



GRANT FACILITY

INFORMATION SESSION 19 JANUARY 2010

10:00 – 12:00 AM

Additional questions and answers

Training can be organised in a member state of the European Union or in third countries receiving humanitarian aid. Is there a preference for certain countries or regions?

Answer: No, there are no privileged countries or locations. The choice should be based on the results of the needs assessment but also taking into consideration other criteria such as inter alia security, cost effectiveness ...

Can an action implemented in Switzerland be eligible?

Answer: In principle actions should be implemented in European Union countries or in third countries receiving humanitarian aid but a derogation from this rule is possible if justified and explained.

Under specific objective 1, is the nationality of the participants to training events relevant?

Answer: No, but the staff who participate in training events should be staff working for an eligible organisation (and here the nationality at the level of the organisation plays a role). Eligible organisations are:

- FPA-partners;
- Local implementing partners of FPA-partners;
- Civil society in EU countries, under-represented in the framework of the current FPA.

Can an action containing a research component be eligible under specific objective 2?

Answer: Yes, but the research results should contribute to the realization of this objective which is to enhance the quality of management, to increase the accountability and / or to promote humanitarian principles and law.

Under which specific objective, 1 or 2, would best fit a proposal that contains both a research component and a training component?

Answer: A proposal should indeed be linked to only one specific objective. This means that a choice has to be made, in function of the relevance and added value to the specific objective.

Could "Education in emergencies" be considered as being an initiative in the priority sector "protection and security under specific objective 1?

Answer: Yes, it could be considered as such.

Can we award "sub-grants" to our implementing partners?

Answer: DG ECHO's contractual relationship will be defined with the lead partner through signature of the grant agreement. The lead partner will be directly responsible for the implementation of the action.

DG ECHO does not directly intervene in the relations between the FPA-partner and its implementing partners. The lead partner should however ensure that the implementing partners respect a series of obligations in the areas of right of access, procurement, controls and audit, etc...

Single Form: How to complete chapter 4.3.2, can this be done using graphs and charts?

Answer: graphs, charts, pictures and other means may of course be used to complete chapter 4.3.2 of the Single Form, but we would also expect some descriptive text.

Single Form (chapter 4.3.1) some questions were raised concerning the presentation of the log-frame.

Answer: We would highly recommend that applicants read the "Single Form Guidelines", pages 10,11 and 12 which give concrete guidance on how to complete the log-frame.

Can a private company be a subcontractor?

Answer: Yes. You have the possibility to award contracts to subcontractors. Subcontractors are not implementing partners, and are subject to the procurement rules set out in Annex IV to the standard grant agreement.

Who can benefit from the grants financed under specific objective 4 "Reinforce networking between ECHO partners": the network itself or the international humanitarian community?

Answer: The network itself will be the grant beneficiary but the work performed and the results reached by the network should benefit the humanitarian aid community.

Under specific objective 4 "Reinforce networking between ECHO partners", can a FPA partner introduce a project proposal as lead partner?

Answer: No. Under specific objective 4, we intend to sign grant agreements with the networks themselves and not with one of the FPA partners, member of the network. The network needs to be a non-profit legal person who acquired legal status. Before signing the grant agreement DG ECHO will invite the network to submit their statutes or articles of association, their most recent certified annual accounts and a legal entity sheet.

DG ECHO would also accept that at the moment the network introduces its Single Form the network is being established. However, it should be established before signing a grant agreement.

What do you mean by "civil society in European Union countries which are under-represented in the framework of the current Framework Partnership Agreement"?

Answer: Non profit humanitarian aid organisations from European Union countries which are under-represented in the framework of the current Framework Partnership Agreement (Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia).
