



**Information Session on the Calls for Expression of Interest
in the fields of municipal infrastructure and
socio-economic support**

13 December 2018

<i>Questions and answers applicable to both Calls</i>	
Q1	The Guidelines for the Calls for expression of interest identify a number of eligible activities. Can we propose other activities in addition to those listed?
A1	The list of eligible activities is not exhaustive. Additional activities aimed at the specific objectives of the Calls and that are in line with the priorities identified in section 1.2 and section 2.1.2 can be proposed.
Q2	Is there a limit on the number of proposals that an entity can submit?
A2	There is no limit to the number of proposals any entity may submit. As stated in section 2.2.2 of the Guidelines, when an entity submits several different proposals, each proposal has to be submitted separately. Please refer to the section on the procedure to be followed when submitting proposals.
Q3	Do the co-applicants have to be identified at this stage?
A3	<p>The term “co-applicant” is not used in the Guidelines for these Calls. A proposal may be submitted by an entity individually, <u>or jointly</u> by a number of entities that fulfil the eligibility criteria specified in section 2.1.1. , i.e. by pillar assessed entities with proven experience in managing projects in Turkey and/or region in the fields relevant to the priority areas of the call during the last 5 years.</p> <p>Each entity can work with implementing partners on the ground. In this case, the entity should provide more information under the section <i>methodology and implementation approach</i> of the application form. Please see also questions under point 5 of the grid in section 2.3 of the Guidelines.</p>
Q4	Is there a specific percentage of the budget of the proposal that needs to be dedicated for the implementation of the Visibility and Communication plan?
A4	Entities should define the indicative amount to be dedicated to visibility and communication activities as part of the Annex B, where the budget heading for this purpose needs to be filled in. The principle of proportionality should apply for the budget allocated to visibility and communication activities.

Q5	Is there a minimum duration of a project?
A5	There is no minimum project duration; but there is a maximum duration of 48 months. However, the proposed duration within that timespan needs to be consistent with the suggested actions and realistic in terms of feasibility for the achievement of the results.
Q6	The Guidelines define a maximum of 4% of remuneration costs as eligible. Is this to be defined at the contractual stage and may it go beyond the 4%?
A6	The limit of remuneration costs for the Calls is fixed at a maximum of 4% of the eligible costs presented in the budget.
Q7	Blending is indicated as an option in both Calls for expression of interest. Is it the preferred modality?
A7	Blending is optional, not mandatory. Please refer to section 2.1.2 - <i>eligible actions</i> of the Guidelines. In case of a proposal including blending, the entity is requested to carefully describe the added-value of the blending component in the section <i>Methodology and implementation approach</i> of the application form.
Q8	Are the amounts referred to as minimum and maximum applicable to the overall amount, including the loan component, in case of blending?
A8	The minimum and maximum amounts indicated in section 1.3 of the Guidelines refer to the EU contribution envisaged in case of blending. Sheet 1 of the budget should include overall amounts per each budget heading, and sheet 2 should define the amount of the EU contribution proposed and the amount of the loan component.
Q9	In case of blending, is there a specific minimum or maximum ratio for the grant and loan components?
A9	No specific ratio is identified.
Q10	Shall endorsement letters by Turkish authorities be submitted within the proposal, also when there is no blending component in the project?
A10	An endorsement letter by the Turkish authorities is mandatory in case of blending. Projects without a blending component do not require an endorsement letter.
Q11	In case of blending, is the use of intermediary actors, including Ilerbank, compulsory?
A11	Applicant entities should identify suitable implementing partners and relevant institutions to carry out the activities envisaged in the proposal.
Q12	Which rules shall be applied for secondary procurement?
A12	Once selected, successful entities should start negotiations with the EU Delegation in Turkey in order to conclude Agreements under indirect management (article 62 (1) (c) of the 2018 Financial Regulation as soon as possible. The rules for secondary procurement should be confirmed in these Agreements taking into account the specific

	framework agreements applicable. The Agreements will be proposed also in accordance with the framework agreements and the EU's financial rules.
Q13	The <i>Notice</i> section within the Guidelines states that <i>selected entities will be invited to start negotiations, potentially leading to Contribution agreement</i> . Which kind of negotiations will be carried out? Which documents will be used to prepare the contract?
A13	The application form submitted as part of the Call should be integrated and adapted into the templates, which are to be used under indirect management between the EU and the entity concerned. This should have identical key information as in the application so as not to call into question the selection of the proposal. The contracting authority reserves the right to request adjustments to further enhance the proposal in terms of results and/or sound financial management.
Q14	What is the role of Turkish authorities in the definition and selection of the proposals?
A14	The Commission will carry out both the evaluation and the selection of proposals. Relevant Turkish authorities should be consulted in the preparation of the proposals. An official endorsement of proposals by the Turkish authorities is mandatory in case of blending, before they are submitted to the Commission.
Q15	How will projects be assessed in case of similar activities?
A15	The selection of the proposals will be carried out using the assessment grid that is part of the Guidelines – section 2.3
Q16	Is direct financial support to Turkish authorities eligible?
A16	In implementing the actions, the entities may not carry out tasks involving discretion or implying political choices. The eligible costs are those that are necessary for carrying out the action, arising as a direct consequence of its implementation and charged in proportion to the actual use. Salary costs of personnel of public administration of the country concerned are not eligible.
Q17	Can we propose a 'programme' or combination of smaller-scale actions within one proposal?
A17	Yes, but the activities proposed need to be part of a coherent package of interventions under one single proposal and future contract/Agreement. Please refer to section 1.3 <i>Financial Allocation</i> of the Guidelines.

Questions and answers on the Call for expression of interest in the field of municipal infrastructure

Clarification on the financial allocations per strand (section 1.3 of the Guidelines)

Each proposal containing interventions under strand 1, 2 and 3 should have a minimum budget of EUR 50 million. Proposals could relate to a single intervention, or to a programme/combination of several interventions. Interventions could relate only to a single strand (for instance: only one or more constructions of water supply systems) or be a combination of interventions within different strands (for instance: constructions of solid waste facilities and waste water systems). In both cases, the proposal should have a minimum budget of EUR 50 million.

Activities proposed as part of strand 4 cannot exceed EUR 25 million, either as part of a bigger intervention or as stand-alone project.

Activities under strand 5 must be part of a bigger intervention (within the other strands) and their maximum amount should not exceed EUR 10 million.

Q1	Are activities within strand 5 included in the maximum budget (EUR 25 million) defined for activities under strand 4?
A1	The limit of EUR 10 million applies only to the portion of soft measures included in the proposal and not to the overall amount. In case of a combination of strands 4 and 5, the limits are as follows: EUR 25 million for recreational infrastructure + EUR 10 million for soft measures.
Q2	What is the eligible location of interventions under municipal infrastructure?
A2	Actions should take place in the provinces most affected by the refugee crisis in the South-East of Turkey.
Q3	How will the maturity of proposals be assessed?
A3	<p>Maturity of the proposals will be assessed in line with the grid presented under section 2.3 of the Guidelines. Entities are requested to describe relevant studies and works that have been carried out in order to ensure maturity of the proposal – please see section <i>Methodology and implementation approach</i> of the Application form.</p> <p>It is the responsibility of the entity submitting a proposal to verify and confirm the maturity of the proposal.</p>
Q4	Are costs for supervision of works eligible?
A4	Supervision costs are eligible, as long as they are carried out in accordance with the provisions defined in the Agreements.

<i>Questions and answers on the Call for expression of interest in the field of socio-economic support</i>	
Q1	Is there a specific ratio in relation to the involvement of refugees and host communities?
A1	The Call does not identify a specific ratio. Proposals should primarily – but not exclusively - target ESSN beneficiaries. It is left to entities' discretion to propose a justifiable ratio of refugees and host communities.
Q2	If we pay incentives in the form of cash-for-work to ESSN beneficiaries, will they lose their rights to access ESSN support?
A2	The interventions to be financed under socio-economic development aim to gradually replace basic needs support provided under the ESSN. Cash-for-work could be used to attract current <i>'less vulnerable ESSN beneficiaries with higher productivity capacity'</i> and bring them into the labour market.
Q3	The proposal should target ESSN beneficiaries (or at least some categories of). How do we identify them?
A3	Please refer to the Vulnerability Profiling Exercise referred to in section 2.1.2 of the Guidelines, which identifies the categories of ESSN beneficiaries, which should help in the design and targeting of proposals. Consultation of the Turkish authorities and relevant stakeholders should also help in the articulation and design of proposals if they are to have impact on the ground.
Q4	Are small incidental investments and works interventions, such as road rehabilitation in rural areas, eligible activities if linked to the objectives of increasing employment in one of the priority sectors of the Call?
A4	For both Calls, a direct link to the objectives of the Call concerned is essential. The description of the action should justify the proposal, both in terms of expected results and outcomes. Incidental investments and interventions should not be the main, or the majority, of the action.
Q5	Were gender-disaggregated targets set? Will proposals only targeting women have a disadvantage or advantage?
A5	Gender balance has to be mainstreamed in all actions, in line with the EU Gender Action Plan II. As per section 2.1.2 of the Guidelines, some actions may target women only. Also, please note question 4.5 of the assessment grid.
Q6	What is the eligible location of interventions under socio-economic support?
A6	Interventions should take place in the provinces most affected by the refugee crisis; and in particular in those with the largest share of ESSN beneficiaries with the greatest abilities to work. See also: https://erccportal.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ERCMaps/ECDM_20181206_Turkey_ESSN.pdf