

Informative session on the Call for Proposals 2018 “Local Authorities: Partnerships for sustainable cities” 11/7 DEVCO Infopoint

I) Objectives and priorities

Global objective: partnership between cities of EU and partners countries, promote integrated urban development, and the sub-objective of implementing SDGs.

Specific objectives: -Strengthen urban governance and at least one out of the three objectives which are:

- ensure social inclusiveness,
- improve resilience and greening of cities,
- and improve prosperity and innovative cities.

➤ *To choose: one pillar or 2 of them or three of them.*

3 priorities to address:

- contribute to sdg11 (main one)
- promote peer to peer learning and exchange between the entities (expertise at subnational level etc.)
- promote a multistakeholder and a multisector approach (2 countries or more) not only public sector but academies, private sectors etc.

➤ *Expectation from the European side: partnerships in Europe but partnership with only one partner countries (Germany + France with Guinea)*

Additional priorities (at least one of the following should be addressed):

- triangular cooperation
- smart cities
- job creation

II) Eligibility criteria

Grant size between 2 million (Minimum) and 5 million (maximum).

Co-financing: 95% for applicant and 50% for co-applicant.

Duration of the actions may not be lower than 24 months and not exceed 60 months.

Two configurations are allowed:

- new partnerships
- scaling up of existing partnerships (of partnerships already working on the ground). This allows the possibility to achieve immediate results (because the preparation work is already done).

Regarding the eligibility criteria, if the lead applicant is the EU the co-applicant should be partner country. Or vice versa.

Lead applicant:

Ex, in the case of France, it could be the city of Bordeaux or the AIMF (**LA** or **association of LAs**), or **city networks**.

Co-applicant:

A little bit different. Could be also a public or semi-public agency/body (responsible for service delivery), university, research center (=> in order to ensure the multi actors approach).

Number of applications per applicants:

The lead applicant can be co-applicant in other application (2 others), whereas being lead applicant in only one application.

Affiliated entities:

They can create consortium. There should be a legal or capital link.

EX: with UCLG, the affiliated entities are the members affiliated to UCLG (because to the legal link). But also a capital link (which means, a structure that exercises a control in terms of budget use for example).

Associates and contractors:

CSO are considered as associates (open up this to them because considered as important actors but this call targets LAs). This call focuses on LAs. CSO may not receive the funding of the grant, this is the only privilege of LAs.

III) Q&A

Q: Federal countries, provinces can apply to the call?

A: the call is addressed to LAs, which means all the subnational governments.

Q: (UCLGA) regarding the funding, what are the conditions to have the 100% funding? About co-financing, what are the types of co-financing accepted?

A: in the case where the evaluation committee does not recognize the submission as sufficient, the commission won't authorize the 100% funding, (à la discrétion du comité d'évaluation). The co-financing could be salaries of UCLG-A or projects managers committed to carryout the actions (ex of co-financing). If there is room that can be covered by an activity, the balance (– co-financing) must be financed by EU budget. Co-financing = real costs.

Q: question on affiliated and co-applicants, what's the difference?

A: whatever the role of affiliated entities, you can put them as co-applicants. No distinction, be sure that private companies are eligible (they must respond to the same eligibility criteria). At least one co applicant required.

Q: Need for clarifications about affiliation

A: as far as they are different legal entities, it is possible to apply as applicant and co applicant,

Q: please specify the numbers of co-applicants / how do you ensure the security in the use of funding in LAs of developing countries

A: not clear yet, the answer will be published soon. Regarding the monitoring process, rules in the contract that will be signed under EU rules regarding how funds are given and spent. Funds will be given to EU delegations that will be in charge of monitor the funds etc.

Q: what are third parties that can be also involved?

A: when the funds can be attributed to the third part, are not part of the consortium, are not contractors, but are necessary to provide the service.

Q: possible to target different regions?

A: it is not possible to target multiple regions in this call. At least, triangular cooperation (1 developed and 2 developing countries). Ex: Mozambique lead applicant – Italy co-applicant, Brazil can be part but not as a beneficiary country (minor part). We want to ensure a proper monitoring of implementation of activities, that's why we give money to one delegation, easier to monitor. Actions need to be set in one country basically.

Q: about eligibility of UN agencies, UN habitat for instance, can apply as co applicant?

A: not the international organizations. Subnational entities and public providers related to Las only.

Q: regarding the creation of consortia

A: you should be able to present a proposal for example, the city of Paris + the city of Bonne supporting a city in Kenya (or a region, or several cities). Also possible a city in Italy working with academies in Netherlands to support cities in partner countries.

Q: (CoMSSA): is it possible to submit an application even if our activities end soon?

A: in existing partnerships, possible but have to pay attention to actions that you elaborate (pas de répétition, de la complémentarité). Build on partnerships you already have and demonstrate clearly what you have on the ground and explain in which ways you can scale it up.

Q: can you specify the type of actions

A: everything you can finance (infrastructures, urban mobility), better when it targets more capacity building (and this type of actions), but we will look for efficiency mainly.

Q: that could be more than one country participating in the call?

A: in the UE, several countries, but only one developing countries. But it is possible to have multiple cities in this very country. We doing this to better assess the activities => if the actions can be replicated in other cities. Replicability of actions and also territorial approach has to be promoted. Ex: Tunis + secondary cities around it is possible.

Q: how can we find potential partners?

A: no tools for this. But in the coming year we think about the creation of a platform to make this possible.

Q: regarding the timeline, is it flexible?

A: tight deadline for sure, but first will be a selection phase (shortlist based on a detailed concept note). We will give more time after to submit the full proposal.

Q: (CUF) difficult to be part of a consortia as co-applicant / lead applicant, so how to get the most important co-funding (90%)? We pay attention to our partners, we are often not so strong to do so. Be careful regarding the calendar etc. if you really want to target LAs.

A: apply with LAs you know strong enough.

Additional information:

Answers to the Q&A will be published in the coming days and the 25th of December will be published the second bunch of replies.

Evaluation committee will assess the applications by the end of December (the ones that have been selected will be informed at this moment).

Suggestions:

- Need for the constitution of partnerships which include peer to peer, decentralised cooperation, twining => make it clear, the **partnerships have to appear clearly**.
- As well as the importance of the **integration of urban development**.
- Pay attention to the **assessment grids** (clearly address this in the proposal and explain the relevance / efficiency). Assessment grids help to prepare a good proposal (be careful with the way the proposal is formulated).

- Regarder grille d'évaluation pour pouvoir être sélectionné. Mais pour être sélectionné il faut absolument respecter les enjeux administratifs (**soumettre la proposition à l'heure**).
- **Concept note obligée pour enregistrer le lead applicant** (pour le co-applicant ça se passe après)
- Faire attention, le **check administratif sera fait sur la base du prospect** (regarder le formulaire d'application à la fin, voir les critères d'éligibilité du point de vue administratif). **Manuel sur le site si pas habitué au système**.
- Période de clarification aussi donc **possibilité de poser des questions (générales)**, regarder le site car publication du Q&A and présentation etc.