



EUROPEAN UNION

Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina

Sarajevo, March 2013

Clarification No. 1

CIVIL SOCIETY FACILITY PROGRAMME 2012

"Environment and Climate Change"

Publication reference: EuropeAid/134-062/L/ACT/BA

Call for Proposals No.: EC/BIH/CFP/013/001

Question 1:

I would like to ask can municipality and Associates on our municipality apply for the Civil society facility programme 2012-environment and climate change?

Answer 1:

No, a municipality cannot apply to this Call for Proposals.

Question 2:

And are you going to organize any workshop based on this call for proposal?

Answer 2:

No.

Question 3:

In the point 2.1.1 Eligibility of applicants is not specified nothing about the International Organizations. Could an International Organization be eligible in this call for proposals?

Answer 3:

No, an International Organization cannot apply to this Call for Proposals.

Question 4:

Article 1.3 of the Guidelines states that "The overall indicative amount made available under this Call for Proposals is EUR 500,000.00." and that "Any grant requested under this Call for Proposals must fall between the following minimum and maximum amounts: - minimum amount: EUR 400,000.00 - maximum amount: EUR 500,000.00." Do I get it right that only one proposal will be selected for funding under this call?

Answer 4:

Yes, your understanding is correct. One (1) grant contract with a maximum value of EUR 500,000.00 is foreseen for award under this Call for Proposals.

Question 5:

In article 2.1.4 the guidelines list, among other suggested activities, the following one: "Identify problems in funding situation and strategy for fund acquisition" (and a number of subsequent ones dealing with the same issue. The article 1.1 would suggest that "problems in funding situation" and "funds acquisition" here relate to NGO sector, but I am not completely sure. Could you, please, confirm? And if my reading is correct, is the suggestion overall about identifying problems in funding that applicants and co-applicants may be facing OR funding problems faced by the environmental NGO sector in Bosnia as a whole?

Answer 5:

One of the suggested activities is addressing funding problems faced by the environmental NGO sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Question 6:

On page 7 of the Guidelines for grant applicants it is stated: "Applicants are required to address at least one sector identified below:

- Natural resources and waste,
- Noise, chemicals, environment and health,
- Forests, nature protection and biodiversity."

My organisation, together with partner organisations, intends on submitting a project proposal on the general topic "Water as a natural resource, its management and protection".

It appears that some of the topics listed above under three separate bullets will necessarily get intertwined in the project proposal.

My question is: Does the applicant need to address at least one of the above topics completely (e.g. Natural resources and waste)? Or, will our proposal be discarded as ineligible if we do cover the topics I have described above without focusing on waste as well?

Answer 6:

Applicant needs to address at least one of the identified issues. There are nine (9) issues identified and grouped in three sectors. Applicant must address at least one issue of any sector given. Therefore, application would not be rejected for addressing i.e. natural resources and not waste of the first sector specified.

Question 7:

Is sub-granting allowed in this Call for proposals? We were considering sub-granting to support positive local small-scale environmental initiatives. If the answer is yes, what would be the maximum amount for a sub-grant?

Answer 7:

No, sub granting is not allowed under this Call for proposals.

Question 8:

Is this call related to last year's call CIVIL SOCIETY FACILITY PROGRAMME 2012 (EuropeAid/132-796/L/ACT/BA)? In other words, does being a beneficiary or a partner in a project funded from last year's programme prevents an organisation from applying to the actual Call for proposals?

Answer 8:

This Call is a part of the Civil Society Facility Programme 2012. The Lot 12 from the last Call (EuropeAid/132-796/L/ACT/BA) was cancelled and is now re-launched as this Call for Proposals. This means that applicants and their partners awarded with a grant contract from the previous Call (EuropeAid/132-796/L/ACT/BA) cannot apply to the current Call for Proposals.

Question 9:

May the EC intervene in the relationship between the total cost of the action and the amount requested from the Contracting Authority suggested by the applicant in the phase of the submission of the Concept Notes?

Answer 9:

The question is not clear. However, please read carefully the Size of grants sub-heading of article 1.3 (Financial allocation provided by the contracting authority) of the Guidelines for grant applicants published under this Call for Proposals.

Question 10:

Is it in the case of invitation to the Full Proposal possible for the applicant to re-balance the costs in the phase of submitting a Full Application Form?

Answer 10:

Please read carefully article 2.2.1 of the Guidelines for grant applicants, which inter alia notes: "...The EU contribution may not vary from the initial estimate by more than 20 %. Applicants are free to adapt the percentage of co-financing required within the minimum and maximum amount and percentages of co-financing, as laid down in these Guidelines in section 1.3..."

Question 11:

Concerning the eligibility of applicants, which is the definition of NGO considered relevant within this Programme? Are the specific criteria to be fulfilled by a no profit organisation to surely fall within this category? For example, are non-governmental research institutes and independent think tanks eligible?

Answer 11:

Please see article 2.1.1. Eligibility of applicants (i.e. applicant and co-applicant) of the Guidelines for grant applicants. In order to be eligible for a grant, the applicant must:

- be legal persons **and**
- be non-profit-making **and**
- non-governmental organisations or high educational institution (universities)

An NGO is not a state, national or international governmental institution or organisation or an organisation effectively controlled by such an institution. Whether a potential applicant is likely to be considered as effectively controlled by such an institution will depend on the extent to which such an applicant can demonstrate that it is independent of the state as regards decision-making, budgetary control and the appointment of staff (including members of its controlling body).

Question 12:

In case of activities carried out in Bosnia by the staff of an organisation based outside in a EU member state, are the related salary costs and mission expenses to travel to / from Bosnia eligible?

Answer 12:

Only eligible costs needed for implementation of eligible actions within approved Action and not falling under ineligible costs are eligible.

Please read carefully Article 2.1.5 of the Guidelines for grant applicants, as well as Article 14.2 of the General Conditions General Conditions applicable to European Union-financed grant contracts for external actions published within this Call for Proposals dossier.

Question 13:

As for the applicant, I understand that also all co-applicants need to be registered in PADOR. Is this right?

Answer 13:

Yes, this is correct. PADOR registration is obligatory for applicants and co-applicants.

Question 14:

A suggested number of project partners (affiliated entities)?

Answer 14:

It is up to applicant to decide. In accordance with the Guidelines for grant applicants, the applicant may act individually or with co-applicant(s).

Question 15:

A suggested number of countries from which the partners come from?

Answer 15:

It is up to applicant to decide.

Question 16:

Any requests on an allocation ratio of sources between partners?

Answer 16:

It is up to applicant to decide.

Question 17:

On page 4, Section 1.3 Financial allocation provided by the contracting authority, it is stated: "The overall indicative amount made available under this Call for Proposals is EUR 500,000.00" then on the following page it continues under 'Size of grants' with:

Any grant requested under this Call for Proposals must fall between the following minimum and maximum amounts:

- . minimum amount: EUR 400,000.00
- . maximum amount: EUR 500,000.00

Is this correct? Does it mean you will only fund one single project under this call?

Answer 17:

Please see Answer 4.

Question 18:

"Applicants are required to address at least one sector identified below:

- . Natural resources and waste,
- . Noise, chemicals, environment and health,
- . Forests, nature protection and biodiversity"

What do you exactly consider as "one sector"? - Does each bullet represent a sector or does, e.g. the second bullet "Noise, chemicals, environment and health" consists of three different sectors?

Answer 18:

Please see Answer 6.