



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
REGIONAL AND URBAN POLICY
Communication Unit

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

2020CE16BAT012

**Support for citizen engagement in the implementation of cohesion
policy**

Questions & Answers (Q&As)

24/04/2020

You will find below a list of questions received for this call for proposals. Please note that the present document aims to complement and clarify the call for proposals and does not replace it. A Q&A document will be periodically published; applicants are invited to check the following website regularly:

https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/newsroom/funding-opportunities/calls-for-proposal/

Q1. The Call states: "The specific objective is to support projects that provide citizens/civil society organisations (CSOs) efficient means to actively participate in the design and/or implementation and/or monitoring of cohesion policy. The selected projects will promote active participation of citizens at the level of an operational programme, of a policy objective covered by the programme and/or of a specific objective." - Since the present programming period is coming to an end, is it possible to design and develop any tool or activity that targets the future operation programmes for the upcoming programming period 2021 - 2028? We are aware that in the footnote you also refer to a proposal related to the next programming period. However, the potential projects will have to be implemented in 2021, when OPs, and projects of the present programming period will be closing, and new ones will not be available to test a potential tool in its entirety.

A1. The general objective of this call is to test and support approaches to encourage and support citizen engagement in cohesion policy for better implementation and a stronger sense of ownership of its results among citizens. It is possible to develop a tool or activity targeting the upcoming programming period, for example focusing on the early stage of the programme cycle, e.g. preparation. On the contrary, proposals focusing on the current programme cycle might for example focus on later stages of the programme cycle, e.g. project and programme monitoring and evaluation.

Q2. Possible tools that although target in the test period an operational programme of the Cohesion Policy, but it is more general in nature, thus, it can be applicable to other policies as well, can be supported under this call?

A2. Yes tools applicable to other policies as well can be supported under this call as long as its applicability to cohesion policy is an important dimension of the project. The project should demonstrate a clear link to the implementation of cohesion policy.

Q3. In the second point, 2. OBJECTIVE(S) – THEME(S) – PRIORITIES, it is said:

*"The specific objective is to support projects that provide citizens/civil society organisations (CSOs) efficient means to actively participate in the design and/or implementation and/or monitoring of cohesion policy. **The selected projects will promote active participation of citizens at the level of an operational programme, of a policy objective covered by the programme and/or of a specific objective 1. The selection will be done based on the quality of the proposal and planned activities.**"*

When it is said "*The selected projects will promote active participation of citizens at the level of an operational programme...*", does it mean that our current project must be deployed with another UE project according to the cohesion policy ? Or that our current project may be "used" to promote active participation of citizens of another projects, in the widest sense of the term?

A3. Proposals must be linked either to projects funded by ERDF and CF or to management of ERDF and CF in a wider sense.

Q4. Is it possible to present a project discussing on issues on ERDF 2014-2020 period or only for the new period 2021-2027?

A4. It is possible to present a project focusing on the 2014-2020 ERDF programming period as long as this is targeting actions that are relevant to support citizen engagement in the implementation of cohesion policy.