

Call for proposals VP/2016/002

Information and training measures for workers' organisations

Questions and answers

Last update: 12/05/2016

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Q1 Which types of organisations are eligible as lead applicant under this call for proposals?

A1 As stipulated in the call for proposals, the lead applicant must be a social partner organisation representing *workers*.

Q2 Which organisations are eligible as co-applicants? Must co-applicants also be social partners?

A2 Any organisation which is a properly constituted and registered legal person¹ and has its registered office in one of the EU Member States or Candidate Countries is eligible as co-applicant under this call for proposals. Hence, co-applicants do not have to be social partner

¹ In application of Article 131 of the Financial Regulation, social partner organisations without legal personality are also eligible provided that the conditions of the Financial Regulation related thereto are met.

organisations. The only restriction in this respect that is laid down in the call for proposals is that co-applicants cannot be "independent consultants, conference organisers, etc." (see footnote 13 on page 11 of the call).

Q3 What is a workers' organisation?

A3 A workers' organisation is, as it is formulated more precisely in the call, a "social partner organisation representing workers" – often also referred to as "trade unions". Such organisations engage in some form of "social dialogue" with employer organisations, discussing and often negotiating such issues as wages, working conditions, training, etc.

Q4 Can training measures targeting individual workers or unemployed persons be covered by projects financed under this call for proposals?

A4 Training measures financed under this call are not supposed to directly target individual workers (e.g. training aimed at adapting the skills of factory workers to cope with digitalisation of their working environment; training of job seekers to help them find a job; etc.). The "information and training measures" targeted by this call are expected to contribute to developing the capacity of the workers' *organisations* to better cater for and defend the interests of their members, at different levels (see also section 2.1 of the call, which develops this aspect further).

Q5 How many countries should be involved/covered in projects submitted under this call for proposals?

A5 In case the lead applicant is not a European-level workers' organisation, the call requires that there has to be involvement of applicants, affiliated entities or associate organisations from *more than one* Member State and/or Candidate Country (i.e. two or more).

It should also be noted that if the lead applicant is a national/regional workers' organisation, it is required to have the involvement, as co-applicant or associate organisation, from a European-level social partner organisation, even if organisations of more than two countries are involved.

It should finally be noted that it is not so much the precise number of organisations/countries involved that is pertinent, but their relevance in view of the action's objectives (see in this context also section 2.3 of the call), as well as the degree in which their involvement contributes to related award criteria, such as:

- ii. The extent to which the action has a genuine transnational dimension
- iii. The quality of the consortium and broader partnership, including the degree of involvement and commitment at the application stage of the social partners/stakeholders in the action
- iv. The extent to which the action contributes to the priorities, activities or results of European social dialogue
- v. The added value, i.e. the lasting impact and/or multiplier effect of the action

Q6 The call stipulates that, if the proposal is submitted by a national/regional workers' organisation, involvement from a European-level social partner organisation is required, as co-applicant or associate organisation. Can the European social partner also be involved as affiliated entity?

A6 The aim of this provision is to ensure the link with European-level social dialogue through the involvement of a European-level social partner organisation. Therefore, involvement of the latter as affiliated entity will also be acceptable in view of fulfilling the eligibility criterion in question.