

## **The Africa-Europe Foundation Launches ‘Partners Initiative’ to empower Youth-Led Initiatives**

*The New Partners Initiative of the Africa-Europe Foundation (AEF) will provide support and expertise to develop youth-led grassroots initiatives aimed at engaging new audiences in Africa-Europe cooperation. The first cycle focuses on Blue Economy and Ocean.*

We combine micro-awards of up to 5000 Euros with access to mentorship and expertise from AEF’s global network. Supported initiatives can take the form of grass root projects, workshops, townhalls and convenings to scaling the visibility and impact of projects on priority areas of Africa-Europe cooperation.

The first cycle of the Partners Initiative in 2023 is on the theme of “Blue Economy and Ocean Governance”, more specifically:

- Youth-led entrepreneurship and innovation in the domain of ocean/blue economy
- Partnership initiatives focused on ocean biodiversity, food systems and climate mitigation

Award winners will enter a network of experts and leaders working across Africa and Europe and internationally and will have the opportunity to collaborate with AEF in helping to shape policy at the cross-continental and multilateral level.

Applicants must complete the enclosed application form, which includes a detailed proposal work plan and budget. The deadline for submissions is 17.00 CEST (Brussels time) on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023** and must be sent to [partnerships@africaeuropefoundation.org](mailto:partnerships@africaeuropefoundation.org).

*Please note that the sign-off of individual grants may be subject to the timing and regulations of AEF cooperation agreements with international donors.*

**Any questions to be addressed to [partnerships@africaeuropefoundation.org](mailto:partnerships@africaeuropefoundation.org)**