



EUROPEAN UNION

EUROPEAN UNION OFFICE IN KOSOVO

Pristina, Sep 2022

Cross-border programme Kosovo* – North Macedonia under IPA II 2019 and 2020

EuropeAid/175008/DD/ACT/XK

Clarification No. 2

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 applicable to more potential applicants, and not strictly applicable to a specific lead applicant, co-applicant, affiliated entity, action or activity.

Question 1:

Within your reference call **EuropeAid/175008/DD/ACT/XK**, guideline for application in the scheme **Cross-border programme Kosovo* – North Macedonia under IPA II 2019 and 2020**, we are raising a question for further information about concept notes.

Within the section **2.1.1. Eligibility of applicants (i.e. lead applicant and co-applicant(s))** in the guidelines for the application it is stated that the lead applicant to be eligible for grant must:

- be a legal person, **and**
- be non-profit-making, **and**
- be effectively established in either Kosovo or North Macedonia **and**
- be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary, **and**
- be one of the following institutions or organisations:
 - Local authorities (municipalities);
 - National and regional centres for disaster management, national parks and monitoring and other public organisations for nature protection;
 - Formal and public education and training institutions (e.g. primary schools, VET schools, Universities, etc.) including research, development and innovation centres. In absence of statues of legal person, the formal education and training institutions can apply through their respective local authority/municipality;
 - Centres for development of planning regions (in North Macedonia);
 - Public central and local cultural institutions such as museums, libraries, institutions for protection of cultural heritage, etc;
 - Public enterprises as well as emergency services, such as fire/emergency services.

Since one of the criteria to apply in this call is to be a non-profit-making, we are raising a question in this regard: **Can non-governmental organisations (NGO) from Kosovo which is non for profit apply as lead applicant, or be a co-applicant in the application phases**

Answer 1:

Under the same section **2.1.1. Eligibility of applicants (i.e. lead applicant and co-applicant(s)) - Co-applicant(s)** it reads:

'Co-applicant(s) must satisfy the eligibility criteria as applicable to the lead applicant himself, with the exemption that non-governmental organisations may also be co-applicants.'

In addition to this, under section **HIGHLY IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS** (page 7 of Guidelines for grant applicants), among others it reads:

'NGOs can assist applicants listed in Section 2.1.1 (i.e., Local authorities, National and regional centres for disaster management, national parks, formal education and training institutions, Central and local cultural institutions, public enterprises, etc.) ONLY as co-applicants';

Therefore, non-governmental organisations may apply ONLY as co-applicants under this call for proposals.

Question 2:

Can you please confirm if the cost for project application preparation from external consultant is eligible cost under the current Call for proposals Reference: EuropeAid/175008/DD/ACT/XK?
Thank you in advance for the clarification.

Answer 2:

In line with Annex II – General Conditions, **Article 14 — ELIGIBLE COSTS - Cost eligibility criteria**, in order for the particular cost to be considered as eligible costs they should be incurred during the implementation of the action.