

Criteria for the support of projects

- APV support small projects in African countries that can contribute to the improvement of the life conditions of local target groups. The fundamental project goal is to contribute to the protection of the basic needs of a poor, as well as handicapped population group and to improve their economic, social and ecological situation directly and durably. The self-help capability of the target group should be strengthened thanks to the project.
- The project idea and the initiative for the project execution must come from a local available project bearer (self-help group, NGO, cooperative union, etc.) and be followed up by them until its end. The project bearer must apply to APV to submit their project. The project bearer must be decisively involved in the planning and the execution of the project. Their available organizational, administrative and human resources must be sufficient.
- A credible project comprises one or several closed measures, that can be executed in a relatively short time period (at most 5 years). The measures, as well as their beginning and end, must be clearly defined. The project must be durable, which means that it must be able to carry on existing after completion of the support by APV (or other sponsor) without further external support. This condition can be filled either through a foreseeable economic rentability or through public promotion (i.e. for charity projects)
- Restrictions: Already begun measures are fundamentally not promoted. In the health area, only the support of basic-medical supplies, Prevention, enlightenment and fight of focus problems comes in question. In the educational area only general basic formation can be supported. The exclusive support of management costs or material deliveries cannot be the object of the support.

Main focus aspects at project examination

1. Project frameworks

The suitable measures that can be supported by APV are those with specific character and content, based on the given context and the basic conditions, which will help improve the life conditions of a certain target group, who will have to participate actively and durably. The measures must be adapted to the local socio-economic circumstances and environmental conditions. Moreover, they should harmonise with the local existing programs and development projects, and if this appears useful, be co-ordinated with them.

2. Project bearers

Conception, planning, preparation, execution, supervision, control and later continuation of the project must be the responsibility of a formal non-governmental project bearer that is trusted by the target group. The project bearer turns into the responsible contract partner of APV. They must have sufficient available organisational, administrative, human and if necessary financial resources in order to execute and conduct the project successfully.

3. Target group

The target group can be the population of a village, a region or a district, the employees of a business or a certain partial group (for example farmers, women, pupils, etc.). The target group must identify itself with the project and therefore participate actively in its execution in cooperation with the project bearer. They should also be involved in the continuation of the work put in place (self-help principle).

4. Project content

The project is represented by clearly defined measures, through which a certain result will need to be achieved in an objective and timed framework. The situation and the problems of the target group, as well as the given prerequisites must be presented in the project proposition. The need for the expected result and its benefit for the target group must be proved. The type and scope of each planned measure, their temporal sequence and the execution modalities are to be described. The measures must be technically suitable in order to surely reach the expected result.

5. Costs and funding

Total costs for investment and execution of the project must be estimated as precisely as possible. The project benefit must be appropriately proportional to the project costs. The partial costs that should be financed by APV must be identified exactly. A complete funding plan for the entire project execution must be submitted. The funding can only then be promised if the total funding is secured. In the case of several givers involved in one particular measure, the form of the community funding must be agreed between the givers.

6. Sustainability

Thanks to a provisory profit and loss calculation and on the basis of factual plans, it must be demonstrated that the project bearer and the target group can carry on the activities for the benefit of the target group itself after completion of the financial support. During the examination of the project, all risks that could jeopardise a positive development of the project will have to be considered.

