



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
REGIONAL AND URBAN POLICY
Communication Unit

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

2021CE16BAT001

***'Support for information measures relating to the EU Cohesion
policy'***

Questions & Answers (Q&As)

09/12/2021

You will find below a list of questions received for this call for proposals. Please note that the present document aims to complement and clarify the call for proposals and does not replace it. A Q&As document will be periodically published; applicants are invited to check this website regularly.

Q1. I am writing to ask for a clarification on the budget template for the **2021CE16BAT001 Support for information measures relating to the EU Cohesion policy** call for proposals.

I was wondering whether **Travel/subsistence costs** are eligible as an expense and if so where should we add this budget line?

I was also wondering whether **"Goods and services"** are meant to be added under the "Purchase costs" category?

A1. As provided for in section 11.2.1. (b) of the call for proposals, costs of travel and related subsistence allowances are eligible, provided that these costs are in line with the beneficiary's usual practices on travel.

The following budget categories are detailed in Article 6.2 of the model grant agreement:

- A. Personnel costs
 - A.1 Employees
 - A.2 Natural persons under direct contract
 - A.3 Seconded persons
- B. Subcontracting costs
- C. Purchase costs
 - C.1 Travel and subsistence
 - C.2 Equipment
 - C.3 Other goods, works and services
- D. Other cost categories: not applicable
- E. Indirect costs

Q2. Would you accept as an eligible cost, the cost of prizes in competition organized under one of our information measures in the proposal? By prize, I mean a prize paid in cash for the winners of foreseen competition.

A2. As mentioned in section 11.7 d), financial support to third parties is not applicable to this call. The costs for prizes are therefore not eligible.

Q3. Taking the financial capacity into account, what exactly we should present in the application?

In the application form it's written that *"for grants of or below EUR 60 000 as well as for grants to public bodies and international organisations the only supporting document to be required is the Declaration of Honour provided in section 5"*.

So please confirm us, that in case of the public body the only document is The Declaration on Honour and we don't need to provide any following documents as

evidence of financial capacity: any balance sheets or profit and loss account for the last two financial years.

A3. Public bodies must provide only the Declaration on Honour.

Q4. Indirect costs: according to the call (11.2.2), “a flat-rate amount of 7 % of the total eligible direct costs of the action, is eligible as indirect costs, representing the beneficiary's general administrative costs which can be regarded as chargeable to the action/project.”

In the excel file we see that indirect costs can be 7% of EU contribution. We see a contradiction and we would like to know which one is the correct interpretation.

A4. In the Excel table, the indirect costs are calculated on the basis of the total direct eligible costs as provided for in section 11.2.2 of the call for proposals.

In the monobeneficiary table, the formula for indirect costs in column C is “=C70*7%”; C70 = total direct eligible costs. The same formula is applied in columns E and G.

In the multibeneficiary table, the formula for indirect costs in column C is “=C72*7%”; C70 = total direct eligible costs. The same formula is applied in columns E and G.

Q5. In the call we read that the total grant can be 80% of eligible costs. In the excel seems there are certain categories for which a grant of 95% is possible. Can you please clarify this point?

A5. The co-financing rate is 80% of eligible costs. The footnote of the table has been corrected. The updated version of the table is published on our website: https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/newsroom/funding-opportunities/calls-for-proposal/

Q6. Is there a limit to how much of the budget can be allocated to implementation contracts/subcontracting? There is no reference to a limit in the Call, only that they cannot include core tasks.

A6. There is no budget limit to subcontracting. According to section 11.7 c) of the call for proposals, beneficiaries may subcontract tasks forming part of the action. If they do so, they must ensure that, in addition to the above-mentioned conditions of best value for money and absence of conflicts of interests, the following conditions are also complied with:

- a) subcontracting does not cover core tasks of the action;
- b) recourse to subcontracting is justified because of the nature of the action and what is necessary for its implementation;

- c) the estimated costs of the subcontracting are clearly identifiable in the estimated budget;
- d) any recourse to subcontracting, if not provided for in description of the action, is communicated by the beneficiary and approved by the Commission. The Commission may grant approval:
 - (i) before any recourse to subcontracting, if the beneficiaries requests an amendment
 - (ii) after recourse to subcontracting if the subcontracting:
 - is specifically justified in the interim or final technical report and
 - does not entail changes to the grant agreement which would call into question the decision awarding the grant or be contrary to the equal treatment of applicants;
- e) the beneficiaries ensure that certain conditions applicable to beneficiaries, enumerated in the grant agreement (e.g. visibility, confidentiality, etc.), are also applicable to the subcontractors.

More information may also be found in Article 6.2 B of the template grant agreement.