



PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIAT
FOR THE EU PRESIDENCY 2017 AND EU FUNDS
AUBERGE D'ARAGON, INDEPENDENCE SQUARE, VALLETTA, MALTA

Calls for Project Proposals

2nd November 2015



Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund
2014-2020
Co-financing rate: 75% EU Funds 25% Beneficiary's Funds
Sustainable Management of Migration Flows





Calls for Project Proposals

- As per article 7 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1042/2014 which lays down the provisions with regard to the designation and management and control responsibilities of Responsible Authorities and with regard to status and obligations of Audit Authorities,
 - one of the tasks of the Responsible Authority is to issue calls for applications.



Calls for Project Proposals

- In this respect Article 7 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1042/2014 provides that:
 - As a general rule, the Responsible Authority shall award grants for projects under the national programme on the basis of **open calls for proposals**.
 - This means that the call is open to all organisations interested in applying.



Calls for Project Proposals

- Article 7 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1042/2014 also provides that:
 - The Responsible Authority may award grants for projects on the basis of a **restricted call for proposals**.
 - **Restricted calls for proposals are open only to selected organisations** because of the specific nature of the project or the technical or administrative competence of the bodies invited to submit proposals. The grounds justifying the use of a restricted call for proposals shall be set out in the call for proposals.



Calls for Project Proposals

- The third option laid down in the Regulation is to provide direct award. In this respect article 7 provides that:
- The Responsible Authority **may award grants directly** where the specific nature of the project or the technical or administrative competence of the relevant bodies leaves no other choice, such as in the case of *de jure or de facto monopolies*.
- The grounds justifying the use of a direct award shall be set out in the award decision.



Calls for Project Proposals

Article 7 also provides for the following scenario:

- In duly justified cases, including continuation of multiannual projects which were selected after a previous call for proposals or in emergency situations, **grants may be awarded without a call** for proposals.
- The grounds justifying that the grant was awarded without a call for proposals shall be set out in the award decision.



Calls for Project Proposals

- The Responsible Authority so far will be making use of two type of calls that is **open calls** and the **direct award option**.
- With respect to open calls, the National Programme provides a list of all the types of organisations which could benefit from the Fund. In this respect section 6.7.1 provides for the following list of entities:
 - *State authorities, local public bodies, non-governmental organisations, international public organisations, national Red Cross, International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, private and public law companies, education/research organisations, social partners*
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Calls for Project Proposals

- With respect to the direct award option the National Programme lists down under section 6.7.2 the entities to which a direct award will be provided.
- The Refugee Commissioner , as is the office responsible to receive, process and determine asylum applications.
- In case of Activities of Forced Return under the Return Measures Objective, these will be awarded to the Immigration Police in view of the de jure monopoly existing in return management.



Calls for Project Proposals

- The Detention Service enjoys a de jure monopoly in the management of closed reception centres.
- The Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers is solely responsible for the implementation of national legislation and policy concerning the welfare of refugees, beneficiaries of protection and asylum seekers.
- The Ministry for Education is responsible for compulsory education and the national curriculum in schools.



Calls for Project Proposals

- The Ministry for Social Dialogue, Consumer Affairs and Civil Liberties as is responsible for the policies of equality, anti-discrimination and integration.
- The Ministry for Energy and Health is responsible for providing the mainstream national health services in Malta.



Calls for Project Proposals

- Both the Open calls and the Executing calls (direct award method) will be subject to an evaluation by an independent Project Selection Committee.
- To guide the applicants under either type of call, the calls will be accompanied by a set of Guidance Notes (to guide Applicants in the application process) as well as an application form.
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- The RA will also be organising an information session to support Applicants in this regard.



Calls for Project Proposals

- In case of an open call upon application submission, the RA shall conduct a completeness check to determine the validity of the application. Documents to be submitted and obligatory supporting documents will be indicated in the Guide for Applications which will be uploaded onto the website during the call for project proposals.
- If allowed by the specific guidelines for the call, the RA shall request any missing documentation which is marked as required, but not submitted by the applicant, within stipulated deadline from the call.



Calls for Project Proposals

- The eligibility criteria outlined in the guidance notes to the application form shall be used to determine whether an application is eligible for funding.
- Ineligible projects will not be considered further; however applicants shall be informed at the first instance and also given the right of appeal to an independent Appeals Board.
- Those proposals deemed to be eligible shall proceed to the selection phase.



Calls for Project Proposals

- Projects that make it through the eligibility check shall proceed to the next round and assessed according to the selection and award criteria.
- The PSC shall then award marks according to the criteria and rank projects, according to the marks obtained.
- In order to qualify for selection, the proposal needs to obtain at least 50% of the marks.



Calls for Project Proposals

- For those eligible projects going through the assessment stage, the PSC shall seek clearance from the State Aid Monitoring Board (SAMB) to ensure that the projects do not entail state aid.
- The selection of projects may be limited by the available budget, in which case the highest ranking projects shall be offered a grant.
- The RA shall inform all applicants about the outcome of the selection process and aggrieved applicants are given the right to Appeal.



Calls for Project Proposals

- In the case of direct award projects, the relevant organization will be invited to submit a project description which will also be reviewed by the PSC to ensure good quality proposals. Following the review and approval of the project by the PSC, the RA shall proceed to sign a Grant Agreement with the relevant organization.



Launch of Calls

- As pre-announced, today the Responsible Authority has launched **two open calls** and **three direct award**;
- The two open calls are in relation to the implementation of **voluntary return measures** and **integration measures**.
- While the three direct award are in relation to **forced return measures**, **evaluation measures** as part of the asylum determination process and **integration measures targeting mainstream education**.



Launch of Calls

- The budgets made available are the following:

Executing Call	EU Funds made available
Activities of Forced Return	€ 937,500
Evaluation Measures	€ 1,260,500
Integration Measures	€ 654,312
Open Call	EU Funds made available
Voluntary Return Measures	€ 937,500
Integration Measures	€ 556,488



Launch of Calls

- The Deadline for the Submission of all Applications is set for Friday 27th November.
- An information session is planned for Wednesday 11th of November.
- All the documentation with respect to the call can all be downloaded from www.eufunds.gov.mt
- Apart from the press releases issued today, the open call has also been published on our website and an advert is planned to be published on next Sunday's newspapers.



Launch of Calls

- As for the direct award an email will be issued to the respective Ministry delineating the details outlined as well as the respective Application Form and guidance notes.



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