



**Raising public awareness of development issues and promoting
development education in the European Union (DEAR
programme)**

Reference: EuropeAid/173998/DH/ACT/Multi

Questions & Answers n° 3

Concept note phase

As set out in section 2.2.4 of the guidelines, to ensure equal treatment of applicants, the contracting authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of lead applicants, co-applicants, affiliated entity(ies), an action or specific activities.



QUESTIONS		ANSWERS
1	We would like to ask if public, non-profit universities or research institutes or educational authorities are eligible to participate as co-applicants in this call.	On universities, please refer to the answer to question 2 of Q&A no.1 published on 17/10/2022 on the website of the call: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=173998 Please also refer to the reply to question 25 below.
2	<p>1. For the 1st round, do our co-applicants have to register their organisations on PADOR, or is this only necessary for the lead applicant?</p> <p>2. Are there any limitations on salaries that can be included in the project (obviously assuming that the roles are necessary for the success of the project)?</p> <p>3. Our co-applicants ask about the level of reporting load for successful applications?</p> <p>4. Incorrect link on page 12 of guidelines section 2 (http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/document.do?locale=en) - please send new link of PRACTICAL GUIDE</p>	<p>1. See reply to question 28, Q&A no.2 published on 28/10/2022 on the website of the call: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=173998</p> <p>2. See reply to question 3, Q&A no.2. published on 28/10/2022 on the website of the call: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=173998</p> <p>3. The Annex II General Conditions available from Annex G to the guidelines available under https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=173998 and in particular ARTICLE 2 - OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL AND NARRATIVE REPORTS detail the reporting obligations of ongoing grant contracts.</p> <p>4. See reply to question 1(2), minutes of the virtual information session published on 12/10/2022 on the website of the call: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-</p>



		<p>services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=173998</p> <p>The Practical Guide PRAG is accessible here: https://wikis.ec.europa.eu/display/ExactExternalWiki/ePRAG</p>
3	<p>Can Higher Education Institutions (HEI) be part of the consortium either as co-applicants or affiliated entities under this call – specifically for Lot 4?</p>	<p>On universities/higher education institutions, please refer to the answer to question 2 of Q&A no.1 published on 17/10/2022 on the website of the call: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=173998</p> <p>Please also refer to the reply to question 25 below.</p>
4	<p>We are planning on presenting a proposal under LOT4, and we would like to clarify some aspects in relation to the involvement of partner countries first.</p> <p>The guidelines state that “<i>A minor portion of the action may be carried out in candidate and/or potential candidate countries and/or in EU partner countries on the condition that they directly contribute to the objectives of the present call for proposals.</i>”</p> <p>Could you kindly clarify:</p> <p>1) What is intended by "minor portion". Is there a percentage of the budget, target groups and number of actions that can be identified as "minor" according to the guidelines? Can budget be allocated directly to CSOs in candidate/EU partner countries?</p> <p>2) Are CSOs from candidate/EU partner countries allowed to be included as co-applicants and, if yes, is there a maximum percentage of the budget that can be allocated to them?</p>	<p>1. See answer to question 7(1) of Q&A no.1 published on 12/10/2022 on: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=173998</p> <p>For the eligibility of co-applicants, please refer to the conditions listed in the guidelines under section 2.1.1: “<i>Under all lots, the lead applicant must act together with a minimum of 2 co-applicants. Except for Lot 2, these 2 co-applicants must each be established in a EU Member State different from the lead applicant and different from the other co-applicant. The other co-applicants, if any, can be established in any EU Member State or a country or territory, as defined in Annex M. For Lot 2, the lead applicant must apply together with a minimum of 2 co-applicants, of which at least one must be established in a EU Member State different from the lead applicant and at least one must be established in a country or territory, as defined in Annex M.</i>”</p> <p>2. The guidelines do not define a maximum percentage to be allocated in the budget.</p>



	<p>3) In relation to support to third parties, this is fixed at a maximum of €60K per project. Is there a maximum amount of percentage that can be allocated for support to third parties in candidate or EU partner countries?</p>	<p>3. Yes, as outlined in section 2.1.3.(g) of the guidelines “<i>Financial Support to third parties outside of the EU can constitute <u>a maximum of 20%</u> of the financial support to third parties foreseen by this action. This percentage must be clearly indicated in Annex A2. - Full application form and reflected in the budget</i>”.</p> <p>As a reminder, this percentage must be clearly indicated in Annex A2. - Full application form and reflected in the budget (Annex V).</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Regarding the DEAR call, we wonder if there is an expectation that the applicants implement the program in the EU countries they are registered in?</p>	<p>There is no obligation to this effect.</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>The reason for my contact today regards the size of the grants for this year’s call, especially in Lots 2 and 4. Is 3 million euros the minimum support amount a consortium can request, or is it indicative of the total destined for these lots? If it is indicative, which size of grants will be expected for the call?</p>	<p>See reply to question 17, Q&A no. 2 published on 17/10/2022 on the website of the call: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=173998</p>



7

I am writing with reference to the DEAR call, Lot 1. I would need clarification on the following points related to the Concept note Template, if possible:

1) Do you confirm that the paragraph 1.4. and 1.5. can be entirely deleted, since we are applying through Prospect?

2) Under paragraph 1.2:

v. "Briefly outline the type of activities proposed, including a description of linkages/relationships between activity clusters". Can we list the Work packages activities here? What is it meant by clusters?

3) Under the Paragraph 1.3.1

1) ii. "Describe the relevance of the action to any specific subthemes/sectors/areas and any other specific requirements stated in the guidelines for applicants, e.g. local ownership etc." Where in the guidelines can I find the subthemes/sectors/areas and information about other specific requirements?

2) iii. "Describe which of the expected results referred to in the guidelines for applicants will be addressed". Where in the guidelines can I find the expected results?

4) The only budget we have to provide is only the total Requested EU contribution (amount) to be entered in Prospect?

5) Lastly, where can I find the FAQ published following the meeting on September 15th?

1. Yes you can delete all sections/paragraph which state "Do not fill in here if you are applying via PROSPECT" or "Delete this section if you are applying via PROSPECT".

2. "Activity clusters" refer to groups of activities, which can be summarised under one heading, e.g. teacher training activities in various Member States.

3.ii and iii) Please refer to description of each lot included in section 1.2 "OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME AND PRIORITY ISSUES". The expected results of the proposed action must be aligned with the priorities defined in the guidelines (section 1.2).

4. In **PROSPECT** – Project tab - *details of the action* -you have to enter the requested EU contribution amount as well as the requested EU contribution as % of total eligible costs. The total indicative budget for the project is automatically calculated based on these two values:

Requested EU contribution (amount) *
Requested EU contribution as % of total eligible costs (indicative) *
Total indicative budget

Please also see the PROSPECT manual for applicants: <https://wikis.ec.europa.eu/display/ExactExternalWiki/Manual+for+Applicants+-+e-Calls+PROSPECT>

5. The minutes of the virtual information session were published on 12/10/2022 on the website of the call: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=173998>



8	<p>I would like to ask you if public universities are eligible to participate as co-applicants/partners in this call.</p>	<p>On universities, please refer to answer to question 2 of Q&A 1 published on 17/10/2022 on the website of the call: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=173998 as well as to the reply to question 25 below.</p>
9	<p>We are preparing a project proposal to be submitted under the DEAR Call- LOT 4, and we would like to kindly ask the following questions for clarification:</p> <p>1) For Lot 4, we only need a letter of support from a competent education authority. In some countries, the competent authority is the Ministry of education. In more decentralized education systems, e.g. Italy, it is the local authority or municipality. Is it ok that the declaration supporting the project is from a local authority or municipality?</p> <p>2) Can a Ministry of Education, or Local education authority be a formal co-applicant in Lot 4?</p> <p>3) Can an organization be a lead-applicant in one application in Lot 4, and a co-applicant in another application in the same Lot 4?</p> <p>4) Can a project for Lot 4, have 4 countries focusing on formal education (and meet the minimum requirements of at least 4 with support from Ministries) and have another 2-3 partners from other countries who will have a differentiated role and focus more on informal education, dissemination, and expertise provision.</p> <p>5) Can a non-profit research foundation of a private university, working in the area of education, human rights, civic engagement, etc. be considered as CSO, for the purpose of this call and participate as co-applicant?</p>	<p>1. The guidelines, section 1.2., stipulate on pages 9 and 10 that: <i>“Actions operating with or targeting the formal education system must be approved by the relevant educational authorities.</i> <i>In countries where a national development education strategy has been developed, activities which take place within the formal education system have to be consistent with the national education strategy. Close coordination with relevant educational authorities is essential.</i> <i>Applicants will be required to provide evidence in the form of a signed declaration by the relevant educational authorities, stating:</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>that they are the competent authority in terms of education in the particular context,</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>that the action fits within their national or local education priorities or strategy, and</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>that they are willing to cooperate with the action.”</i></p> <p>Hence, it depends on the individual country situation, but a local authority, which is “the competent authority in terms of education in the particular context” can sign the declaration.</p> <p>2. Please refer to answer to question 4 (2) above.</p> <p>3. No. Please refer to section 2.1.3 of the guidelines “i)Number of applications and grants per applicants / affiliated entities” as well as to corrigendum no. 1 published on 12/10/2022:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“The lead applicant may not submit more than one application as lead applicant under this call for proposals.</i> • <i>The lead applicant may not be awarded more than one grant as lead applicant under this call for proposals</i>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The lead applicant may be a co-applicant or an affiliated entity in other applications at the same time under this call for proposals, in a different lot from the one they are applying as lead applicant. [...]</i> <p>4. As set out in section 2.2.4 of the guidelines, to ensure equal treatment of applicants, the contracting authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of lead applicants, co-applicants, affiliated entity(ies), an action or specific activities.</p> <p>5. As set out in section 2.2.4 of the guidelines, 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). Non-profit research foundations can participate as a civil society organisation (CSO) provided that they fulfil the criteria for eligibility of applicants set out in the guidelines under section 2.1.1. and, if they fall under the definition provided for CSOs (see footnote 18 in the guidelines).</p>
10	<p>I was not able to find a list of entities that are considered CSOs and therefore eligible. In particular are universities eligible? Are social enterprises eligible?</p>	<p>1. Please refer to the definition provided for civil society organisations (CSOs) in footnote 18 of the guidelines.</p> <p>2. On universities, please refer to answer to question 2 of Q&A 1 published on 17/10/2022 on the website of the call: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=173998 as well as to the reply to question 25 below.</p> <p>3. Social enterprises can participate provided that they fulfil the criteria set out in the guidelines under section 2.1.1. See also answer to question 4(2) above.</p>
11	<p>I would like to raise a question about the budget.</p> <p>Based on the Guidelines: <i>“Size of grants Any grant requested under this call for proposals must fall between the following minimum and maximum amounts of total eligible costs of the action: Lot 1 and 3: • minimum amount: EUR 5</i></p>	<p>Please refer to the reply to question 17 of Q&A no. 2 published on published on 28/10/2022 on the website of the call: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=173998.</p>



	<p>000 000 • maximum amount: EUR 10 000 000 Lot 2, 4, 5: • minimum amount: EUR 3 000 000 • maximum amount: EUR 7 000 000”</p> <p>Do the figures you listed in the Guidelines refer to the total eligible costs or to the grant size? It is not clear in the way you phrased the Guidelines.</p> <p>For example, for Lot 1 and 3: the total eligible costs of the Action can go between 5 to 10 million Euro? Or is it the Grant size which can go between 5 to 10 million Euro?</p> <p>We are raising this question here because in EU Guidelines for Call for Proposals the figures are usually about grant size and not about “total eligible costs” whether in your Call for Proposal Guidelines according to your formulation, it seems you are referring to the Total Eligible Costs and not to the grant size. Based on your formulation of the sentence, for example, the grant size awarded by the EU for lot 1 would never reach 10 million euro as 10 million Euro seems to be the total eligible costs.</p>	
12	I’m writing to ask you if a Social Enterprise or social cooperative is eligible as Applicant or Co- Applicant under this call for proposal.	Please refer to the reply to question 10 above.
13	Our network is currently in the process of legally registering. It is possible that this process will not be finalized by the deadline of the concept note. Would it be possible for us to submit the concept note through one of the partners and - if selected - submit the full proposal as the network?	<p>As defined in section 2.1.1. of the guidelines, under all lots, in order to be eligible for a grant under this call for proposal, the lead applicant must be a legal person Co-applicants can be legal persons or an entity without legal personality under the following condition: “Grant applications may be eligible if submitted by entities which do not have legal personality under the applicable national law, on the condition that the representatives of that applicant can prove that they have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on behalf of the applicant, and that they offer financial and operational guarantees equivalent to those provided by legal persons.” Please also refer to the Practical Guide section 6.3.3.1.</p> <p>Please note that, as described in 2.1.1. of the guidelines, “the elements outlined in the</p>



		<p><i>concept note may not be modified in the full application. The lead applicant may add, remove or replace one or more co-applicant(s) or affiliated entity (ies) only in duly justified cases”.</i></p> <p>Moreover, as stated in section 2.2 of the guidelines: <i>“To apply for this call for proposals the lead applicants need to: I. Provide information about the organisations involved in the action. To this end, lead applicants, co-applicants and affiliated entities must register in PADOR. Lead applicants must register at the concept note step. [...]”.</i></p>
14	<p>1. On page 17 of the guidelines for grant applications (under "Location" it says that a minor portion of the action may be carried out in candidate and/or potential candidate countries and/or in EU partner countries on the condition that they directly contribute to the objectives of the present call for proposals.</p> <p>Question: Can you specify what “minor” means in % of the budget or otherwise?</p> <p>2. On page 19 of the guidelines for grant applicants it says that the maximum amount of financial support per third party is EUR 60 000 for Lots 1, 2, 4 and 5 option a, b, and d, except where achieving the objectives of the actions would otherwise be impossible or overly difficult, in which case this threshold can be exceeded. A threshold below EUR 60 000 can be set if appropriate.</p> <p>Question: Is there a maximum to the total amount that can be allocated for all third party financing in one application for lot 1 and lot 2?</p>	<p>1. See answer to question 7(1) of Q&A no.1 published on 17/10/2022 on https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=173998</p> <p>2. For lot 1 and lot 2 the guidelines do not define a total maximum amount of the project budget dedicated to financial support to third parties and there is no limit to the number of third parties. However, it is important to remember that project coherence and feasibility will need to be maintained in the design and budget of the project.</p> <p>The maximum amount of financial support per third party of EUR 250,000 is only applicable to lot 3 and lot 5 option c, as described in Annex X to the guidelines.</p>
15	<p>Relating to the sub-granting mechanism and eligible third parties:</p> <p>1) pg. 20, "Third parties which may receive financial support -> must not have the financial, administrative or operational capacity to compete directly for EU funding under this call for proposals." How</p>	<p>1. As stated in the Practical Guide 6.8.2. <i>“In the current context where grants of a large amount are encouraged to avoid the multiplication of small contracts, financial support to third parties can be an effective way to fund grass-roots organisations or local authorities.”</i></p>



	<p>will this be evaluated? If it is related to size and/or budget, what are the relevant numbers?</p> <p>Relating to the formal education activities: 2) pg. 29 Applications of Lot 4 including activities in formal education need a signed Declaration by the relevant educational authority.</p> <p>2.1 If the project includes activities in formal education, do all the applicants need the Declaration? Or just the applicants that implement the activities in formal education, excluding those that have different activities, eg. in the non-formal education?</p> <p>2.2 What is the exact content of the Declaration, the necessary information and wording? What authorities would be deemed relevant? In our context, universities do not have any superior authority that would tell them what has to be in their curriculum. Can a Declaration by University be perceived as a Declaration by relevant authority, given that it is a self-governing body in terms of curriculum?</p>	<p>Therefore, under all lots, third parties which may receive financial support must not have the financial, administrative or operational capacity to compete directly for EU funding under this call for proposals.</p> <p>For all lots, it is up to the lead applicant to specify in section 2.1.1. of Annex A.2 (Grant application form – Full application), description of the action, the types of persons or categories which may receive financial support and the criteria used to select these third parties. For details please consult section 2.1.3.(g) of the guidelines and Annex X for Lot 3 and Lot 5 option c.</p> <p>2.1. The declaration in formal education needs to be signed by the competent / relevant authority (see section 2.2.5/page 29 of the guidelines) and it will be required only for the countries/educational authorities concerned / where the project wants to implement an action in the formal education sector. Refer also to answer to question 9(1) above.</p> <p>2.2. The declaration has no particular form, but it needs to explicitly confirm the points indicated in section 2.2.5/page 29 of the guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> that they are the competent authority in terms of education in the particular national context, <input type="checkbox"/> that the project fits within their national or local education priorities or strategy, and <input type="checkbox"/> that they are willing to cooperate with the project.
16	<p>During the public presentation of the call there was a specific demand regarding if the 20% limitation of funding that could be implemented in non-EU countries applies to Lot 2. If I understood it right, it was answered that it not applies to Lot number 2. But checking the minutes of the meeting, it is written: “Financial support to third parties established in countries outside of the EU can constitute a maximum of 20% of the financial support foreseen by the action (see section 2.1.3, g). As a reminder, this percentage must be clearly</p>	<p>The 20% limit applies to all lots. Please also see reply to question 4(3). In section 2.1.3.(g)/page 20 of the guidelines it is stipulated that: “<i>Financial Support to third parties outside of the EU can constitute a maximum of 20% of the financial support to third parties foreseen by this action. This percentage must be clearly indicated in Annex A2. - Full application form and reflected in the budget.</i>” Hence, your understanding is correct: there is a 20% limit for financial support to third parties outside the EU.</p>



	<p>indicated in Annex A2. - Full application form and reflected in the budget.”</p> <p>Would be possible to clarify if 20% limitation applies to lot 2?</p>	<p>This 20% is <u>not related</u> to the “minor portion” referred to 2.1.3. Eligibility d) Location (p. 17 of guidelines).</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>1. LOT 4- some of our co-applicants would like to work in schools but in an informal capacity (not working on the syllabus); is it correct that they still need official approval from the relevant education authorities if they wish to include this in the DEAR LOT 4 application?</p> <p>2. LOT 4- if our co-applicants would like to work with local authorities, will they also need to have official approval from the relevant authorities, or can LAs become a stakeholder without official permission?</p>	<p>1. Yes, working in schools requires the signed declaration. Please refer also to answer to questions 9(1) and 15(2.1) above.</p> <p>2. If an organisation wants to work with local authorities in the field of formal education, the signed declaration is required, as stated in section 2.2.5 of the guidelines.</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>Is it possible to apply as a co-applicant under Lot 5 action c (-> Lot3) and under Lot 3 at the same time?</p>	<p>Yes, please refer to section 2.1.3 of the guidelines “i)Number of applications and grants per applicants / affiliated entities” as well as Corrigendum no. 1 published on 12/10/2022:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“The lead applicant may not submit more than one application as lead applicant under this call for proposals.</i> • <i>The lead applicant may not be awarded more than one grant as lead applicant under this call for proposals</i> • <i>The lead applicant may be a co-applicant or an affiliated entity in other applications at the same time under this call for proposals, in a different lot from the one they are applying as lead applicant.</i> • <i>A co-applicant/affiliated entity may not be the co-applicant or affiliated entity in more than one application per lot under this call for proposals.</i> • <i>A co-applicant/affiliated entity may be awarded more than one grant under this call for proposals.</i> <p><i>Should an entity submit more than one application as a lead applicant/coordinator under this call for proposals, the Evaluation Committee will only consider the first</i></p>



		<p><i>proposal arrived on the basis of submission date and hour. Any other proposal submitted by the entity will be rejected.</i></p> <p><i>Should an entity be included in more than one application as a co-applicant or affiliated entity per lot under this call for proposals, the Evaluation Committee will consider the first proposal arrived on the basis of submission date and hour. Any other proposal which includes the concerned entity in the same lot will be rejected. It is the lead applicant's responsibility to verify that its co-applicants/affiliated entities are not involved as lead applicant or co-applicant in other proposals in the same lot."</i></p>
<p>19</p>	<p>I would like to use this opportunity and ask for the clarification regarding Lot 1.</p> <p>In the section "2.1.3. Eligible actions: actions for which an application may be made", there is specification on the localization of the action as follows: "Actions must take place in a minimum of 7 EU Member States. A minor portion of the action may be carried out in a candidate and/or potential candidate country and/or in EU partner countries on the condition that they directly contribute to the objectives of the present call for proposals." Could you, please, clarify what the word minor mean? Is there any specific indication on how much of the budget can be allocated for the work in EU vs. non-EU countries?</p>	<p>Please refer to the answer to question 7(1) of Q&A No. 1 published on 12/10/2022 on: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=173998</p>
<p>20</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is necessary, at the moment to present the concept note, to have the agreements made for the execution of activities in 4 or 7 EU countries (depending on the lot)? or it would be enough to have the agreements with the partner entities? 2. Could you confirm if only one European partner and another from a third country are needed if we choose Lot 2. 3. Can the volunteer work be quantified as part of the co-financing that Solidaridad Internacional Andalucía must provide? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Only actions operating with or targeting the formal education system must be approved by the relevant educational authorities (see answer to question 9(1) above). At the concept note step, you need to identify the lead applicant, the co-applicants and the affiliated entities. In the full application, you need to detail the relevant experience of the lead applicant, co-applicants and affiliated entities and the application needs to contain the mandates of all co-applicants and statement(s) by affiliated entity(ies).



		<p>2. As set out in section 2.2.4 of the guidelines, to ensure equal treatment of applicants, the contracting authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of lead applicants, co-applicants, affiliated entity(ies), an action or specific activities.</p> <p>For the eligibility of co-applicants please refer to 2.1.1. /page 14 of the guidelines: <i>“For Lot 2, the lead applicant must apply together with a minimum of 2 co-applicants, of which at least one must be established in a EU Member State different from the lead applicant and at least one must be established in a country or territory, as defined in Annex M.”</i></p> <p>3. Under this call for proposal, contributions in kind may not be treated as co-financing, see section 2.1.4. of the guidelines.</p>
21	<p>1. Lot 1 and Lot 2 mention actions to facilitate access to funding by smaller CSOs (and LAs) whereas Lot 3 targets CSOs that do not have the (...) capacity to compete directly for EU funding under the DEAR program (p.8 and 9) : what is the difference between these two types of CSOs ?</p> <p>2. Is it correctly understood that it is possible to provide capacity building to other entities than the ones funded as long as it makes sense related to the objectives of the DEAR call and the project? (Lot 1, 2, 3, 4)?</p>	<p>1. Financial support to third parties (FSTP) can be proposed within each lot, but Lot 3 and Lot 5 option c have FSTP as the main purpose of the action (see 2.1.3 (g) - p. 19 of the guidelines), hence, the difference is that for Lot 3 and Lot 5 option c, FSTP is the main purpose, whereas for applications in the other lots, FSTP is not the main purpose.</p> <p>2. As part of FSTP, applicants are required to provide capacity building to “small and medium sized CSOs and LAs receiving the financial support” (see section 2.1.3 (g) of the guidelines).</p>
22	<p>Can two organisations that have a structural link between them (ownership or membership) but are different legal entities with different EuropeAid IDs, are registered in different countries participate as co-applicants in 2 different proposals under the same LOT? i.e. Organisation X in proposal 1 as co-applicant in which proposal organisation Y will not participate and organisation Y in proposal 2 as co-applicant in which organisation X will not participate?</p>	<p>As long as the organisations (even if they are members of a family organisation) are distinct legal entities, proven on the basis of their statutes or establishment acts and meet the eligibility requirements defined in section 2.1.1. of the guidelines, they can apply separately in the present call for proposals. It is the lead applicant's decision to define the role of the actors composing its partnership and implementing the action.</p>
23	<p>We would like to have the confirmation that Cooperatives with social purpose and no-profit status are eligible as co-applicants under the Dear call for proposals.</p>	<p>Cooperatives can apply as long as they fulfil the criteria set out under 2.1.1. Eligibility of applicants of the guidelines.</p>



<p>24</p>	<p>1. Could you share with us (or is available online) the registration of the information session held on 15/09?</p> <p>2. Can NGO that has turnover of almost 1 mil. € and total assets of more than 0,5 mil. € apply as the lead applicant for Lot 3 project?</p> <p>3. As regards Lot 3 and financial support to third parties, in Annex X it is mentioned that "<i>The auditor selected by the beneficiary shall verify the eligibility of the costs incurred by the third party</i>", thus it is obligatory to apply grant as form of financial support for third parties? Or could we provide also financial support in the form of lump sum?</p> <p>4. Could we provide financial support to third parties with 10-20% of the co-financing?</p>	<p>1. The minutes of the virtual information session were published on 12/10/2022 on the website of the call: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=173998</p> <p>With regard to the technicalities of publishing and sharing a video recording, we are looking into the options of publishing a file of this size (165 MB), as it exceeds the limits set for the webpage where the call for proposal is published.</p> <p>2. As set out in section 2.2.4 of the guidelines, to ensure equal treatment of applicants, the contracting authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of lead applicants, co-applicants, affiliated entity(ies).</p> <p>At the full application stage, the lead applicant's latest accounts and external audit report (where applicable) will be evaluated, to verify that they have stable and sufficient sources of finance to maintain their activity throughout the proposed action and, where appropriate, to participate in its funding (see section 2.3. (2) of the guidelines).</p> <p>Please note that the requested EU contribution and the total budget will be taken into consideration to evaluate such capacity.</p> <p>3. Yes, it is indeed possible to foresee not only "costs actually incurred" but also unit or lump sum amounts in the description of the action of the financial support to a third party (FSTP) together with the criteria for payment of those amounts. The chosen methodology needs to be justified by the nature of the FSTP. Article 10.8. of the General Conditions (Annex II and Annex G of this call) gives further details on the reporting duties of the coordinator in this regard.</p> <p>4. Neither the co-financing nor the EU contribution are earmarked for specific activities of a given action. Co-financing needs to be clearly indicated in the budget of the action, tab 3 – expected sources of funding.</p>
<p>25</p>	<p>The instructions concerning the eligibility of Universities as co-Applicant to a proposal to the DEAR call has inconsistencies between the different official documents.</p>	<p>We confirm the definition used for Civil Society Organisation (CSOs) in the guidelines (footnote 12 on page 7 and footnote 18 on page 12). This is the definition also used in the NDICI (REGULATION (EU) 2021/947 OF THE EUROPEAN</p>



The DEAR call guideline refers to section 2.1, is presenting a footnote number 18 describing the definition of CSO for the EU as: *"For the purpose of this call for proposals, Civil society organisations embrace a wide range of actors with multiple roles and mandates which includes all non-State, not-for-profit independent and non-violent structures, through which people organise the pursuit of shared objectives and ideals, whether political, cultural, religious, environmental, social or economic. Operating from local, national, regional and international levels, they comprise urban and rural, formal and informal organisations."*

This text is the exact definition of CSO in the EU Thematic Programme for Civil Society Organisations Multiannual Indicative Programme 2021-2027, that is including in foot note 15:

"They include, but are not limited to: Nongovernmental organisations, organisations representing indigenous peoples, women's and youth organisations, diaspora organisations, migrants' organisations, local traders' associations and citizens' groups, cooperatives, employers' associations and trade unions (social partners), organisations representing economic and social interests, organisations fighting corruption and fraud and promoting good governance, civil rights organisations and organisations combating discrimination, local organisations (including networks) involved in decentralised regional cooperation and integration, consumer organisations, environmental, teaching, cultural, research and scientific organisations, universities, churches and religious associations and communities, philosophical and non-confessional organisations, the not-for-profit media and any non-governmental associations and independent foundations, including independent political foundations."

These above sections are clearly stipulating that universities are considered CSO for the EU.

However, at point 21 of the minutes from the virtual information session of the DEAR call for proposal, at the question on the eligibility

PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe, amending and repealing Decision No 466/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009) see in particular consideration No. 46 on p. 8 of the NDICI.

With regard to the MIP (Thematic Programme for Civil Society Organisations Multiannual Indicative Programme 2021-2027) the same definition from the NDICI is used (p. 2), but the footnote 5 enumerates examples of organisations that are meant to be understood under the definition used in the NDICI, MIP and Cfp.

For this call for proposal, universities can be neither lead applicants nor co-applicants (see section 2.1 of the guidelines for the eligibility criteria) except if they exceptionally fall under the definition of civil societies (footnote 18) or local authorities (footnote 21).

Please also refer to the answer to question 2 of Q&A no.1 published on 17/10/2022 on the website of the call: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=173998>



	<p>of universities, the answer is: <i>"Universities can be neither lead applicants nor co-applicants under this call for proposals (see section 2.1 of the guidelines for the eligibility criteria) except if they exceptionally fall under the definition of civil societies (footnote 18) or local authorities (footnote 21). However, Universities can participate as associates or contractors. As a reminder, associates play a real role in the action but may not receive funding from the grant, with the exception of per diem and travel costs. Contractors are subject to the procurement rules set out in Annex IV to the standard grant contract (see section 2.1.2 of the guidelines)".</i></p> <p>As the answer to question 21 in the minutes is saying that universities are not eligible as co-applicant, but is referring to the footnote 18 of the guideline, that is providing eligibility for universities, could you please kindly help in explaining which instruction has to be followed?</p>	
26	<p>1. Is it compulsory (or highly recommended) to involve entities from developing countries or/and candidate EU countries (e.g., civil society actors) in action's activities? If yes, is it also necessary the project (action) to include activities to be carried out in their territory?</p> <p>2. For actions targeting development education (Lot 4, Lot 5d), should the focus be primarily on education related activities (e.g., curriculum development, training pilots, capacity building events) and less on advocacy and citizen mobilization? What would be the optimal balance between educational and public awareness activities?</p> <p>3. We noticed the point of the eligibility criteria to receive a grant (be able to demonstrate to have carried out activities in the field of development education and awareness raising, and/or global learning for at least three years preferably during the last 3 to 5 years.) and it seems that this call is referring only to organisations already participated in previous DEAR</p>	<p>1. No, there is no obligation to involve entities from developing countries. However, under priority e) Cooperation between Civil Society (CSO) and Local Authorities (LA) (section 1.2 of the guidelines), it is mentioned, that <i>"Cooperation between Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and local authorities (LA) is encouraged, including, where relevant, between entities based in the EU and in EU partner countries."</i> On priorities, please refer to Corrigendum no.2 to the guidelines published on 28/10/2022.</p> <p>Furthermore, under section 2.1.3 Eligible actions point d) Location of the guidelines, it is defined for each lot that <i>"a minor portion of the action may be carried out in a number (different by lot) of candidate and/or potential candidate country and/or in EU partner countries on the condition that they directly contribute to the objectives of the present call for proposals"</i>.</p> <p>2. For Lot 4 and Lot 5d, it is specified in the guidelines section 1.2. (p.9) that actions under this lot will focus on "development education in the formal education system" [...] and/or "actions outside the formal education system"</p>



<p>calls. Is this understanding correct? The same rule should apply for all the applicants?</p>	<p>[...]. Hence, the inclusion of and balance with advocacy and citizen mobilisation depends entirely on the proposal, but the focus needs to remain on formal, informal and non-formal development education.</p> <p>3. With regard to the “experience in similar actions in the past 3 years” (Annex A.2 - Full Application form p. 7), this is not limited to experience as part of the DEAR programme. It could include also project experience from other related/similar EU programmes or funding from other donors than the EU (in both cases, with projects that had objectives that fall within the DEAR programme).</p>
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