

Call for Proposal Title: EU4ALL in Montenegro 1st Call for proposals

Publication reference: EU4ALL-CfP 1

CLARIFICATIONS NO 1:

The answers to questions received to the e-mail address info@eu4all.me until 12th June, 14:00h.

NO.	QUESTION/ANSWER
1.	<p>Q1) Uvaženi , uvidjeli smo da mozemo značajno unaprijediti zdravlje opremanjem odjeljenja za Fizikalnu medicinu i traumatologiju Doma zdravlja [REDACTED] u [REDACTED] . Dobili smo predračun od direktora institucije i stručnog kadra o potrebama i koliko košta nabavka . Ono što me zbunjuje je na koji način Opština [REDACTED] i dom zdravlja prave međusobni link kako bi opština mogla opremiti Dom zdravlja ? Treba li da Dom zdravlja potpise sa Opštinom Memorandum o saradnji ? Molim Vas da mi potvrdite da je opremanje na osnovu profakture u prilogu prihvatljivo i da mi objasnite na koji način pravimo međunarodnu saradnju sa Domom zdravlja .</p> <p><i>Unofficial translation:</i> Dear Sir/Madam, We have realized that we can significantly improve healthcare by equipping the Department of Physical Medicine and Traumatology of the [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] . We received a pro forma invoice from the director of the institution and the professional staff regarding the needs and the cost of the procurement. What confuses me is how the Municipality of [REDACTED] and the Health Centre should establish a link between them so that the Municipality can equip the Health Centre. Should the Health Centre sign a Memorandum of Cooperation with the Municipality? Please confirm whether the procurement of equipment based on the attached pro forma invoice is eligible and explain how we should establish international cooperation with the Health Centre.</p> <p>A1) Please refer to Section 2.1.2. of the Guidelines for Applicants “<i>Associates and contractors</i>” The following entities are not applicants nor affiliated entities and do not have to sign the ‘mandate for co-applicant(s)’ or ‘affiliated entities’ statement: Associates Other organisations or individuals may be involved in the action. Such associates play a real role in the action but may not receive funding from the grant, with the exception of per diem or travel costs. Associates do not have to meet the eligibility criteria referred to in Section 2.1.1. Associates must be mentioned in Part B Section 6 — ‘Associates participating in the action’ — of the grant application form. Contractors The beneficiaries and their affiliated entities are permitted to award contracts (subcontracting or implementation contracts). Beneficiaries, affiliated entity(ies), recipients of financial support or associates cannot be also contractors in the project. Each actor should only participate in a single role in an action. This is to avoid any potential conflicts of interest and ensure clear allocation of rights and obligations as well as certainty on cost eligibility.</p> <p>Please refer to the Section 2.2. HOW TO APPLY AND THE PROCEDURES TO FOLLOW – Sub-section 2.2.1. Application forms where all required documents needed to be submitted are listed.</p> <p>To ensure equal treatment of applicants, the contracting authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of an action or specific activities. Please refer to Section 2.1.3. Eligible actions: actions for which an application may be made.</p>

Q2) With reference to the Call for Proposals EU4ALL-CfP 1, the Municipality of [REDACTED] would like to request a clarification regarding the interpretation of the Guidelines for Applicants.

We understand that the Contracting Authority cannot provide a prior opinion on the eligibility of a specific application. Therefore, this request is submitted only as a clarification on the interpretation of the Guidelines, in order to correctly prepare the application.

The Municipality is considering an action aimed at completing the remaining construction and installation works on a social-sector infrastructure facility in [REDACTED], intended to improve access to local social/public services for elderly and vulnerable pensioners.

The facility was initiated in previous years by the Pensioners' Association of [REDACTED]. Certain construction phases have already been completed from non-EU/own sources and will not be included in the proposed EU4ALL budget. The proposed action would cover only clearly identified remaining works necessary to make the facility functional, such as finishing works, electrical installations, water supply and wastewater/sewage works, connections, testing/commissioning and technical supervision.

These remaining works would be implemented only during the eligible implementation period of the EU4ALL grant, based on updated technical documentation and a bill of quantities. No contracts for the remaining works will be signed and no costs for these works will be incurred before the eligible implementation period of the action.

2

In this context, we kindly ask for clarification on the following points:

1. Would financing only the clearly identified remaining works, while fully excluding already completed works from the budget, be considered retroactive financing under the ineligible actions provision?
2. Can such an action be considered under the indicative eligible activities related to rehabilitation, reconstruction, modernisation and development of social-sector infrastructure, provided that the Municipality is the sole lead applicant and is directly responsible for preparation, procurement, implementation, payment to contractors, supervision and reporting?
3. Since the facility is linked to the Pensioners' Association, while the Municipality would act as lead applicant and implementer, would a binding agreement between the Municipality and the Pensioners' Association be sufficient to address eligibility concerns, provided that the agreement grants the Municipality the right to implement the works, use the technical documentation, access the facility, ensure public/social use, define transparent beneficiary criteria, and guarantee maintenance and no change of purpose during the sustainability period?
4. Would the Pensioners' Association be acceptable only as an associate/stakeholder, without receiving any grant funds and without acting as contractor, while all procurement and payments are carried out by the Municipality?
- 5.

If the above-described arrangement is not sufficient, could you please clarify what type of legal/administrative documentation would be required in order to demonstrate the Municipality's right to implement the action and ensure the public/social use and

sustainability of the facility?

A2)

Please refer to Section 2.1.4. of the Guidelines for *Applicants "Eligibility of costs"*, where, among others is stated:

The following costs are eligible:

- the cost of staff assigned to the action, corresponding to actual gross salaries including social security charges and other remuneration-related costs (excluding bonuses); salaries and costs shall not exceed those normally borne by the beneficiary(ies), unless it is justified by showing that it is essential to carry out the action;
- works on (re) construction costs / rehabilitation / extension of physical public infrastructure owned/leased by municipalities, directly related to local public services;
- purchase costs for equipment and supplies specifically dedicated to the purposes of the action, directly related to improving access to and quality of local public services provided by municipalities, provided that ownership is transferred at the end of the action when required in Article 7.5 of the general conditions of the standard grant contract, at the latest at the end of the action;
- purchase of technical equipment and information and communication technology (ICT) and infrastructure (hardware and software) directly related to improving access to and quality local public services;
- costs of consumables specifically dedicated to the action;
- supplies and services for activities supporting the implementation of the action;
- costs for communication and visibility of the action.
- supervision services for works costs funded by the action;

Ineligible costs

Costs that do not comply with the conditions laid down in the contract are not eligible. The following costs are not eligible:

- debts and debt service charges (interest);
- provisions for losses or potential future liabilities;
- costs declared by the beneficiary(ies) and financed by another action or work programme receiving a European Union (including through EDF) grant;
- purchases or rent of land or buildings,
- currency exchange losses;
- taxes, including Value Added Tax (VAT);
- in kind contributions (except for volunteers' work);
- bonuses included in costs of staff;
- customs and import duties or any other related charges;
- fines, financial penalties and expenses of litigation;
- regular operational costs of public services, unrelated to the implementation of the action;
- consultancy costs for the preparation of the action;
- costs incurred before the start of the implementation of the action;
- negative interest charged by banks or other financial institutions;
- bank and bank transfer charges, costs of quarantines and similar charges;
- credit to third parties;

Therefore, costs of works incurred during implementation period, respecting all requirements in the Guidelines for Applicants, could be considered as eligible.

To ensure equal treatment of applicants, the contracting authority cannot give a prior opinion

	<p>on the eligibility of an action or specific activities. Please refer to Section 2.1.3. of the Guidelines for Applicants <i>Eligible actions: actions for which an application may be made.</i></p> <p>Please refer to Section 2.1.2. of the Guidelines for Applicants “Associates and contractors”</p> <p>The following entities are not applicants nor affiliated entities and do not have to sign the ‘mandate for co-applicant(s)’ or ‘affiliated entities’ statement:</p> <p>Associates</p> <p>Other organisations or individuals may be involved in the action. Such associates play a real role in the action but may not receive funding from the grant, with the exception of per diem or travel costs. Associates do not have to meet the eligibility criteria referred to in Section 2.1.1. Associates must be mentioned in Part B Section 6 — ‘Associates participating in the action’ — of the grant application form.</p> <p>Contractors</p> <p>The beneficiaries and their affiliated entities are permitted to award contracts (subcontracting or implementation contracts). Beneficiaries, affiliated entity(ies), recipients of financial support or associates cannot be also contractors in the project.</p> <p>Each actor should only participate in a single role in an action. This is to avoid any potential conflicts of interest and ensure clear allocation of rights and obligations as well as certainty on cost eligibility.</p> <p>Please refer to the Section 2.2. HOW TO APPLY AND THE PROCEDURES TO FOLLOW – Sub-section 2.2.1. Application forms where all required documents needed to be submitted are listed.</p>
3	<p>Q3) In one local community, there is a plot of land owned by Elektroprivreda Crne Gore, a company with majority state ownership. It is envisaged that EPCG will grant the use of this land to Municipality of ██████ for the purpose of site development, including the construction and equipping of a children's playground, as well as the landscaping of green areas.</p> <p>We would like to know whether this arrangement for the use of the land would be considered eligible within the framework of the project for which we intend to apply.</p> <p>A3) To ensure equal treatment of applicants, the contracting authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of an action or specific activities. Please refer to Guidelines for Applicants - Chapter 2. RULES FOR THIS CALL FOR PROPOSALS, Section 2.2. How to apply and the procedures to follow, Sub-section 2.2.1. Application forms, Paragraph Technical supporting documents;</p> <p>For all applicants whose application involves the execution of works and/or purchase of equipment, the following technical documents WILL BE REQUIRED in addition to above mentioned ones:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical project for the included works: conceptual design, main design, detailed design – in accordance with the type of works for which the Grant is being requested; - Indicative priced bill of quantities in the case of works; - Technical specifications, in the case of equipment; - Proof of ownership or long-term lease (at least 10 years after the signature of the contract) of the land/assets where the works are to be executed; - If applicable, feasibility study (with cost-benefit analysis which includes economic and financial analysis). <p>All technical documentation for execution of works must be in compliance with requirements of the national legislation.</p>

