



EU SUPPORT TO ROMA INCLUSION
Strengthening Local Communities Towards Roma Inclusion

**STANDING CONFERENCE OF TOWNS AND MUNICIPALITIES –
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN SERBIA**

Belgrade, February 4th, 2019

CONTRACTING AUTHORITY'S CLARIFICATIONS

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Reference no. 757/1

No.	Question	Answer
1.	<p>Is support for self-employment and mentoring support, e.g. creating a business plan, an eligible cost? How "old" the established entrepreneurs should be in order to get support within the project? Is it possible to support an entrepreneur established during the period of project implementation or few months before the beginning of the project?</p>	<p><i>According to Guidelines for Applicants, section 2.1.4. Eligible actions: actions for which an application may be made, financial support for establishing of a private company is not eligible project activity.</i> Mentoring support for self-employment and mentoring support to current Roma businesses is eligible cost (<i>please see the section 2.1.4 of the Guidelines for Applicants for this Call</i>). <i>According to Guidelines for Applicants, section 2.1.4. Eligible actions: actions for which an application may be made, it is possible to support an entrepreneur established during the period of project implementation in the form of mentoring support.</i> It is possible to support an entrepreneur established before the announcement of this Call (December 3rd, 2018) in the form of equipment if the equipment will be used to improve employability (work practice) or for employment of Roma.</p>
2.	<p>Could you please explain whether financing of small-scale investments (painting, floor installation, installation of toilets) in the premise which belongs to the municipal property and which is an important resource for achieving project objectives and contribute to Roma inclusion, is allowed through this Call? If financing of the small-scale investments is allowed through this Call, is it necessary to submit an approval from relevant institutions for execution of these works?</p>	<p><i>According to Guidelines for Applicants, section 2.1.4. Eligible actions: actions for which an application may be made, actions in which purchase of material or equipment is not related to activities of this Call are not eligible for financing.</i> <i>According to Guidelines for Applicants, section 2.2.1. Application forms, no additional annexes should be sent with the application forms.</i></p>



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3.	Does obligatory co-applicant have to be Roma Association?	<p>An obligatory co-applicant must comply with the criteria in the <i>section 2.1.1. Eligibility of applicants (i.e. lead applicant and co-applicant(s)) of the Guidelines for Applicants:</i></p> <p><i>"Be a civil society organization operating in the sectors relevant for this Call, established in the Republic of Serbia, minimum one year before the launch of the Call..."</i></p>
4.	Is it possible for work practice to be paid through the project?	<p><i>According to Guidelines for Applicants, section 2.1.4. Eligible actions: actions for which an application may be made, internships are eligible actions in this Call and therefore compensations for internships are eligible costs.</i></p>
5.	Is it possible to obtain school supplies/equipment for the Roma children within the LOT 2?	<p><i>According to Guidelines for Applicants, section 2.1.4. Eligible actions: actions for which an application may be made, procurement of school supplies/equipment for Roma children is eligible cost under this Call only for the purpose of support to non-formal education/extracurricular activities and fulfillment of the objectives of this Call.</i></p>
6.	Is it possible to purchase equipment for an entrepreneur?	<p><i>According to Guidelines for Applicants, section 2.1.4. Eligible actions: actions for which an application may be made, purchase of material and equipment is an eligible cost under this Call only if it is related to the activities of this Call.</i></p> <p>The total costs of purchase of equipment and material must not exceed 30% of the total eligible cost of the action (<i>please see section 1.3 of the Guidelines for Applicants</i>).</p>
7.	Is the existence of Local Action Plan for Roma pre-condition for this Grant Scheme?	<p>Guidelines for Applicants do not define existence of LAP for Roma.</p> <p>For the eligibility of actions and activities under this Call, please refer to <i>section 2.1.4. Eligible actions of the Guidelines for Applicants</i>.</p> <p>Likewise, when filing in the concept note in the format as presented in Annex A – Grant Application Form, please follow closely the instructions provided in particular for section 1.3 – Relevance of the action. It is implied therein that the project needs to be put in a relation/context with some relevant planning framework. Under sub-section 1.3.2. it is required that among else the following should be filled –in:</p> <p>“... iii. <i>Refer to any significant plans undertaken at national, regional and/or local level relevant to the action and describe how the action will relate to such plans.</i>”</p>



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		<p>Please note the following: <i>"To ensure equal treatment of applicants, the Contracting Authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of lead applicants, co-applicants, or affiliated entity(ies), an action or specific activities" (section 2.2.4. Guidelines for Applicants)."</i></p>
8.	Roma Association would be our project partner with whom we will jointly implement the activities. Is it a co-applicant in this case? Do we need a cooperation agreement to be signed between the municipality and the Roma Association?	<p><i>Section 2.1.1. Eligibility of applicants (i.e. lead applicant and co-applicant(s))</i> defines who can be a co-applicant.</p> <p>Please note the following: <i>"To ensure equal treatment of applicants, the Contracting Authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of lead applicants, co-applicants, or affiliated entity(ies), an action or specific activities" (section 2.2.4. Guidelines for Applicants).</i> Cooperation Agreement is a matter of agreement between the entities who prepare/implement the project proposal and as such is not necessary condition for project proposal submission.</p>
9.	Under the LOT 1 there are three group of activities described in the Guidelines. Can we refer to all three groups of activities or only to one group?	<p><i>Section 2.1.4. Eligible actions: actions for which an application may be made</i> indicates types of activities per LOT. In that sense, it is necessary to choose the LOT and refer to LOT 1 or LOT 2. Within each LOT it is possible to combine types of activities.</p>
10.	Within the Activity 1. Developing capacities and competences for Roma population to enter the labor market, is the compensation for work practice of Roma who carry out practical work at a business entity an eligible cost?	Please refer to the answer of the question no. 4.
11.	Within the Activity 3. Support to Roma inclusion through inter-sectoral partnership on the local level. Is a large business entity which will engage several Roma and train them to work on the machines an eligible co-applicant? Is it possible to pay the compensation for their work from the project for several months and then commit the business entity to employ the trained Roma for definite or indefinite period?	<p><i>Section 2.1.1. Eligibility of applicants (i.e. lead applicant and co-applicant(s))</i> defines who can be a co-applicant.</p> <p>Please note the following: <i>"To ensure equal treatment of applicants, the Contracting Authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of lead applicants, co-applicants, or affiliated entity(ies), an action or specific activities" (section 2.2.4. Guidelines for Applicants).</i></p>
12.	Question related to the Activity 3. LOT 1 - Provide support to employers through subsidies in the form of equipment, training and mentoring. Does this training and mentoring can be reflected in the fact that the Roma will receive compensation for their work during the	<p>Please note the following: <i>"To ensure equal treatment of applicants, the Contracting Authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of lead applicants, co-applicants, or affiliated entity(ies), an action or specific</i></p>



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	training and mentoring through the project, after which the employer will hire them (the employer in which they performed the training and mentoring)?	<i>activities” (section 2.2.4. Guidelines for Applicants).</i>
13.	If the co-applicant cannot be a business entity that is profitable, whether the project can announce a call for business entities for employment of the Roma, with incentives that selected businesses who decide to hire the most Roma, will be provided equipment and compensation for work of Roma for a few months, after which the employer will undertake the obligation to employ these Roma?	Please note the following: <i>“To ensure equal treatment of applicants, the Contracting Authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of lead applicants, co-applicants, or affiliated entity(ies), an action or specific activities” (section 2.2.4. Guidelines for Applicants).</i>