

**IPA Component II - Cross-Border Programme Croatia - Montenegro 2007-2013  
2nd Call for Proposals (IPA allocations for 2009, 2010 and 2011)  
Publication reference: EuropeAid/130601/L/ACT/MULTI Tender  
type: Grant**

**Q&A**

**Date of publication: 23 February 2012**

Abbreviations:

AF – Application Form  
CfP – Call for Proposals  
GfA – Guidelines for Applicants

<b>No</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>
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1	<p>1) Does the proposal budget for activities to be implemented in the adjacent areas have a maximum limit?</p> <p>2) Concerning the eligibility criteria (2.1.1 Eligibility of applicants: who may apply?) of applicants: can the applicant be national and/or be accredited in one of the adjacent area?</p>	<p>1) Please see for reference section 1.3 of the GfA “Financial Allocation provided by the Contracting Authority” where the third and fourth paragraphs read:</p> <p>“European Union funding in adjacent areas: In duly justified cases, the proportion of funds available for actions or part of actions to be implemented in the adjacent areas<sup>1</sup> is limited to 20% of the respective allocation for each country under the Cross-Border Programme. Under this Call for Proposals, an indicative amount of € 216,000 for Croatia and € 270,000 for Montenegro may be assigned to finance applications with activities totally or partially taking place in adjacent areas. The selection of applications within the adjacent area shall be in all cases confirmed by the European Commission.”</p> <p>2) As stated under section 2.2.4. of GfA, in the interest of equal treatment of applicants, the Contracting Authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of an applicant, a partner, an action, cost or specific activities.</p> <p>Please note that eligibility of applicants is stated under section 2.1.1 of the GfA., with specific reference to the following provisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “be nationals (Nationality is being determined on the basis of the operator’ s statutes which should demonstrate that it has been established by an instrument governed by the national law of the country concerned. In this respect, any legal entity whose statutes, with the exception of international inter-governmental organisations, have been established in another country cannot be considered an eligible organisation, even if the statutes are registered in Croatia or Montenegro or a “Memorandum of Understanding” has been concluded) of Croatia, Montenegro, a Member State of the European Union, other IPA beneficiary country, a country that is a beneficiary of the European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument, or a Member State of the European Economic Area, with the exception of the international inter-governmental organisations, and</li> <li>• be registered or accredited (According to the meaning of the provisions of</li> </ul>
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		<p>Article 96(3) of the IPA Regulation (EC) No 718/2007 as amended by Regulation (EU) No 80/2010 which specifies that the lead beneficiaries shall be established in the respecting participating beneficiary country) in Croatia when applying for the allocation assigned to Croatia and be registered or accredited in Montenegro when applying for the allocation assigned to Montenegro at least one year before the publication of this Call.”</p> <p>Please note that in order to be eligible, applicants must meet all other criteria under section 2.1.1. of the GfA.</p>
2	<p>Can you please clarify what accreditation means under the eligibility rules for applicants and partners? How can a not Croatian national applicant be accredited in Croatia?</p>	<p>Please note that eligibility of applicants is stated under section 2.1.1. of the GfA, with specific reference to the following provision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “be registered or accredited (According to the meaning of the provisions of Article 96(3) of the IPA Regulation (EC) No 718/2007 as amended by Regulation (EU) No 80/2010 which specifies that the lead beneficiaries shall be established in the respecting participating beneficiary country) in Croatia when applying for the allocation assigned to Croatia and be registered or accredited in Montenegro when applying for the allocation assigned to Montenegro at least one year before the publication of this Call.”</li> </ul>
3	<p>I would like to enquire if ONLY the staff of applicants and partners assigned to the project can travel, or if it is possible for other people, say an expert senior whose cost is under equipment/supplies category.</p>	<p>Please note that eligibility of costs is stated under section 2.1.4. of the GfA with specific reference to the following provision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “<u>travel and subsistence costs for staff and other persons taking part in the Action</u>, provided they do not exceed those normally borne by the Beneficiary or its partners, as the case may be. Any flat-rate reimbursement of the subsistence costs must not exceed the rates set out in Annex III of the</li> </ul>

		<p>Standard Grant Contract (see Annex F), which correspond to the scales published by the European Commission at the time of signing this contract.”</p> <p>Furthermore, please see section 2.1.2. Partnerships and eligibility of partners, with specific reference to bullet Associates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Other organisations may be involved in the action. Such associates play a real role in the action but may not receive funding from the grant <u>with the exception of per diem or travel costs</u>. Associates do not have to meet the eligibility criteria referred to in section 2.1.1. The associates have to be mentioned in section IV – “Associates of the Applicants participating in the Action” of the Grant Application Form.”</li> </ul>
4	<p>Is the own contribution for the project (15-50% of the project budget) can be spent on the cost of staff assigned to the project ?</p>	<p>As stated in section 1.3 of the GfA, subheading “<b>Co-financing rules</b>”</p> <p>“The grant requested by an applicant shall not be for less than 50% of the total eligible costs included in the applicant's budget. In addition, no grant shall exceed 85% of the total eligible costs included in the applicant's budget (see also section 2.1.4). The balance must be financed from the applicant's or partners' own resources, or from sources other than the European Union budget or the European Development Fund.”</p> <p>In other words, co-financing is part of the total eligible cost included in the applicant's budget and eligibility rules indicated in section 2.14. of the GfA apply for co-financing and grant source of funding of the total applicant's budget.</p> <p>For eligibility of cost of staff in project please see for reference section 2.1.4. of the GfA under subheading “Eligible direct costs” with specific reference to the last paragraph of the section 2.1.4 of the GfA:</p> <p>“Civil servants or other public employees of central, regional or local administrations which participate under this Call for Proposals may not receive fees for their contribution to the action other than their standard, regular salaries in the respective institution. The salaries of the civil servants or other public employees of the central, regional and local administrations may be presented as co-financing contribution of the applicants.”</p>