

AMIF 6th Call Information Session – 18 January 2017

Questions and Answers:

Q1. Do proposals submitted under Integration Measures need to be exclusively service-based projects?

The idea is to target services, however there are instances where one may put in another activity as an integral part of the project. For example, if training services are provided, the applicant may include research/cohort study/evaluation exercise on the target group which took part in the training as another activity to the project. There cannot be any inclusion of costs in relation to works within projects targeting TCN's under the integration specific objective.

Q2. Under the National Objective of Asylum and Reception there is reference to the need for renovation works. Is renovation specifically for places where migrants live or also for places they meet?

Both. The National Programme speaks about the renovation of the current buildings in its general sense.

Q3. It seems that asylum seekers and third country nationals are treated separately in this call. Can a project be submitted that targets both groups of persons?

Yes, the two target groups may be included in one project, however the data collection of indicators would then need to be specific in order to distinguish both groups. Moreover, when identifying which specific objective the project falls under, one needs to see whether refugees/ asylum seekers are the largest or smallest group. If the target group 'asylum seekers' form only a small percentage of the total participants of the project, and 'TCN's' are the majority of the participants of the project, then the project falls under the Integration target group. Hence, the assignment of a project under a particular objective depends on the categorical majority of the project participants.

Q4. What is the maximum duration of a project under this fund?

The maximum end date of all projects funded under AMIF is 30th December 2022, by which date all payments will have to be processed and the closure report is duly submitted and endorsed by the RA

Q5. With regards to the duration of a project, would it be possible to put the end date of the project a few months after the projects activities have come to an end?

Yes, this is an eligible action. This can be done since one may close the project in terms of activities done and carries out the closure of the project, including reporting afterwards. However, one must keep in mind that the financial and administrative closure is to be completed by 30 December 2022.

Q6. From when can the start date of a project be?

You may be reimbursed for eligible activities of a project which were carried out as from 1 January 2014. Therefore, the start date of the project can be from 1 January 2014, onwards. One needs to ensure that the project is not completed prior to submission, and those activities which were undertaken prior to project submission adhere to the proper procurement procedures and are supported with all the required documentation.

Q7. Do the dates of the activities which are to be listed in the application form need to be specific (day/month)?

The dates of the activities do not have to be specific with the day and month. If one finds difficulty in this, the dates of activities may be listed in Quarters (quarter 1, quarter 2, etc.)

Q8. When will the project selection results be issued for this call?

It depends on the amount of project proposals submitted and the amount of clarifications requested during evaluation. The Responsible Authority envisages that the awards will be announced after a month or two following the deadline of the call.

Q9. Do applicants need to incur the 25% of the total project amount?

Projects under this fund are not financed 100%. The maximum eligible amount of EU co-financing is 75%. Therefore, yes, the remaining 25% is to be incurred by the beneficiary and should be made available for each claim for payment

Q10. Are small NGO's required to submit audited accounts in order to apply for a project under this fund?

The Application requires the submission of audited accounts for 2016. In case these are not available, the organisation should submit the audited accounts for 2015, the management accounts for 2016 and a written justification.

Bank statements are considered eligible in case where the applicant organisation would have just been set up in 2016. Such documentation is required in order to prove that the applicant has sufficient funds to carry out the project. Furthermore, if the amount found in the applicant's account is less than the project costs, it is important to state in the application how the newly set up NGO (formed in 2016) is planning to generate more funds in order to be able to pay for the project activities.

Q11. If a person works on the project on a voluntary basis, would the applicant organisation be able to claim such costs?

No, as this is considered as 'contribution in-kind' and therefore is not an eligible cost under this fund.

Q12. Would the audited accounts of a partner organisation be required if it will only be providing a venue/place to work and therefore not funding any activities of the project per se?

In such cases, the audited accounts of the partner organisation are not required. In the application form you are to then indicate that the co-financing of the partner is to be 0%. The audited accounts of the partner organisation are required when the partner will be financing the project together with Annex XI which is the proof of the co-financing co-signed by the executive/head and treasurer/financial controller.

Q13. Would it be possible to include a private company as a partner just to provide financing?

Where the financing of the project comes from is not an issue as long as there is proof that the organisation or partner organisation has sufficient funds in the accounts to cover the costs of the project being implemented. The project application should however indicate that they will not be receiving project funds. If a private organisation will be paid through project funds, then the said organisation would need to be chosen from an open call for selection, following a fair and equal procurement procedure

Q14. When filling in the application, shall we just focus on the text added in the form regarding the actions (referring to section 3.1 of the application form) or shall we focus on the National Programme?

The National Programme is more detailed and therefore considered to be the main source. It is impossible to re-write all the text found in the National Programme into the Application Form. The text found in the application form is therefore a small part of the whole programme.

Q15. Can one apply for a project under this fund, even if they have other projects being done funded by the EU?

Yes, as long as the activities being done for this project are not paid for from other funding sources as this would be considered as a case of double-funding.

Q16. Does the rental of property fall under the 'Real Estate' budget component?

Yes.

Q17. Is every service provider required to have a VAT registration number?

Yes, any entity which provides a service as part of the project is to be registered with the VAT department, whether it be a trainer, equipment supplier, etc.

Q18. Is the NGO Co-Financing Fund only available for EU Funded projects? Yes, kindly refer to the following link <https://socialdialogue.gov.mt/en/Pages/DPPI/NGO-Co-Financing-Funds.aspx>.

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