

FAQ

Pilot action on engaging citizens in the implementation of cohesion policy

Who can submit an expression of interest ?

Officially designated managing authority and intermediate body for programmes co-financed by the ERDF and/or the CF can submit their expression of interest.

Urban authorities who do not have the status of Intermediate bodies but are involved in the management of programmes co-financed by the ERDF and/or the CF (e.g. Urban authorities responsible for the implementation of sustainable urban development strategies) will also be considered eligible.

What is the thematic aim of the call?

The thematic aim of the call is to improve citizen engagement in the implementation of cohesion policy. Your application should demonstrate what you would like to achieve with OECD support, and how you intend to strengthen your participatory practices for engaging citizens and civil society organisations in your area of competence.

Do the citizen engagement activities I intend to develop have to be directly linked to cohesion policy and the implementation of ERDF/CF?

Yes, the link between your area of competence, implementation of cohesion policy and the citizen engagement activities should be clearly established in your expression of interest.

Can my proposal be about creating recommendation or guidance to be implemented by my beneficiaries to improve their participatory practices?

Preference will be given to projects that propose to design initiatives that will directly be implemented by the authority itself to improve its own participatory practices.

What is an action plan?

The support provided by OECD will help authorities to strengthen their organization and tools to manage participatory process on the long term. An action plan may include e.g. preparation of guidance, development of a digital platform or any other participatory tool or mechanism but also internal measures to improve the authority's capacity to manage meaningful participation process.

Will a specific contribution be required from the selected authorities participating in the pilot?

The call does not require the applicants to specify the exact resources or funding they intend to use. However, interested authorities are expected to demonstrate their readiness to dedicate administrative resources to work closely with the OECD and the European Commission.

Is it compulsory to notify the national level of my submission of expression of interest?

Yes, the relevant national coordination body/ministry (or equivalent) should be kept informed about your expression of interest. This does not imply that any formal authorization from them is required to participate.

When is foreseen the work with OECD to start and for how long?

This schedule is indicative and might be modified depending on the evolution of the COVID-19 crisis.

The total duration of the pilot is 12 month.

The deadline to apply is 30 April 2020

- Results will be announced in May 2020
- There will be a one day kick-off workshop in Brussels in June 2020 (To be confirmed)
- Experts from OECD will then start working directly with the selected authorities as agreed between them. Most of the work (3 days workshop, design of initiatives and action plan to roll them out) will most probably happen sometime between September and November 2020. OECD and the selected authorities will remain in contact until the end of the pilot (April 2021)
- The end of the project will be in April 2021 (indicative timing) with a one day final workshop.

Can I send more than one expression of interest?

No, only one expression of interest per authority will be accepted. In case more than one expression of interest is received from the same authority, only the one that was sent the latest will be taken into consideration.

I have already submitted my expression of interest, can I modify it?

Only if the modified expression of interest is sent before the deadline (30 April 2020). Please be aware that only the version that was submitted the latest will be taken into account for the selection.