

EUROPEAN UNION DELEGATION TO THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

Belgrade,

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Provision to the improvement of living conditions of IDPs and returnees from readmission process in Serbia and support to the sustainable return to Kosovo*

Publication reference: EuropeAid/154545/DD/ACT/RS

No.	Question	Answer
1.	One of the foreseen eligible activities is "Provision of housing solutions for IDPs and returnees from readmission process in Serbia."	Please refer to section 2.1.4 of the Guidelines for applicants for the eligible actions under LOT 1.
	Can the action support purchase of basic furniture and equipment with direct link to actions proposed for improvement of living conditions?	
2.	One of the foreseen eligible activities is "Support to the implementation of 30 Local Action Plans for solving the issues of IDPs and returnees."	Please note that eligible/ineligible costs are already defined in section 2.1.5 of the Guidelines for applicants.
	Can the salary costs of the personnel of national administration be eligible to the extent they relate to the cost of activities which the relevant public authority would not carry out if the action were not undertaken?	Please also note that salary costs of the personnel of national administrations are ineligible cost under this Call for proposals.
3.	One of the foreseen eligible activities is: "design and deliver training programme". Is	This activity is related to Lot 2 – Support to return.
	this activity intended to target only those IDPs from Kosovo who wish to return to Kosovo?	Please note that according to the Guidelines for applicants section 1.1 ¹ :
		"The final beneficiaries of this project will be:
		IDPs - internally displaced persons from Kosovo, both in the process of return and integration.
		Returnees - persons returned to the Republic of Serbia according the Readmission Agreement in the process of reintegration."
4.	Within Lot 2 – <u>Support to Return</u> , one of the target groups are IDPs from Kosovo who wish	Please see answer to question No. 3

¹ According to the Law on migration (2012) and Strategy for improving the position of IDPs (2014)

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	to return to Kosovo. In the section 2.1.4, under "Types of Activity – Lot 2", returnees from Readmission are mentioned as well. Are the activities mentioned under Lot 2 supposed to target returnees from readmission as well? If so, only those who are originating from Kosovo and wish to return there?	
5.	We would like to inquire possibility of support to domicile extremely vulnerable population (up to 20%) within the activities under LOT 1 — Improvement of living conditions of IDPs and returnees from readmission process in Serbia. Although this measure is not mentioned in the Guidelines, it would ensure balance and equal treatment of IDPs/returnees and domicile EVI's and reduce/avoid possible social tensions in targeted communities and encourage further support of local self-governments.	Please refer to section 2.1.4 of the Guidelines for applicants for the eligible actions under LOT 1 and LOT 2. In addition, please refer to answer to the question No. 3.
6.	Do all 3 types of activities listed in the Guidelines under LOT 1 should be included into the project proposal?	No, it is not necessary to cover all three types of activities under LOT 1. Please refer to section 2.1.4 of the Guidelines for applicants for the eligible actions under LOT 1.
7.	Is there a priority list of municipalities for further cooperation on these issues?	Please note that one of general rules of EU procurement is the rule of equal treatment. Please further consult section 2.1.1 Eligibility of applicants (i.e. lead applicant and co – applicants(s)) of the Guidelines for applicants.
8.	Regarding activities under LOT 1, is purchase of village houses considered as financial support to third parties or procurement?	Please note that in line with the Guidelines for Applicants, section 2.2.4., p. 21, "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."
		Please consult Annex IV of the documents for information for this Call for proposals where Procurement rules for Beneficiaries are explained.
		Please also consult section 2.1.4 of Guidelines for applicants (page 15) for financial support to third parties.

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		Please note that according to the Guidelines for applicants section 2.1.4, types of activity which may be financed under this lot are the following:
		• Execution of housing rehabilitation or repairs or works (such as provision of building material packages to final beneficiaries, provision and installation of prefabricated house, etc.), for IDPs and returnees from readmission process. Furthermore, purchasing of village houses, buildings or land in accordance with Article 7.5 of the General Conditions of the standard grant contract
		Distribution of economic packages (with a purpose to start up, or extend existing business activities) in Serbia for self-sustainable living conditions
		 Support to the implementation of 30 Local Action Plans in Serbia for solving the social inclusion issues of IDPs and returnees, in the areas of housing, employment, health care, education etc.
9.	Does the purchase of village houses activity imply funds for buying the house and a small additional sum for the acquisition of building materials for emergency adaptations?	Please refer to section 2.1.4 of the Guidelines for applicants for the eligible actions under LOT 1.
		Acquisition of building materials for emergency adaptations could be supported if directly linked and necessary for the eligible actions to be implemented.
10.	What's the limit of the framework for the direct negotiated procurement?	Please see answer to question 8. In addition, please consult the Practical Guide for Procurement And Grants for European Union external actions (PRAG v. 2016) for the different types of procurement procedures, the conditions and the applicable ceilings for each procedure.
11.	Guidelines say that the third parties are specifically IDP-s and returnees or CSO-s, organizations representing them.	In order for an NGO to be considered as representing IDPs and returnees, this should be written in its Statutes.
	How do you classify an NGO representing? Is it representing their needs generically so organizations providing services to people in	Please note that in line with the Guidelines for Applicants, section 2.2.4., p. 21, "To ensure equal treatment of applicants, the contracting

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	vulnerable situations or specifically NGO-s that have memberships who are IDP-s and returnees?	authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of lead applicants, co-applicants, affiliated entity(ies), an action or specific activities." Eligibility of applicants - i.e. lead applicant and co-applicant(s) is defined in section 2.1.1 of the Guidelines for applicants.
		In line with the above, the Contracting Authority cannot give prior opinion on eligibility of third parties.
12.	When we're talking about the partnership with the local self-governments, how do you define a returnee? Is it someone who had spent five years, or just a year living abroad, and where should he/she register as a returnee?	Please refer to the definition of returnee in section 1.1, page 6 of Guidelines for applicants, in line with Law on migration (2012)
13.	How can we prove that the grants are not being spent in Serbia but that they are in service of the return to Kosovo?	Please note that according to the Guidelines for applicant section 2.1.4 all actions under this Call for proposals must take place only in the Republic of Serbia (excluding the territory of Kosovo*, as in line with Annex 1 to IPA Regulation 231/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014).
14.	How can we prove that training is in the service of the return to Kosovo?	It should be explained in the Concept Note.
15.	How will go and see visits be implemented?	Implementation of each activity should be described in the Concept Note. Please see also answer to question no 13.
16.	Can you email us these presentations you've used today?	All materials from the info session are uploaded on EuropeAid website: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=154545 as well as on EU Delegation's website: http://europa.rs/open-tenders/?lang=en

