

PERMANENT COUNCIL OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
COMMITTEE ON INTER-AMERICAN SUMMITS MANAGEMENT
AND CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION
IN OAS ACTIVITIES

OEA/Ser.G
CP/CISC-203/05
5 December 2005
Original: Spanish

APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 6
OF THE GUIDELINES FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF CIVIL SOCIETY
ORGANIZATIONS IN OAS ACTIVITIES [CP/RES. 759 (1217/99)]

[Fundación Nacional para el Desarrollo (FUNDE)]

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION CONCERNING THE *FUNDACIÓN NACIONAL PARA EL DESARROLLO (FUNDE)*

The present document was prepared by the Summits of the Americas Secretariat to provide information to the member states of the Organization of American States on the civil society organization *Fundación Nacional para el Desarrollo (FUNDE)* [National Foundation for Development].

It contains basic data and a list of supporting documentation submitted by this civil society organization pursuant to resolution CP/RES. 759 (1217/99) “Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities.”

1. Background

The *Fundación Nacional para el Desarrollo (FUNDE)* is a non-profit entity with headquarters in El Salvador and was established in 1998, with the mission of influencing the economic and social development of El Salvador. FUNDE’s activities focus on research, analysis, and drafting of proposals for development, which are promoted by means of strategies such as the publication of review documents, lobbying with various social players and officeholders, the transfer of knowledge, and participation in national and international debates, among others.

FUNDE focuses its activities on the following areas: *regional and local development: sector policies and macroeconomic policies*, and its lines of work include topics such as rural development and the integral management of water resources, public participation, local institutional capacity building, promotion of local economic development and national policies for local development.

FUNDE is a member of the following national and international networks: Central American Trade, Integration, and Sustainable Development Initiative (CID Initiative), Network for Local Development, Committee on Influence for Rural Development, South-South Network, International Society for Development (SID), Latin American Sciences Association (LASA), Latin American Association of Promotion Organizations (ALOP), Corridor of Dialogue, World Forum of Alternatives, Coffee Forum, and Network of Exchange and Action for Development (RIADEL).

Of the various sources of funding of *FUNDE*, the following can be mentioned, among others: OXFAM International, CREA International, Diakonia Sweden, CARE International, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP-El Salvador), Catholic Relief Services, Ebert Stiftung Foundation, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Barcelona Parliament, Congressional Hunger Center, European Union, Lutheran Help in Action, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France.

FUNDE submitted its application to the OAS on April 4, 2005.

2. **Name, address, and date of establishment**

Name of the organization: Fundación Nacional para el Desarrollo (FUNDE)

Address: 105 avenida Norte y calle Arturo Ambrogi #411 Colonia Escalón,
San Salvador, El Salvador
P. O. Box 1744, Centro de Gobierno, San Salvador, El Salvador,
C. A.

Phones: 503-2264 49 38 (up to 49 44)

Fax: 503- 2263 0454

Website: www.funde.org

Email: funde@funde.org

Executive Director: Roberto Rubio-Fabián

Date of establishment: July 13, 1998

3. **Primary areas of activity of the CSO and their relationship to OAS activities**

FUNDE is aimed at contributing to the economic and social development of El Salvador by conducting research and drafting proposals, providing training, and promoting development-related topics. The focus of its work is on regional and local development, sector policies and macroeconomic policies. Its ties with activities being carried out in OAS are:

- Promoting public participation in thinking about and debating topics related to economic, environmental, and social development.
- Promoting a more active role of citizens in decision making and transparent actions of their local government.
- Developing projects and activities that contribute to resolving and transforming water-related environmental conflicts.
- Contributing to drawing up theoretical frameworks and proposals aimed at the institutional transformation needed for the optimal insertion of small economies into regional and international economic integration processes.
- Contributing to analyzing and drafting proposals in bilateral and multilateral negotiations of free trade treaties signed and to be signed such as the Free Trade Agreement between the Dominican Republic, Central America and the United States (CAFTA) and the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), with emphasis on farming, labor, and environmental topics and bearing in mind medium-sized and small enterprises.

4. CSO contributions that could be of interest to the OAS

FUNDE strives to reach its objectives of contributing to the socioeconomic development of El Salvador by organizing national and international forums, publishing documents of analysis about cyclical topics through its Documentation Center (CENDOC), and facilitating advisory services and training. Likewise, with the support of donors and by its participation in various civil society organization networks, *FUNDE* has become involved in the implementation of projects in local communities and the formulation of proposals to reform municipal laws aimed at improving transparency in the administration of local government. In this context, among the contributions of *FUNDE* that might be of interest to the OAS, it is possible to identify the following:

- Contributing to analyzing and proposing topics of socioeconomic development through its participation in discussion forums.
- Access to the studies and publications of its Documentation Center.
- Collaboration with the Office of Trade, Growth, and Competitiveness of the OAS Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) in its efforts to provide technical advisory services to those member States with small economies to address economic integration processes.
- Facilitating expertise and experience to the SEDI Office of Sustainable Development and Environment to implement projects and studies regarding the resolution of water conflicts in rural areas.
- Collaborating in looking for alternatives to promote the participation of citizens in public policymaking and the administration of local government in the framework of actions carried out by the High-Level Inter-American Network on Decentralization, Local Governance, and Citizen Participation (RIAD).

5. Identification of working areas of the OAS

FUNDE considers that it can contribute to OAS initiatives and efforts in the following areas:

- Supporting the SEDI *Office of Trade, Growth and Competitiveness* in the framework of the *Hemispheric Cooperation Program* adopted by the Ministers of Trade of the hemisphere in November 2002. Specifically, the *FUNDE* can contribute by participating in workshops and drawing up studies on institutional capacity building of small economies to tackle the challenges of economic integration.
- Facilitating access of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) to publications and information and its bi-monthly newsletter “Alternatives for Development” which reviews various topical trends and provides an account of institutional activities.

- Supporting the High-Level Inter-American Network on Decentralization, Local Governance and Citizen Participation (RIAD) in compliance with the mandates established by the *Declaration of La Paz on Decentralization and on Strengthening Regional and Municipal Administration and Participation of Civil Society*. FUNDE could act as a connection between OAS and support networks involved in topics of local development and decentralization to which this foundation is affiliated and in this way contribute to RIAD's efforts to strengthen its networks of linkage.
- FUNDE could also contribute to implementing the *Inter-American Strategy for the Promotion of Public Participation in Decision Making for Sustainable Development* by facilitating technical advisory services and exchanging information of its experiences in this area, especially with regard to the integral management of water resources and coffee growing.
- Sharing experiences on reforms to municipal legislation aimed at opening up spaces and better mechanisms for public participation and their incidence on transparency in local public management in the framework of the *Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption*.
- Providing suggestions and proposals to the States participating in the Summits of the Americas on topics such as participation of civil society, strengthening democratic commitment, free trade in the hemisphere, fighting corruption, sustainable development and the promotion of democratic culture.
- Providing its expertise in programs to promote democratic cultures launched by the *Office for the Promotion of Democracy (OPD)*.

6. Documents submitted to the OAS

- Letter addressed to the Secretary General, date April 4, 2005
- Charter
- Bylaws
- Report of activities for 2000
- Financial report for 2004 (audited by Moreno Moreno González y Asociados)
- Listing of funding sources
- Institutional mission statement