and to become a part of a vetted and verified Tadamon network.
- Free online education courses powered by Tadamon and partner platforms - Access customized education & training materials. Learn new skills and participate in capacity building programs through the Crowdfunding Academy.
- Crowdfunding training - Create campaigns to access new sources of funding to finance your projects.
- Donors communities - Gain visibility, and connect with new donors and potential partners through crowdfunding campaigns.

For Participating countries

- Application of cutting edge methods for empowering CSOs which are supporting the development and humanitarian agenda.
- Supporting the ecosystem and policy for innovative financing mechanisms - especially focusing on crowdfunding and blockchain-based finance.
- Accelerated learning generated by being a part of a growing network of partners and countries experimenting on the role of innovative finance for CSO empowerment.

CSOs,
Sign-up!

www.tadamon.community

Open call:

Join the Tadamon community

We are calling for CSOs that are working in the field of *coronavirus response, youth empowerment, refugees, climate change, energy and environment, peacebuilding, community development, agriculture and rural development* to learn more about IsDB - ISFD NGO Empowerment for Poverty Reduction Program through Tadamon platform <https://tadamon.community/> and to **SIGN UP** in order to become part of the Tadamon community.

For additional information and inquiries please see below:



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