# EUROPEAN UNION



#### EUROPEAN UNION OFFICE IN KOSOVO

Pristina, June 2022 Ares(2022)

# Support to civil society, media and human rights actors in Kosovo 2021

## EuropeAid/173904/DD/ACT/XK

Clarification points No. 2 received by e-mail

GENERAL REMARK: According to the provisions made in the Section 2.2.4 of the Guidelines for applicants, the contracting authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of lead applicants, co-applicants, affiliated entity(ies), an action or specific activities proposed under the grant scheme referred. Therefore, all the clarifications provided below regard general aspects brought into discussion and potentially applicable to more potential applicants, and not strictly applicable to a specific lead applicant, co-applicant, affiliated entity, action or activity.

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### **Question 1:**

Can a public (governmental) institution be a co-applicant within the call?

### **Answer 1:**

Please refer to point 2.1.1 (Eligibility of applicants (i.e. lead applicant and coapplicant(s))) of the Guidelines for applicants and Corrigendum no.1 to Guidelines where is stated:

*"[...]* 

be a civil society organisation

[...]

Public (governmental) institutions are not eligible. Please also refer to the following explanation in the same point: "Public or private Universities are not eligible as lead applicants for this call. Public Universities are encouraged to apply as co-applicants responsible to carry out scientific work such as analysis, research or studies as part of the action (see also section 2.1.1). The maximum percentage of the budget directly linked to research work under this call is limited to 7% of the total eligible costs of the action. Salaries of staff of public universities are not eligible costs of the action."

Public institutions as well as other

organisations and individuals may be involved in the Action as Associates in accordance with point 2.1.3 of the Guidelines.

#### **Question 2:**

What is the specific number of co-applicants within the call, and are there any specific regions (min/max) that co-applicants should represent (besides Kosovo)?

#### Answer 2:

Please refer to point 2.1.1 (Eligibility of applicants (i.e. lead applicant and coapplicant(s))) of the Guidelines for applicants and Corrigendum no.1 to the Guidelines where is stated:

For lots 1, 2, 3 and 4:

"The lead applicant may act individually or with co-applicants."

It means the co-applicant is not compulsory, but if there is a co-applicant, the co-applicant must satisfy the eligibility criteria as applicable to the lead applicant itself with exception of being registered in Kosovo.

#### For lot 5:

"The lead applicant may act individually or with co-applicants as specified hereafter.

[...]

If the lead applicant is established in Kosovo, it may act individually or with co-applicants. However if the lead applicant is not established in Kosovo, it must act with at least one co-applicant established in Kosovo."

It means that minimum one coapplicant established in Kosovo is obligatory if the lead applicant is not established in Kosovo. The coapplicant must satisfy the eligibility criteria as applicable to the lead applicant itself.

In case the lead applicant is established in Kosovo the co-applicant is not compulsory, but if there is a co-applicant, the co-applicant must satisfy the eligible criteria as applicable to the lead applicant itself.

There is no maximum number of coapplicants.

## **Question 3:**

We are aware that at this stage we will not be submitting a budget sheet, however, we want to clarify while we do the budget estimations, whether the expenses for Office Rent qualify as eligible project costs, and if so, is there a specific percentage which covers the total rent cost?

## Answer 3:

As provided in Article 14.2.j) of the general conditions to the standard grant contract (see Annex G of the guidelines), project office costs qualify as eligible costs.

There is no specific percentage which covers total rent costs provided that the costs fulfil the criteria as set in the Article 14.2.j) mentioned above.