



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
REGIONAL AND URBAN POLICY  
Communication Unit

## **CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

2020CE16BAT099

***'Support for information measures relating to the EU Cohesion  
policy'***

## **Questions & Answers (Q&As)**

10/12/2020

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&As document will be periodically published; applicants are invited to check this website regularly.

**Q1.** Is it possible to cover the expected co-financing share with contribution IN KIND (work of employees and timesheet presentation)?

**A1.** As mentioned under section 11.3 (i) of the call for proposals and in Article II.6.4 of the draft grant agreement, contributions in kind from third parties are not considered as eligible costs.

**Q2.** With regard to call of proposals 2020CE16BAT099, in point 8.2 of the call text you detail the following:

“Applicants must have the professional competencies as well as appropriate qualifications necessary to complete the proposed action. In this respect, applicants have to submit a declaration on their honour, and the following supporting documents:

- a list of previous projects/activities performed and related to the call or a list of activities that have been carried out in the last two years (maximum 4 projects/activities).”

Shall applicants submit the list of previous projects/activities as a separate annex of the application text, or shall this be under section on the “Operational Capacity” of the application form?

**A2.** Applicants may submit the list of previous projects/activities as a separate annex or by filling section II of the application form.

**Q3.** Regarding the Call for proposals "Support for information measures relating to the EU Cohesion policy", I would like to know whether a proposal could be equally served by a consortium consisting of partners coming from the same country. Are there any restrictions or obligations regarding this? Is it just suggested for a consortium to have a wider European footprint or even the opposite one? Please let me know about all this since I haven't spotted anything on this matter either in the call or in the Q+A documents.

**A3.** Yes, a consortium consisting of partners coming from the same country is also a possibility – there are no restrictions or obligations regarding this. It is up to the applicants to form the consortia that they wish or to submit monobeneficiary applications. As mentioned in Section 6.2 of the call for proposals, “The measures should be implemented within the EU at local, regional, multiregional, national level, or at the level of several Member States.”

**Q4.** Following a careful examination of both the call for proposal in object and the published FAQs, we understand that regional bodies in Italy are not eligible as applicants or co-applicants, due to the fact that they are in charge of the implementation of the Cohesion policy (i.e. European Social Fund).

Taking this into account, we would like to know if said public authorities could instead be involved in the project activities (implementation, dissemination, etc.) as associated partners or with similar roles.

Should that be the case, we kindly ask to be provided with the documentation needed to formalise this type of involvement.

**A4.** Yes, synergies with partners such as managing authorities and intermediate bodies can be proposed in the applications (as long as these entities do not receive funding under this call for proposals). There is no specific documentation provided from the Commission in order to formalise this type of involvement.

**Q5.** We have checked the Q&A section and the Call text. There we have seen that applications may be submitted in all official languages of the EU.

However, we did not find information on the language versions of the application form (for which we have received the following) question:

- Will the „Application form“ be available in German?

Did we overlook something?

**A5.** The English version of this application form is the only one currently available. However, potential applicants' attention is drawn to section 5 of the call, pursuant to which applications can be drafted in any language of the EU even if applicants use the English version of the (mono-beneficiary or multi-beneficiary) application form. It is not necessary that the language of the template used corresponds to the language used by applicants to complete their application.

**Q6.** Are the Interreg (European Territorial Cooperation) programmes considered as a part of the European Cohesion Policy under this Call for proposals? Or to be more exact is the promotion of Interreg (cross-border, transnational and interregional) projects eligible under this Call for proposals.

Namely we understand the Interreg programmes as a part of European Regional Development Fund that is one of the essential elements of European Cohesion Policy.

**A6.** Yes, [Interreg](#) is indeed considered as part of the EU Cohesion policy. Please note that it is the responsibility of applicants to verify that the activities that they propose are eligible. Please refer to section 6.2 on “Eligible activities”.

**Q7.** I would know the following pieces of information about the partnership and affiliated entities. In particular, does it provide a minimum and a maximum number of partners that will compose the consortium? Which is the main difference between a partner and affiliated entities?

**A7.** There is no minimum/maximum number of beneficiary requirements for consortia.

As mentioned in the Q&A 2 published on 26/10/2020, “affiliated entities” are legal entities which have a specific relationship with the beneficiary<sup>1</sup>. On that basis, they may incur eligible costs for the information measure covered by the grant under certain conditions, i.e.: they are legal entities satisfying the eligibility criteria of the particular call and non-exclusion criteria and having a link with a beneficiary, notably a legal or capital link, which is neither limited to the action nor established for the sole purpose of its implementation. This link must be proven by supporting documents to be provided with the application such as the statutory list of members included in reports approved by governing bodies, the list of controlled companies in audited consolidated accounts, the balance sheet or the deeds of establishment proving ownership or partnership. Affiliated entities are not signatories to the grant agreement and are not financially liable in case of recovery of funds. The beneficiary to whom they are linked is financially liable for them. Consequently, the Commission does not test the financial capacity of affiliated entities at the time of application.

**Q8.** Can a lead partner be an Local Action Group?

**A8.** Proposals may be submitted by any applicant that complies with the requirements and criteria established in the Call for proposals.

Applicants are free to organise themselves any way that they want and to designate their coordinator in case of a multi-beneficiary application.

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<sup>1</sup> Article 187 of the Financial Regulation