



REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRISË

MINISTRY OF FINANCE
GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF FINANCE AND CONTRACTING OF EU FUNDS, WORLD BANK
AND OTHER DONORS FUNDS
DIRECTORATE FOR MANAGEMENT OF IPA CONTRACTS

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

CONTRACT TITLE: Europeaid/183647/ID/ACT/AL

“Life skills improved through their integration in upper secondary education curricula and careers guidance introduced in the school system”

Question no. 01	Could you please confirm that in case the coordinator of the consortium awarding the grant is a pillar assessed organization, it will sign a contribution agreement with the contracting authority?
Answer no. 01	<p>Please refer to section 2.6 of the Guidelines for Grant Applicants.</p> <p>In line with PRAG Rules, Section 6.9 “Grants to organisations whose pillars have been positively assessed (other) by European Commission”:</p> <p><i>“If the beneficiary of a grant (i.e. the coordinator in a multi-beneficiary contract) is an organization, whose pillars have been positively assessed by the European Commission, this organisation will not sign a grant contract but a contribution agreement based on the related template. However, the template of the contribution agreement will need to take into consideration standard templates published with the call for proposals, i.e. the budget (Annex B) and the logical framework (Annex C) which is to be included in the description of the action. The description of the action (Annex I to the contribution agreement) will be drawn from the application form submitted by the organization.”</i></p>
Question no. 02	With this email, we would like to inquire whether a public secondary school can participate in call as the main leader, or should it necessarily be a university educational center?
Answer no. 02	Based on Section 2.1.1 Eligibility of applicants (i.e. lead applicant and <i>coapplicant(s)</i>) a public secondary school is not eligible to participate in this Call as a main leader.
Question no. 03	<p>Referring to the following paragraph:</p> <p>Lead applicant <i>In order to be eligible for a grant, the lead applicant must:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>be a legal person and</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>be a specific type of organisation such as: public or private universities or research institutions or public sector operator, or international (inter-governmental) organisation as defined by Article 159(1) of the EU Financial Regulation (11) operating in the field of education, offering teaching (pedagogical) study programs and</i> • <i>be effectively established in (12) eligible countries as stipulated in the Annex I of IPA III Regulation (2021/1529). Due to the legal status of international organisations, the obligation of effective establishment in the referred countries does not apply to international organisations, where the latter are eligible,</i> <i>or</i> • <i>be a specific type of organisation such as: non-governmental organization (13), or civil society organization operating in the field of education offering teaching (pedagogical) study programs, officially registered in the Republic of Albania, since at least three years before the call is launched (assessed in section 1.2 of the full application evaluation grid)</i> <p>Does footnote 12 refer only to public or private universities or research institutions or public sector operator, or international (inter-governmental) organization or also to non-governmental organization?</p> <p>In our case, is an NGO duly registered in ALBANIA and recognized in the same way as a national organization. However, the statutes and articles of incorporation on which this recognition is based, are those referring to HQ. Can we use the recognition we have in Albania in this call?</p>
<p>Answer no. 03</p>	<p>Footnote 12 provides clarity on the criteria for determining an organization's country eligibility based on its statutes and refers only to public or private universities or research institutions or public sector operator, or international (inter-governmental) organization as defined by Article 159(1) of the EU Financial Regulation operating in the field of education, offering teaching (pedagogical) study programs.</p> <p>While regarding the other types of organisations, non-governmental organisation, or civil society organization, as stated in the section 2.1.1 of the GfA, these organisations must be officially registered in the Republic of Albania, since at least three years before the call is launched (assessed in section 1.2 of the full application evaluation grid).</p>
<p>Question no. 04</p>	<p>The question refers to paragraph 2.2.4, pag 20: An information session on this call for proposals will be notified at a later stage on the website of EU Delegation of Albania, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Education and Sports. Do you still foresee an info session and when it is planned?</p>

<p>Answer no. 04</p>	<p>In accordance with paragraph 2.2.4, of the Guideline for Grant Applicants, CFCU conducted an information session on March 17, 2025, at 09:00 hrs, 21 days before of the Concept Note submission deadline. The announcement for the webinar link was published on the social media of EU Delegation of Albania (LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram), website of Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Education and Sports. The presentation is now available for your reference on the EU F&T Portal, along with the other documents related to the Call for Proposal.</p>
<p>Question no. 05</p>	<p>Point 2.1.4 pg.16 Contribution in Kind: “Contributions in kind mean the provision of goods or services to beneficiaries or affiliated entities free of charge by a third party”. And 2.2.2 Concept note pg. 19 - “<i>Own contribution by the applicants can be replaced by other donor’s contribution at any time</i>”. Are assets such as office equipment, donated from another donor, considered as contribution in kind?</p>
<p>Answer no. 05</p>	<p>Contributions in kind mean the provision of goods or services to beneficiaries or affiliated entities free of charge by a third party. As contributions in kind do not involve any expenditure for beneficiaries or affiliated entities, they are not eligible costs (except for personnel costs for the work carried out by volunteers under an action or an operating grant if so authorized). Contributions in kind may not be treated as co-financing.</p> <p>However, if the description of the action as proposed includes contributions in kind, the contributions have to be made.</p> <p>Other co-financing shall be based on estimates provided by the applicant.</p> <p>Under this call for proposals in kind contributions are considered ineligible for funding, except for volunteers' work.</p>
<p>Question no. 06</p>	<p>How will the 30 upper secondary schools be selected? Is this a responsibility of the MoEY or of the applicant?</p>
<p>Answer no. 06</p>	<p>Please refer to GfA, footnote no. 18 <i>Selection of pilot schools to be done by the Beneficiary with the support of Grant Coordinator, taking into account the inclusion of schools from rural areas where the access to information sources is limited.</i></p> <p>Beneficiary in this footnote refers to the final beneficiary which is the Ministry of Education and Sports.</p>
<p>Question no. 07</p>	<p>Is it possible for ASCAP to serve as a co-applicant alongside two other universities?</p>

Answer no. 07	Based on Section 1.1 <i>Background</i> of the GfA, ‘Quality Assurance Agency for Pre-university Education (QAAPE)’ is one of the main stakeholders and final beneficiaries of this call for proposal. As such, they cannot serve as a co-applicant alongside two other universities.
Question no. 08	Do affiliated entities have a budget, and can European universities be included? If so, what is the maximum number?
Answer no. 08	Regarding the provisions for Affiliated Entities, please refer to GfA Section 2.1.1 Eligibility of Applicants for detailed information on the eligibility criteria. This section will guide you on several aspects related to affiliated entities.
Question no. 09	Is it possible for ZVAP to be recognized as an affiliated entity?
Answer no. 09	Based on <i>Section 1.1 Background</i> of the GfA, Local Offices of Pre-university Education is one of the main stakeholders and final beneficiaries of this call for proposal. As such they cannot serve as an affiliated entity.

