

## **SELECTION CRITERIA AND SELECTION PROCEDURE**

### **CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR BILATERAL INITIATIVES**

### **BIN BF04**

#### **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, INNOVATION AND SMEs PROGRAMME 2014-2021**

#### **FUND FOR BILATERAL RELATIONS / SLOVAKIA**

EEA and Norway Grants 2014 – 2021

Formal compliance criteria and eligibility criteria shall be assessed by the Programme Operator (PO). If the PO identifies a shortcoming in the Grant Application, the applicant will be asked to rectify identified shortcomings and/or to supplement the missing information. The applicant shall respond to the findings (findings include shortcomings and/or missing information) of the PO within 5 working days. Within this period the applicant shall also rectify the identified shortcomings and/or supplement the missing information. Upon the request of the applicant, the PO may extend this period.

Should the applicant fail to rectify the identified shortcomings and/or supplement the missing information within the set deadline, the Grant Application shall be rejected. Applicants may appeal to the PO in case the Grant Application is rejected due to non-compliance with formal and/or eligibility criteria. Further information can be found in chapter 18 of the Bilateral Fund Guide. The rejection of the application does not prevent the re-submission of the Grant Application.

Every Grant Application meeting the formal compliance criteria and eligibility criteria is sent to the nominated representative of the PO and the Donor Programme Partner (DPP) – Innovation Norway – to score the Grant Application and decide either to recommend or not to recommend the Grant Application for funding. The nominated representatives of the Programme Operator and the Donor Programme Partner shall individually inform the Programme Operator about their decision on each Grant Application within 10 working days. The application shall be approved, if the Programme Operator and the Donor Programme Partner recommend the grant application for funding. Final decision shall be issued by the Programme Operator.

Annex II to the Call BIN BF04 - Selection Criteria and Selection Procedure

## 1. FORMAL COMPLIANCE CRITERIA

No.	Criterion	Source of verification	YES	NO	N/A	Comment
1.	The grant application was submitted within the period set in the Call for proposals via electronic system <i>egrant</i> and in line with the Call.	Electronic application in <i>egrant</i>				
2.	All mandatory attachments listed in the Article 8 of the Call are attached:					
	a) Signed Partnership Statement or Letter of Intent or other similar document (such as invitation, e-mail correspondence, event agenda) proving the partner's interest in participating in the initiative or in case of participating at the networking events, B2B events etc. organized by the PO or DPP, invitation, agenda, confirmation of registration or other similar document shall be attached to the application.					
	b) Signed Declaration of the Applicant					
	c) Signed Declaration of the Partner <sup>1,2</sup>					
	d) Filled and signed Annex 1 of De minimis aid scheme for supporting the development of bilateral relations in the area of business and education, as amended by Addendum No. 1, (DM-2/2020) by the Applicant and Partner(s), if relevant.					

<sup>1</sup> Criterion is not relevant to a subject participating at B2B events, networking events, etc. organized by DPP or PO.

<sup>2</sup> Relevant for project partner with financial contribution.

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3.	The applicant has chosen at least 2 indicators from Article 2 of the Call.					
4.	The applicant has submitted all missing information/rectified identified shortcomings within the set deadline. <sup>3</sup>					

## 2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

No.	Criterion	Source of verification	YES	NO	N/A	Comments
1.	The applicant is eligible.	Electronic application in <i>agrant</i>				
2.	The partner(s) is eligible <sup>1</sup>					
3.	The applicant has at least one eligible partner in compliance with the Call <sup>1</sup>					
4.	Minimal and maximal amount of the Grant that can be applied for was observed.					
5.	Timeframe of the initiative implementation is in compliance with the length and period specified in the Call.					

Only applications meeting all Formal Compliance Criteria and all Eligibility Criteria (no answer NO is used) will be assessed on the Content related criteria.

<sup>3</sup> Relevant in case the Programme Operator requested the submission of missing information/rectify shortcomings.

### 3. CONTENT RELATED CRITERIA

No.	Criterion	Criterion description	0 (NO) 1 (YES)	Comments
1.	Relevance of the initiative	The initiative contributes to developing and strengthening bilateral relations, enhancing cooperation and improving mutual knowledge and understanding between Slovakia and the Donor states and contributes to the focus of the Call.		
2.	Relevance of partnership <sup>1</sup>	The partnership is balanced, the partner plays an active role in the planning and implementation of the proposed initiative. The planned event/initiative has high potential for developing and strengthening partnerships beneficial for the applicant and the partner(s).		
3.	Quality of the application	The application is clear and concise, including the proposed objective and results and the relevance of measurable indicators.		
4.	Feasibility	The implementation of the initiative is well designed, the planned activities are realistic, have logical structure and will lead to planned results. The planned resources (financial and personal) are adequate and time schedule is realistic. No significant risk is expected during the implementation of the initiative.		
5.	Budget efficiency	The initiative's budget is designed in sufficient details, it is realistic (not overestimated or underestimated) and cost-effective. The budget items are compliant with the Call, the Bilateral Fund Guide, the Regulations.		

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6.	Sustainability	The sustainability of bilateral cooperation is expected. The initiative may continue, be repeated or provide other benefits after the funding is over.		
<b>Total score achieved:</b>				

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Recommend for funding</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Not recommend for funding</b>
<u>COMMENT OF THE ASSESSOR:</u>	

The assessor can award the criterion with 0 (NO) or 1 (YES). In case the score for a criterion is "0", the assessor is obliged to justify this decision in the field "Comments". The Grant Application with 4 or less points, will be rejected.