



**UFM GRANT SCHEME TO PROMOTE EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN THE GREEN
ECONOMY
REFERENCE NUMBER: PRO430EDE-2023**

Barcelona, 17th of April 2023

REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATIONS No. 1 up to 30/03/2023

07-03-2023

Question 1:	What are the KPIs for beneficiaries?
<p>The Contracting Authority has not published a pre-set list of KPIs for the call. Applicants are to fill in the logical framework and activity matrix (Annex C) with the information appropriate and relevant to each proposal. For further information or guidance, there are available resources on https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/results-and-indicators/green-economy</p>	
Question 2:	If we are applying for the maximum amount of 300.000 EUR, does the amount include our contribution?
<p>Please refer to section 1.3 of the Call for Proposal Guidelines “Financial allocation provided by the contracting authority”.</p> <p>Any grant requested under this call for proposals must fall between the following minimum and maximum amounts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimum amount: EUR 150.000• Maximum amount: EUR 300.000 <p>Any grant requested under this call for proposals must fall between the following maximum percentages of total eligible costs of the action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimum percentage: 50 % of the total eligible costs of the action.• Maximum percentage 80 % of the total eligible costs of the action (see also Section 2.1.5). <p>Please bear in mind that the total cost for the project ≠ requested grant (i.e. Requesting a EUR 300.000,00 grant entails that the total cost of the project is higher, in line with the rate of co-financing)</p> <p>The balance (i.e. the difference between the total cost of the project and the amount requested from the contracting authority) must be financed from sources other than the Union for the Mediterranean.</p>	
Question 3:	Is it possible to have a small portion of direct fund to the beneficiaries at the end of the grant duration?
<p>Please refer to Section 2.1.4 of the Call for Proposal Guidelines, in particular the segment referring to Financial support to third parties: “Applicants may not propose financial support to third parties”.</p>	



For further information on the eligible of costs under this call for proposals please refer to section 2.1.5 of the Guidelines.

08-03-2023

Question 4:	<p>The eligibility requirements state that organizations need to be established in the UfM region. While our organisation was established in the United States, we are locally registered in Palestine, Lebanon, and Jordan and conduct our primary operations in the UfM Region.</p> <p>At your earliest convenience, kindly let us know if our local registration is sufficient to apply as a Lead Applicant, Co-Applicant, or Affiliated Entity under this call.</p>
<p>As established in the guidelines, 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.</p> <p>Please refer to Section 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of the Guidelines, where requisites for eligibility are laid out. In particular, that in order to be eligible for a grant, the lead applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be a legal person (non-governmental organisation); pursuant to the conditions established in the Financing Agreement between UfM and GIZ, government agencies, local authorities, public sector operators and international organisations are not eligible under this call, and• be non-profit-making, and• be established in the UfM Region, and• be established in one of the following countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia or have at least one co-applicant established in one of the above-mentioned countries• be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary. <p>Fulfilment of these criteria will be determined on the basis of the organisation’s statutes, which should demonstrate that it has been established by an instrument governed by the national law of the country concerned and that its head office is located in an eligible country. In this respect, any legal entity whose statutes have been established in another country cannot be considered an eligible local organisation, even if the statutes are registered locally or a ‘Memorandum of Understanding’ has been concluded.</p> <p>Please note that co-applicants must satisfy the eligibility criteria as applicable to the lead applicant, and as per section 2.1.2 of the Guidelines affiliated entity(ies) must satisfy the same eligibility criteria as the lead applicant and the co-applicant(s).</p>	



Question 5:	We are a non-profit organization based in Germany, according to German law we are a register organization (e.v.), could we be able to apply for the grant?
<p>As established in the guidelines, 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.</p> <p>Please refer to Section 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of the Guidelines, where requisites for eligibility of lead applicants, co-applicants and affiliated entities are laid out.</p> <p>In particular, that in order to be eligible for a grant, the lead applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be a legal person (non-governmental organisation); pursuant to the conditions established in the Financing Agreement between UfM and GIZ, government agencies, local authorities, public sector operators and international organisations are not eligible under this call, and• be non-profit-making and• be established in the UfM Region and<ul style="list-style-type: none">• be established in one of the following countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia or have at least one co-applicant established in one of the above-mentioned countries• be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary. <p>Please note that co-applicants must satisfy the eligibility criteria as applicable to the lead applicant, and as per section 2.1.2 of the Guidelines affiliated entity(ies) must satisfy the same eligibility criteria as the lead applicant and the co-applicant(s).</p>	

13-03-2023

Question 6	We are 2 GDAs for the development of rural women and artisans respectful of the ecosystem and the sustainability of greenery and the balance of biodiversity. We have a variety of activities and we seek to develop them better (Question translated from French)
<p>As established in the guidelines, 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.</p> <p>Please refer to the Guidelines in order to obtain necessary information, in particular with regards to the scope of the call (section 1.1 and 1.2), application procedure (sections 2.2.1 and 2.2.2) and eligibility requirements (section 2.1.1 and 2.1.4).</p> <p>Please also be reminded that applications are to be prepared and submitted in English</p>	

15-03-2023

Question 7	The guidelines indicate, as one of the eligibility criteria for lead applicants, that they must, "be a legal person (non-governmental organisation)". Our entity satisfies the remaining eligibility criteria for lead applicants, however, it is not an NGO, but rather a (...) non-profit institution (...) based in Cairo, Egypt.
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	Thus, could our entity be eligible as a lead applicant?
<p>Please refer to answer to question n° 5. Additionally, in accordance with section 2.1.1 of the guidelines, all of the requisites for eligibility of applicants must be fulfilled in order to qualify under the call for proposals. Please also consider section 2.1.3 for further possibilities of participation under the current call for proposals.</p>	

17-03-2023

Question 8	<p>We are a local NGO in a rural area in Jordan and we have extensive experience in such projects and received few grants from different donors.</p> <p>Can we apply for your grant by ourselves or we need to partner with other NGOs for that?</p>
<p>As established in the guidelines, 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 refer to Section 2.1.1 of the Guidelines, in particular segment (2), where it is stated that “The lead applicant may act individually or with co-applicant(s)”. Please consider also section 2.1.4, especially the location requisites, where it is indicated that “priority will be given to regional actions, i.e., involving at least 3 of the aforementioned Member States (Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia).</p>	

18-03-2023

Question 9	<p>Dear UFM team,</p> <p>I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to inquire about the call for proposals titled "Grant Scheme to Promote Employment and Entrepreneurship in the Green Economy." We are interested in submitting a proposal and have a few questions regarding the eligibility criteria and guidelines mentioned in the grant document.</p> <p>In the grant document, it is stated that "any grant requested under this call for proposals must represent a minimum of 50% of the total eligible costs of the action and a maximum of 80% of the total eligible costs." We would like to clarify whether this contribution includes a financial co-financing or an in-kind contribution.</p>
<p>Please refer to sections 1.3 and 2.1.5 of the Guidelines for applicants: 1.3: (...) The balance (i.e. the difference between the total cost of the action and the amount requested from the contracting authority) must be financed from sources other than the Union for the Mediterranean. 2.1.5: “Contributions in kind may not be treated as co-financing” under this call. Additionally, please bear in mind that in-kind contributions are considered ineligible costs under this call for proposals.</p>	



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Question 10	"Government agencies, local authorities, public sector operators, and international organizations are not eligible under this call." Can a local organization apply as a lead applicant with an international organization being the co-applicant?
<p>As established in the guidelines, 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.</p> <p>Please refer to Section 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of the Guidelines, where requisites for eligibility are laid out. In particular, that in order to be eligible for a grant, the lead applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be a legal person (non-governmental organisation); pursuant to the conditions established in the Financing Agreement between UfM and GIZ, government agencies, local authorities, public sector operators and international organisations are not eligible under this call, and• be non-profit-making, and• be established in the UfM Region, and• be established in one of the following countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia or have at least one co-applicant established in one of the above-mentioned countries• be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary. <p>Please note that co-applicants must satisfy the eligibility criteria as applicable to the lead applicant, and as per section 2.1.2 of the Guidelines affiliated entity(ies) must satisfy the same eligibility criteria as the lead applicant and the co-applicant(s).</p>	

Question 11	We would like to know if the lead applicant can be based in one of the UFM countries, while the co-applicant is based in two countries.
<p>As established in the guidelines, 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.</p> <p>Please refer to Section 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of the Guidelines, where requisites for eligibility are laid out. In particular, that in order to be eligible for a grant, the lead applicant must:</p>	



- be a legal person (non-governmental organisation); pursuant to the conditions established in the Financing Agreement between UfM and GIZ, government agencies, local authorities, public sector operators and international organisations are not eligible under this call, and
- be non-profit-making, and
- be established in the UfM Region, and
- be established in one of the following countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia or have at least one co-applicant established in one of the above-mentioned countries
- be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary.

Fulfilment of these criteria will be determined on the basis of the organisation's statutes, which should demonstrate that it has been established by an instrument governed by the national law of the country concerned and **that its head office is located in an eligible country**. In this respect, any legal entity whose statutes have been established in another country cannot be considered an eligible local organisation, even if the statutes are registered locally or a 'Memorandum of Understanding' has been concluded.

Question 12

We are a non-profit organization, and organic horticulture farm, that deals with the protection of the environment and animals.

In our vegan refuge in a rural area, lives about 200 animals, rescued from seizure and abuse, we collaborate with zoophile guards, but for reality, like ours, with "unconventional animals" there is no state funding.

(...)

We need to expand, buy other neighboring land to enlarge the area, offer more space to animals, save others, dedicated to organic bio agriculture and protect nature from traditional farmers who use pesticides and harmful methods of cultivation.

Our organization intend to preserve this natural area with all our forces and we need your help.

We are available to send any documents and reference required.

As established in the guidelines, 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 see answer to **Question n° 6**



21/03/2023

Question 13	We have learnt about the Call for Proposals to Promote Employment and Entrepreneurship in the Green Economy. We wish to obtain the application documents in French. Could you please send them? (Question translated from French)
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Note that applicants must apply in English, in accordance with section 2.2.1 of the [Guidelines](#) for grant applicants. Where such documents are not in English, a translation into English of the relevant parts of these documents proving the lead applicant's and, where applicable, co-applicants' and affiliated entity(ies)' eligibility, must be attached for the purpose of analysing the application.

22/03/2023

Question 14	I came across the UFM Grant Scheme 2023 on your website and I am interested in submitting a proposal. However, I have a question regarding the eligibility of social enterprises that are legally for-profit but focus on non-profit work. Specifically, I am inquiring if (...) social enterprises are eligible to apply for this grant scheme. Ours is a social enterprise that aims to reduce plastic waste in the ocean by incentivizing waste collectors in developing countries to bring plastic waste to recycling centers in exchange for digital tokens that can be exchanged for goods and services. I would appreciate it if you could clarify whether social enterprises (...) are eligible to apply for the UFM Grant Scheme 2023.
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As established in the [guidelines](#), 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 refer to **answers n°5 and n°7** which cover the requisites for eligibility of applicants under the current call for proposals as per the established guidelines.

Fulfilment of these criteria will be determined on the basis of the organisation's statutes, which should demonstrate that it has been established by an instrument governed by the national law of the country concerned and **that its head office is located in an eligible country**. In this respect, any legal entity whose statutes have been established in another country cannot be considered an eligible local organisation, even if the statutes are registered locally or a 'Memorandum of Understanding' has been concluded.

23/03/2023

Question 15	Is it possible to submit the proposals in Arabic? If so, is there an available template? (Question translated from Arabic)
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Please refer to the answer to **Question 13**



Templates are available in English in order to prepare the project proposal on the following link <https://ufmsecretariat.org/grant-scheme-2023/> on the “Documents” section.

Question 16:	Is it possible to submit an already made project? (Question translated from Arabic)
Please refer to section 1.2 of the Guidelines , in particular the section establishing that “Implementation of the proposed projects and their respective activities should be possible to begin immediately after the acceptance of the proposal.” Additionally, also consider Article 14.1 a) of the General Conditions of the Grant Contract, where it is stated that eligible costs (...) are incurred during the implementation of the action (...).	
Question 17:	Can we submit a proposal without partners? If having a co-applicant is mandatory, does the partner need to be from the other targeted countries or can the partner also be from Jordan ?
Please refer to the answer to Question 8 . If the applicant decides to submit a proposal including co-applicants, please refer to Section 2.1.1 of the Guidelines for further information on the eligibility requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be established in the UfM Region and• be established in one of the following countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia or have at least one co-applicant established in one of the above-mentioned countries.	

26/03/2023

Question 18:	I am writing to inquire about our eligibility for the active call for proposals “Grant Scheme to Promote Employment and Entrepreneurship in the Green Economy”. We are a non-for-profit Swiss organization specialized in supporting innovation and entrepreneurship in the green sector with a local registered branch in Jordan since 2021. We are also active in Lebanon, but with no local registration there. Does this fulfill the requirement of being “established” in one of the target countries?
Please refer to the answer to Question 4 Fulfilment of (...) the eligibility criteria will be determined on the basis of the organisation’s statutes , which should demonstrate that it has been established by an instrument governed by the national law of the country concerned and that its head office is located in an eligible country . In this respect, any legal entity whose statutes have been established in another country cannot be considered an eligible local organisation, even if the statutes are registered locally or a ‘Memorandum of Understanding’ has been concluded.	

27/03/2023

Question 19:	Regarding the UfM CfP to Promote Employment and Entrepreneurship in the Green Economy, I see that cash grants are not eligible to MSMEs under Priority 2. Thus, I wanted to clarify the following: - Can in-kind support be provided instead to MSMEs?
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	<p>- Can vulnerable individuals (women, youth), start-ups, and/or informal businesses (i.e. income generating activities) be supported through cash assistance (as long as the support individual’s business activity does not have a for-profit registration)?</p>
<p>As established in the guidelines, 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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Please refer to section 2.1.5 where more detail is provided on the eligibility of in-kind contributions, in particular that “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. Contributions in kind may not be treated as co-financing”.- Please see answer to Question 3.	

Barcelona, 18th of May 2023

REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATIONS No. 2 31/03/2023 to 08/05/2023

31/03/2023

Question 20:	Can individuals/natural persons submit a project proposal? (Question translated from Arabic)
<p>As established in the guidelines, 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.</p> <p>Please refer to Section 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of the Guidelines, where requisites for eligibility are laid out. In particular, that in order to be eligible for a grant, the lead applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be a legal person (non-governmental organisation); pursuant to the conditions established in the Financing Agreement between UfM and GIZ, government agencies, local authorities, public sector operators and international organisations are not eligible under this call, and• be non-profit-making, and• be established in the UfM Region, and• be established in one of the following countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia or have at least one co-applicant established in one of the above-mentioned countries• be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary.	



Question 21:	<p>Our association has been established as a democratic, independent, youth, agriculture and environment orientated, non-political, non-governmental, non-political initiative initiated by a team of experienced and well-educated active employees, volunteers, students, and trainers who know the spirit of village life for education and project management related to environment, culture, agriculture, and these issues.</p> <p>Is our application eligible for this programme as the coordinator and can we organize activities in Turkey locally and our partners' countries?</p>
<p>As established in the guidelines, 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.</p> <p>Please refer to answer to Question 5 for the eligibility criteria of lead applicants and co-applicants.</p> <p>With regards to the eligibility of the action/activities, please see section 2.1.4 of the Guidelines for applicants, in particular the section related to Location, which states that “Actions can only take place in one or multiple of the following UfM Member States: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia. Priority will be given to regional actions, i.e. involving at least 3 of the aforementioned Member States”</p>	
Question 22:	<p>Does the programme require any co-finance?</p>
<p>Yes, co-financing is mandatory. Please refer to the answer to Question 9 for further information.</p>	
Question 23:	<p>Can we include any other partners from Turkey from private sector and local public authorities?</p>
<p>Please see section 2.1.1, paragraph (1) of the Guidelines for applicants for further information on the eligibility of applicants.</p> <p>Please note that according to this same section co-applicants must satisfy the eligibility criteria as applicable to the lead applicant himself.</p>	

02/04/2023

Question 24:	<p>In the grant document, it is stated that "any grant requested under this call for proposals must represent a minimum of 50% of the total eligible costs of the action and a maximum of 80% of the total eligible costs." We would like to clarify whether this contribution includes a financial co-financing or an in-kind contribution.</p>
<p>Please see answer to Question 9</p>	
Question 25:	<p>Government agencies, local authorities, public sector operators, and international organizations are not eligible under this call. Can a local organization apply as a lead applicant with an international organization being the co-applicant?</p>
<p>Please see answer to Question 10</p>	
Question 26:	<p>We would like to know if the lead applicant can be based in one of the UFM countries, while the co-applicant is based in two countries.</p>
<p>Please see answer to Question 11</p>	



03/04/2023

Question 27:	What is required for the first stage? Is it the concept note or the full application and all its annexes or both?
<p>Please refer to the Guidelines for applicants, in particular to the notice (page 2) where it states that “This is an open call for proposals, where all documents are submitted together (concept note and full application)” and also Sections 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 for further information on the documents to be prepared for submitting a proposal and the application procedure.</p> <p>Templates are available in English in order to prepare the project proposal on the following link https://ufmsecretariat.org/grant-scheme-2023/ on the “Documents” section.</p>	

05/04/2023

Question 28:	Is there a suggested application form?
<p>Templates are available in English in order to prepare the project proposal on the following link https://ufmsecretariat.org/grant-scheme-2023/ on the “Documents” section.</p> <p>We kindly invite you to refer to sections Sections 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 of the Guidelines for applicants for further information on the documents to be prepared for submitting a proposal and the application procedure.</p>	

Question 29:	Are the universities both from Southern Mediterranean countries entitled to apply as applicant or co-applicant?
<p>As established in the guidelines, 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.</p> <p>Please refer to Section 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of the Guidelines, where requisites for eligibility are laid out. In particular, that in order to be eligible for a grant, the lead applicant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be a legal person (non-governmental organisation); pursuant to the conditions established in the Financing Agreement between UfM and GIZ, government agencies, local authorities, public sector operators and international organisations are not eligible under this call, and• be non-profit-making, and• be established in the UfM Region, and• be established in one of the following countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia or have at least one co-applicant established in one of the above-mentioned countries• be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary.	



Please note that **co-applicants must satisfy the eligibility criteria as applicable to the lead applicant**, and as per section 2.1.2 of the Guidelines affiliated entity(ies) must satisfy the same eligibility criteria as the lead applicant and the co-applicant(s).

06/04/2023

Question 30:	According to the guidelines: "the balance (i.e. the difference between the total cost of the action and the amount requested from the contracting authority) must be financed from sources other than the Union for the Mediterranean". Therefore, contributions coming from programs funded by the European Union (...) are eligible as co-financing?
<p>Yes, following EU PRAG requirements co-financing of the eligible costs of the action may take the form of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- the beneficiary's own resources- financial contributions from third parties (including EU Programmes/calls). <p>Please consider that co-financing must be detailed in the budget (expected sources of funding) and it is necessary to complete this information when preparing Annex B of the application.</p> <p>Additionally, please bear in mind that In order to avoid double funding of the same costs, the lead applicant must indicate the sources and amounts of EU funding received or applied <u>for the proposed action or part of the proposed action</u>, as well as any other funding received or applied <u>for the same action</u>. Any other situation suggesting the possibility of double funding may lead to the rejection of the application.</p>	

07/04/2023

Question 31:	(...)We are seeking funding to support a festival's production costs, including venue rental, artist fees, and marketing expenses. We believe that this festival has the potential to make a significant impact in our community and beyond, and we are confident that it will be a success with your support. We kindly request information about any available funding opportunities, including eligibility requirements and the application process. We would also appreciate any guidance or advice that you could provide to help us with our application.
<p>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. You will find more information with regards to the Call for Proposal priorities, application procedure and requirements on the following webpage: https://ufmsecretariat.org/grant-scheme-2023/</p>	



We also encourage you to read carefully the Call for Proposal [Guidelines](#) in order to assess whether your organisation/proposed project/costs are eligible under the current call. Please refer to the Guidelines in order to obtain necessary information, in particular with regards to the scope of the call (section 1.1 and 1.2), application procedure (sections 2.2.1 and 2.2.2) and eligibility requirements (section 2.1.1 and 2.1.4).

You will also find all necessary resources and templates for submitting an application on the aforementioned webpage – “Documents” section.

10/04/2023

Question 32:	Is the grant program only for new projects or is it subject to retroactivity?
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Please refer to the answer to **Question 16**

11/04/2023

Question 33:	The project application is included in the Turkish sources, but when we checked the project text, I think Turkey is not among the countries that meet the eligibility criteria. Is it appropriate to apply from Turkey? I would like to receive confirmation.
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Please refer to **section 2.1.1** of the Call for Proposal [Guidelines](#) for more information on the eligibility criteria.

The eligibility criteria laid out in this section of the Guidelines indicates that an applicant from a UfM Member State (Albania, Algeria, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, North Macedonia, The Netherlands, Palestine, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, **Türkiye**) can apply provided that they do so with at least one co-applicant established in one of the following countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia.

Please also refer to **section 2.1.4** for more information about the eligible location of the proposed actions.

13/04/2023

Question 34:	Is it possible to use the lump sum for visibility costs?
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As established in the guidelines, 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.



<p>Please refer to Section 2.1.5 of the Guidelines for applicants, eligibility of costs is laid out. In particular, please bear in mind that simplified cost options are not considered eligible costs for the proposed actions under the current call for proposals.</p>	
Question 35:	Do you have any suggestions on the IT means to be used to protect the confidentiality of documents?
<p>Please refer to Section 2.2.2 of the Guidelines for applicants, where the method of submission of applications is further explained: Files shall be included in protected folders or at least in compressed folder(s) or through protected IT hyperlinks to file hosting service. Where passwords, encryptions or any other IT means used to protect the confidentiality of the submitted offers, decryption key or equivalent shall be sent by the applicant. In addition, a separate e-mail with the passwords of the folders sent in e-mail called “Complete Application” is required.</p>	
Question 36:	What does it mean that “The complete application form (Part A: concept note and Part B: full application form), budget and logical framework must be supplied in electronic format” in a “separate and single file/attachment (i.e. the application must not be split into several different files)”? Is it possible to send a single compressed folder with application form (Part A: concept note and Part B: full application form), budget and logical framework in separate files? or it has to be a single merged file, thus a PDF file also for the budget?
<p>The guidelines for applicants indicate that the application must be submitted in a single file (i.e. compressed folder containing the different requested documents). There is no need to submit the application dossier as a single pdf document, as it is not requested in the guidelines for applicants. Additionally, if more convenient for the applicants, the application dossiers can be submitted through protected IT hyperlinks to a file hosting service. Please make sure that the folder containing the application is encrypted/password protected and that a separate e-mail with the passwords of the folders is sent in a separate e-mail called “Complete Application.</p>	
Question 37:	It is not clear whether only budget, QL, declaration, and FA should be sent by email or also the documents mentioned in the paragraph “2.4. Submission of supporting documents for provisionally selected applications” (i.e. statutes, latest accounts, Legal Entity sheet, FIF; declaration of honour). Which documents must be sent in the compressed folder at the proposal stage?
<p>As indicated in the Guidelines for applicants, the following documents shall be sent for application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Annex A (Application Form)- Annex B (Budget for the Action)- Annex C (Logical Framework)- Supporting documents:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The statutes or articles of association of the lead applicant, (if any) of each co-applicant and (if any) of each affiliated entity. (...)• Legal entity form (Annex D) duly completed and signed by each of the applicants (i.e. by the lead applicant and by each co-applicant, if any), accompanied by the justifying documents requested there (...)• A financial identification form of the lead applicant (Annex E), certified by the bank to which the payments will be made.	



- A copy of the lead applicant's profit and loss account and the balance sheet for up to the three last financial years for which the accounts were closed.

Section 2.4 lists additional documentation which will be requested to provisionally awarded applications/placed on the reserve list for awarding and contract signature.

At the stage of provisional awarding, the Contracting Authority will request the declarations (with blue-ink signature) and documents listed under Section 2.4.

Question 38: **Regarding Annex B "Budget of the Action", the budget line "1.1.6 Accounting Officer", is it a typo? should it be 1.1.2?**

The references and examples contained in the budget of the Action are intended as indicative instructions as to how to fill in the document. As indicated in Annex B, the numbering and content of filled-in cells are to be removed and replaced by the actual information from the applicants according to the proposed action.

Question 39: **Can government agencies, local authorities, public sector operators and international organisations be Associates?**

Please refer to section 2.1.1 and 2.1.5 of the [Guidelines](#) for applicants, in particular the latter section, which indicates that **"Associates do not have to meet the eligibility criteria referred to in Section 2.1.1."**

14/04/2023

Question 40: **Our Network has a country office 'established' in Egypt. However, due to the elaborate process for registration as a non-profit organization in Egypt, it currently has a for-profit registration (...) although we are in the process of changing to non-profit status. Our hope is (...) to serve as the lead applicant for our propitious proposal, with our Egyptian entity as co-applicant, but neither one meets the dual requirement of being a 'non-profit, established' in the countries above.**

Please refer to **section 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 and 2.4** of the Call for Proposal [Guidelines](#) for more information on the eligibility criteria for lead applicants, co-applicants and affiliated entities as well as the documents that will be checked for provisionally accepted applications (step 3 of the evaluation procedure).

Please also refer to **answers to Questions 4, 14 and 18.**



16/04/2023

Question 41:	<p>We are a non-profit NGO active in Jordan (...) One of the organizations we would like to collaborate with for this proposal is a private-sector company (for profit). Therefore, I wanted to ask how / if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Is it possible to include them in our activities / action plan and still meeting the eligibility criteria? They will not be able to be co-applicants, but would they for example be able to be contractors or associates? (...)2. Can they implement our projects we design and develop e.g. workshops?3. Can they co-create and host awareness sessions within the Palestinian community?4. Are they eligible to receive financial compensation from this grant? (...)
<p>As established in the Guidelines for applicants, 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.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Please refer to the answer provided to Question 39. In particular, that “Associates do not have to meet the eligibility criteria referred to in Section 2.1.1.” Other organisations or individuals may be involved in the action (...): Associates (...), contractors. However, please bear in mind that, as per the Guidelines, contractors and associates are mutually exclusive, meaning that “Associates or affiliated entity(ies) cannot be also contractors in the project” and also that “contractors are subject to the procurement rules set out in Annex IV and Annex X to the standard grant contract”.2. Please refer to section 2.1.3 of the Guidelines for applicants.3. To ensure equal treatment of applicants, the contracting authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of (...) specific activities.4. “Such associates play a real role in the action but may not receive funding from the grant, with the exception of per diem or travel costs”. “The beneficiaries and their affiliated entities are permitted to award contracts” (...) that “are subject to the procurement rules set out in Annex IV and Annex X to the standard grant contract”.	

Question 42:	<p>I am writing to express my interest in applying for the Grant Scheme to Promote Employment and Entrepreneurship in the Green Economy (...). Please let us know if there are any further details or requirements, we need to be aware of when applying for this grant scheme.</p>
Please refer to the answer to Question 6 .	



We kindly encourage you to carefully read the Call for Proposal [Guidelines](#) for ensuring that your application meets all the necessary requirements (sections 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.4 and 2.1.5) and also additional information on the application procedure (sections 2.2.1 and 2.2.2).

Templates are available in English in order to prepare the project proposal on the following link <https://ufmsecretariat.org/grant-scheme-2023/> on the “Documents” section.

18/04/2023

<p>Question 43:</p>	<p>I am writing to inquire about the grant opportunity that involves three countries that were recently announced by UFM (...) Specifically, I would like to know more about the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will the grant funds be distributed among the three countries? • What is the expected level of collaboration among the countries? • Will there be specific requirements for how the countries work together? • How will the grant administration be handled across the different countries? <p>I would greatly appreciate any information that you could provide regarding these questions, as well as any additional information about the grant that you think might be helpful.</p>
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We kindly encourage you to carefully read the Call for Proposal [Guidelines](#) for ensuring that your application meets all the necessary requirements (sections 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.4 and 2.1.5) and also additional information on the application procedure (sections 2.2.1 and 2.2.2).

Templates are available in English in order to prepare the project proposal on the following link <https://ufmsecretariat.org/grant-scheme-2023/> on the “Documents” section.

On section 2.1.1 the Guidelines specify that **lead applicants are “directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary”** and “If awarded the grant contract, the lead applicant will become the beneficiary identified as the coordinator in Annex G (special conditions). **The coordinator is the main interlocutor of the contracting authority. It represents and acts on behalf of any other co-beneficiary (if any) and coordinate the design and implementation of the action”**.

If any, **“Co-applicants participate in designing and implementing the action, and the costs they incur are eligible in the same way as those incurred by the lead applicant”**.

“An action is composed of a set of activities” (...) and “actions can only take place in one or multiple of the following UfM Member States: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia”.

<p>Question 44:</p>	<p>On page 19 it is written: “A copy of the lead applicant’s profit and loss account and the balance sheet for up to the three last financial years for which the accounts were closed7.”, but footnote 7 is missing. Can you please provide us with the information foreseen in footnote 7?</p>
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There is no footnote 7. The necessary additional information did not apply for eligible categories of beneficiaries in the framework of the call and was thus removed: “*This obligation does not apply to*”



natural persons who have received a scholarship or that are in most need in receipt of direct support. It does not apply either when the accounts are in practice the same documents as the external audit report (...)"

Question 45: We would like to submit a proposal for a project on renewable energy (question translated from Arabic)

Please refer to the answers to **Question 6** and **Question 12**.
Templates are available in English in order to prepare the project proposal on the following link <https://ufmsecretariat.org/grant-scheme-2023/> on the "Documents" section.

19/04/2023

Question 46: I write because I did not understand well if we meet your criteria. We are an organization dedicated to rescued animals from slaughter and protecting the environment. (...) We have been carrying on the animal refuge and our agricultural project. We would like to expand now by safeguarding this natural area and acquiring new adjacent land, to save other animals and cultivate in a biological and organic way, organize free courses, and many other activities.

As established in the [Guidelines](#), 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 refer to **Section 2.1.1 and 2.1.2** of the Guidelines, where requisites for eligibility are laid out.

In particular, that in order to be eligible for a grant, the lead applicant must:

- be a legal person (non-governmental organisation); pursuant to the conditions established in the Financing Agreement between UfM and GIZ, government agencies, local authorities, public sector operators and international organisations are not eligible under this call, and
- be non-profit-making, and
- be established in the UfM Region, and
- **be established in one of the following countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia or have at least one co-applicant established in one of the above-mentioned countries**
- be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary.

Fulfilment of these criteria will be determined on the basis of the organisation's statutes, which should demonstrate that it has been established by an instrument governed by the national law of the country concerned and that its head office is located in an eligible country. In this respect, any legal entity whose statutes have been established in another country cannot be considered an eligible local organisation, even if the statutes are registered locally or a 'Memorandum of Understanding' has been concluded.



Please note that co-applicants must satisfy the eligibility criteria as applicable to the lead applicant, and as per section 2.1.2 of the Guidelines affiliated entity(ies) must satisfy the same eligibility criteria as the lead applicant and the co-applicant(s)

Question 47: (...) We would like to apply for this Call for Proposals, could we submit an application in French? (question translated from French)

Please see answer to **Question 13**
Templates are available in English in order to prepare the project proposal on the following link <https://ufmsecretariat.org/grant-scheme-2023/> on the “Documents” section.

22/04/2023

Question 48: Would you please tell me where I would be able to download these forms they are not included on the call for proposal UfM Grant Scheme to Promote Employment and Entrepreneurship in the Green Economy

Annex A: Grant application form (Word format) Annex B: Budget (Excel format)

Annex C: Logical framework (Excel format)

Annex D: Legal entity sheet

Annex E: Financial identification form

Templates are available in English in order to prepare the project proposal on the following link <https://ufmsecretariat.org/grant-scheme-2023/> on the “Documents” section.

23/04/2023

Question 49: Lead applicant refers to the organization or the president?

Lead applicants refer to the organisations that will submit an application (legal persons). Please refer to **section 2.1.1** of the [Guidelines](#) for further information on the requisites of eligibility for lead applicants.

Fulfilment of the criteria will be determined on the basis of the organisation’s statutes, which should demonstrate that it has been established by an instrument governed by the national law of the country concerned and that its head office is located in an eligible country. In this respect, any legal entity whose statutes have been established in another country cannot be considered an eligible local organisation, even if the statutes are registered locally or a ‘Memorandum of Understanding’ has been concluded.

Question 50: We will purchase all the required equipment but we will bring in lead engineers. Do we list them under affiliates or co-applicants?

As established in the [Guidelines](#), 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 refer to sections 2.1.1 (lead applicants and co-applicants) 2.1.2 (affiliated entities) and 2.1.3 (associates and contractors) for more information on the requisites and modalities of participation.

24/04/2023

<p>Question 51:</p>	<p>Would you please clarify the following : " It is important to note that enterprises cannot apply directly for funding under the Grant Scheme, nor can funds be forwarded to for-profit entities" What do you mean by " Cannot apply directly " ? In fact I am the founder of a social company, and our main mission and activity fit in the call for application criteria, therefore kindly advise how can we apply for this application ?</p>
<p>As stated in Priority 2 of the Call for proposals, enterprises cannot apply directly for funding (...) neither can funds be forwarded to for-profit entities. While there will not be any direct financial support to enterprises, the grant aims to foster the green entrepreneurial spirit and sustainable business environment (...).</p> <p>Please note, that according to Section 2.1.1 of the Guidelines, lead applicants and co-applicants must fulfil the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be a legal person (non-governmental organisation); pursuant to the conditions established in the Financing Agreement between UfM and GIZ, government agencies, local authorities, public sector operators and international organisations¹ are not eligible under this call, and • be non-profit-making and • be established in the UfM Region and • be established in one of the following countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia or have at least one co-applicant established in one of the above-mentioned countries. • be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the coapplicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary <p>Fulfilment of these criteria will be determined on the basis of the organisation’s statutes, which should demonstrate that it has been established by an instrument governed by the national law of the country concerned and that its head office is located in an eligible country. In this respect, any legal entity whose statutes have been established in another country cannot be considered an eligible local organisation, even if the statutes are registered locally or a ‘Memorandum of Understanding’ has been concluded.</p>	

26/04/2023

<p>Question 52:</p>	<p>(...) One of the stipulations was that the lead applicant must have a presence in the EU. We have a presence of course in the Middle East. As far as the EU, we bank out of Luxembourg and must go there a few times a year. Would this count as a presence and can we apply for the grant? (...)</p>
<p>As established in the Guidelines, 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.</p>	



Please also note that according to Section 2.1.1 of the [Guidelines](#), lead applicants and co-applicants (if any) must fulfil the following criteria:

- **be a legal person (non-governmental organisation)**; pursuant to the conditions established in the Financing Agreement between UfM and GIZ, government agencies, local authorities, public sector operators and international organisations¹ are not eligible under this call, and
- **be non-profit-making** and
- **be established in the UfM Region** (Albania, Algeria, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, North Macedonia, The Netherlands, Palestine, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, Türkiye) and
- **be established in one of the following countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia or have at least one co-applicant established in one of the above-mentioned countries.**
- be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary

Fulfilment of these criteria will be determined on the basis of the organisation's statutes, which should demonstrate that it has been established by an instrument governed by the national law of the country concerned and that its head office is located in an eligible country. In this respect, any legal entity whose statutes have been established in another country cannot be considered an eligible local organisation, even if the statutes are registered locally or a 'Memorandum of Understanding' has been concluded.

Question 53:	The project documents are not available in Arabic, does that mean that proposals/reporting will be exclusively in English? (Question translated from Arabic)
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Please refer to the answers to **Question 13** and **Question 47**.

27/04/2023

Question 54:	As regards the three objectives of the call "Promoting employment and entrepreneurship in the Green Economy", should the proposal achieve the three objectives, or can choose one or two from the three objectives? Can you elaborate a bit on the difference between the first and the last objective?
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Please refer to **section 1.2** of the [Guidelines](#) for applicants for further information on the identified priorities for the Call for Proposals, in particular that "This Call for Proposals is addressed to not-for-profit organizations from the UfM Member States, which are invited to submit proposals for projects falling **under one or several of the priorities outlined(...)**."

As specified on this section of the Guidelines for applicants, there are three specific objectives, with associated priorities:



Proposals under the Objective **“Fostering skills, especially for young people and women, in order to enhance their chances to find employment in sectors related to the green economy transition”** are expected to focus on support to citizens to build their capacity and acquire employment-related skills that are in line with the green transformation of economies. The projects should offer solutions adapted to the ecological, economic, and social realities of climate change both when it comes to distribution channels as well as the content of training. Capacity building and training projects under this priority can relate to multiple, employment-related green skills and qualifications, including but not limited to

- Vocational skills
- Life skills
- Entrepreneurial knowledge and finance literacy

Proposals under the Objective **“Supporting the Economic power of Women in the Green Economy”** are expected to focus on fostering the economic activity of women in the green economy. This includes both women working in sectors and companies with a special relevance for climate change mitigation and adaption as well as supporting green women entrepreneurship. Examples for such projects could include:

- Green Skills trainings targeted at women
- Establishing role-model and mentorship programmes for women entrepreneur- and leadership in the green economy
- Supporting the access of women entrepreneurs and women-led businesses to funding lines targeted at green entrepreneurship
- Support awareness-raising on the role of women in sustainable business practices and support women as multipliers for sustainable economic activity in their communities

Question 55:

Does the call allow to give grant for the beneficiaries to start their own business.

Please see answer to **Question 3**

While there will not be any direct financial support to enterprises, the Grant aims to foster the green entrepreneurial spirit and sustainable business environment in the Southern Mediterranean and with it the potential for sustainable employment creation.

For further information on the eligible of costs under this call for proposals please refer to **section 2.1.5** of the [Guidelines](#).

Question 56:

In the document Annex B, it is stated "7. Specify the typology of costs or services. Global amounts will not be accepted." What does this mean? For example, for the expenditure verification, we have included a single amount for the entire service in our budget. Is this wrong?

As established in the Guidelines, 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.

Section 2.1.5 of the [Guidelines](#) for applicants specifies that simplified costs options (i.e. lump sums, unit costs, *forfaits*, etc) are not considered eligible costs for the action. Please be reminded that under the current Call for Proposals, proposed direct costs for the Actions must be real costs.



Question 57:	One of our local partners only has the statutes in French. Is an English translation necessary? If so, can you confirm that, as in EU-funded projects, a certified translation is not required?
Where (...) documents are not in English, a translation into English of the relevant parts of these documents proving the lead applicant's and, where applicable, co-applicants' and affiliated entity(ies)' eligibility, must be attached for the purpose of analysing the application. The Guidelines for applicants do not include any requirement for certified translations.	

Question 58:	(...) We do have an office in Brussels in addition to banking there. One of our board members lives in Switzerland as well. We don't do direct service in Brussels though. Are we eligible to apply?
Please see answer to Question 52 . Please kindly be reminded that fulfilment of these criteria will be determined on the basis of the organisation's statutes , which should demonstrate that it has been established by an instrument governed by the national law of the country concerned and that its head office is located in an eligible country .	

28/04/2023

Question 59:	I would like to know if a country not member of UfM can take part to the project as partner.
No, countries outside of the UfM region cannot participate as lead applicants or co-applicants. Please refer to section 2.1.1, 2.1.2 and 2.1.3 of the Guidelines for further information on the eligibility requirements for applicants, co-applicants, affiliated entities, associates, and contractors. In order to be eligible for a grant, lead applicants must:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Be <u>established in the UfM Region</u> and● Be established in one of the following countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia or <u>have at least one co-applicant established in one of the above-mentioned countries</u>.	
Co-applicants must satisfy the eligibility criteria as applicable to the lead applicant himself. Affiliated entity(ies) must satisfy the same eligibility criteria as the lead applicant and the co-applicant(s).	
Associates do not have to meet the eligibility criteria referred to in Section 2.1.1. (...). They play a real role in the action but may not receive funding from the grant, with the exception of per diem or travel costs.	
Contractors do not have to meet the eligibility criteria for applicants but are subject to the procurement rules set out in Annex IV and Annex X to the standard grant contract.	

29/04/2023



Question 60	I am writing this email to ask about whether we are eligible to apply for "UfM Grant Scheme to Promote Employment and Entrepreneurship in the Green Economy". We are a non-profit, a (...) University located in (...) Egypt. I have read the eligibility criteria stated in the call of proposal but did not have a clear answer regarding our eligibility.
<p>As established in the guidelines, 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.</p> <p>Please refer to answer to Question 5, Question 7, and Question 21 for the eligibility criteria of lead applicants and co-applicants.</p>	

30/04/2023

Question 61	I am interested in applying to UFM grant and my organization is founded in Kurdistan, Iraq. Iraq is not included in the eligible countries, is it possible to have a co-applicant from one of the eligible countries and apply for the grant?
Please see answer to Question 59	

02/05/2023

Question 62:	Reading the guidelines we think that if we have three of our partners from Morocco, Tunisia and Lebanon, the leading applicant can be from a different UFM country (For instance from Turkey). Do we interpret the guidelines right?
<p>Please refer to section 2.1.1 of the Guidelines for further information on the eligibility requirements for applicants and co-applicants.</p> <p>In order to be eligible for a grant, lead applicants must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Be <u>established in the UfM Region</u> and● Be established in one of the following countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia or <u>have at least one co-applicant established in one of the above-mentioned countries.</u> <p>This section indicates the possibility of having projects led by an applicant established in the UfM region (i.e. Türkiye) and one or more co-applicant(s) from one of the above-mentioned countries (Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia).</p> <p>Please be reminded that according to section 2.1.4 of the Guidelines "Actions can only take place in one or multiple of the following UfM Member States: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia".</p>	
Question 63:	Guidelines states that "actions can only take place in one or multiple of the following UfM Member States: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia". However, since we would like to develop Mediterranean level standards for sustainable green food production systems



	<p>and to develop digital tools (...) that can be utilized (...) in all the Mediterranean countries including the ones in the pilot sites in Morocco, Tunisia and Lebanon, would our project be considered as eligible? Thus, the outputs will be directly benefited by the local vulnerable communities with a specific focus on women and youth in these above mentioned 3 countries but also the other Mediterranean countries as well (tools will be developed at least in 5 languages).</p>
<p>As established in the Guidelines, 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.</p> <p>Please refer to section 2.1.4 of the Guidelines “Actions can only take place in one or multiple of the following UfM Member States: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia”.</p> <p>This section regulates the location for <u>implementation of the Actions</u> and not results of the action. The following types of action are ineligible: Actions taking place in a country other than Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia.</p>	

03/05/2023

Question 64:	<p>I would like to know if Universities (Higher Educational Institutes) are eligible to participate in a proposal under the UfM call?</p>
<p>As established in the Guidelines, 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.</p> <p>Please refer to answer to Question 5, Question 7, Question 21, and Question 60 for the eligibility criteria of lead applicants and co-applicants.</p> <p>Please be reminded that in order to be considered eligible under the current call for proposals, the entity must comply with all of the eligibility criteria laid out in Section 2.1.1 (be a legal person (non-governmental organisation); be non-profit-making; be established in the UfM Region; be established in Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine or Tunisia or have at least one co-applicant established in one of the above-mentioned countries; be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary).</p>	

04/05/2023

Question 65:	<p>We are a public university in Jordan, are we eligible to join a consortium or to be an applicant for this call?</p>
<p>As established in the Guidelines, 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.</p>	



Please refer to **answer to Question 5, Question 7, Question 21, Question 60, and Question 64** for the eligibility criteria of lead applicants and co-applicants.

Please also note that according to **section 2.1.1** of the Guidelines for applicants, government agencies, local authorities, **public sector operators** and international organisations are not eligible under this call as applicants, co-applicants, or affiliated entities.

05/05/2023

Question 66:	On page 16 it is mentioned that "the expenditure verification(s) referred to in Article 15.7 of the general conditions [...] will be carried out by the contracting authority through specific audit firm (or one out of a pool) that has been previously selected in respect of the applicable procurement rules". Should the lead applicant still include in its budget the cost for an expenditure verification in the case of a grant of more than EUR 100.000 as planned in Article 15.7 of the general conditions?
<p>Please also refer to Article 15.7 of the General Conditions of the Contract, where it is stated that "The expenditure verification report shall not be provided by the coordinator if the verification is directly done by the contracting authority's own staff, (...) or by a body authorised to do so on their behalf, according to Article of 5.2 of the special conditions.</p> <p>As indicated in the Guidelines for applicants, the Contracting Authority will be in charge of carrying out the expenditure verification report through an audit firm. <u>The cost will be borne by the Contracting Authority</u>; therefore, it will not be a cost related to the action for the lead applicants, co-applicants nor affiliated entities.</p>	
Question 67:	Can a local agency placed under the administrative and financial supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture be included as Associate and receive per diem or travel costs from the lead applicant?
<p>As established in the Guidelines, 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), associates or contractors.</p> <p>Please refer to section 2.1.3 of the Guidelines for applicants, where it is stated that "associates play a real role in the action but may not receive funding from the grant, 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</u> (i.e. not being public sector operators, government agencies, local authorities, etc)</p> <p>If an entity is proposed as an associate for the action, it must be mentioned in Part B Section 6 — 'Associates participating in the action' — of the grant application form.</p>	
Question 68:	Considering item 2.1.1, we understood that our organization, which is established in Spain, can be the lead applicant as long as we count on at least one organization established in Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine, and Tunisia, as co-applicant. Is our understanding correct?



As stated in Section 2.1.1 of the [Guidelines](#), eligibility of participants requires that the lead applicant is **established in the UfM region** (i.e. Spain), **and**

Is established in one of the following countries Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia **or has a co-applicant from one of the aforementioned countries.**

Example:

Lead applicant established in France and co-applicants established in Tunisia and Egypt = compliant.

Lead applicant established in Italy and co-applicants established in Albania and Türkiye = non-compliant.

Please note that in order to be eligible under the current call for proposals, applicants and co-applicants must comply with all of the eligibility requirements listed in section 2.1.1.

Please also note that according to **section 2.1.4** of the Guidelines for applicants, **actions can only take place in one or multiple of the following UfM Member States: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia.**

Question 69:	The co-applicants are partners in the project, right? Is there a maximum number of partners in the project?
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Section 2.1.1 of the [Guidelines](#) for applicants indicates that the lead applicant may act individually or with co-applicant(s).

There is no established limit in the Guidelines for the call for proposals on the number of possible partners for the action.

Question 70:	About item 1.3 “The balance (i.e. the difference between the total cost of the action and the amount requested from the contracting authority) must be financed from sources other than the Union for the Mediterranean.” Is it mandatory the use of other financial sources beyond the one provided by this call?
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Please refer to the answers to **Question 2, Question 9, and Question 22.**

Additionally, please refer to section 1.3. where it is stated that “any grant requested under this call for proposals must fall between the following maximum percentages of total eligible costs of the action:

- Minimum percentage: 50 % of the total eligible costs of the action.
- Maximum percentage 80 % of the total eligible costs of the action (see also Section 2.1.5)”.

This entails that the beneficiary must cover the remaining cost (not provided by the UfM) - which will oscillate between 20%-50% of the total costs of the project - from other sources (i.e. beneficiary’s own funds, EU projects, financial allocations from other entities, etc).

Therefore, **having other financial sources for the project is necessary to cover the percentage of the costs of the Action not financed by the UfM.**

07/05/2023

Question 71:	Can I have a university in my consortium? I will be the lead applicant (represent NGO), but am looking for a partnership with other institutions, so should all the partners (consortium) be a non-profit organizations? You have mentioned that
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	"Government agencies, local authorities, public sector operators and international organisations are not eligible under this call" but the academic sector is not mentioned.
<p>As established in the Guidelines, 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.</p> <p>Please refer to answer to Question 5, Question 7, Question 21, Question 60, Question 64, and Question 65 for the eligibility criteria of lead applicants and co-applicants.</p> <p>Please also note that according to section 2.1.1 of the Guidelines for applicants, in order to comply with the eligibility requirements, the lead applicants and co-applicants must (among other requisites) be non-governmental and non-for-profit organisations.</p> <p>Please also consider section 2.1.3 for further possibilities of participation under the current call for proposals.</p>	

Question 72:	We are registered in Palestine as a local NGO, therefore we will be the lead-applicant, our Jordanian office has a US registration as a non charitable company in Jordan, can they be the co-applicant or only apply with us as Associate? If you need more information please let us know.
<p>As established in the Guidelines, 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.</p> <p>Please refer to Section 2.1.1 (applicants and co-applicants) and 2.1.2 (affiliated entities) of the Guidelines for applicants. In particular, please bear in mind that "Co-applicants (...) and affiliated entities must satisfy the eligibility criteria as applicable to the lead applicant (...) and co-applicants".</p> <p>Please also consider section 2.1.3 for further possibilities of participation under the current call for proposals.</p>	

Question 73:	Regarding the part of specific objective, do I have to use the same specific objectives mentioned in the guidelines of the call? Or do I have to write it based on my idea?
<p>As established in the Guidelines, 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.</p> <p>Please refer to section 1.2 of the Guidelines, where the priorities, specific objectives and expected results of the actions are laid out.</p> <p>Examples of projects addressing those specific objectives are also indicated in the Call for proposals, however, please consider that the list is not exhaustive, and applicants are encouraged to use new, innovative and creative ways of achieving the objectives.</p>	



It is encouraged to refer also to **section 2.3 (Evaluation and selection of applications)**. Proposals should address the specific objectives mentioned in the call and the expected results should be aligned with the ones mentioned in section 1.2, since the proposals will be evaluated - among other criteria – against these standards.

Question 74:

Is a private non-profit Foundation eligible for the call?

As established in the [Guidelines](#), 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 refer to **section 2.1.1 of the Guidelines** for applicants for the eligibility criteria established for lead applicants and co-applicants. Please also see the answers to **Question 5, Question 7, Question 21, and Question 29** for the eligibility criteria of lead applicants and co-applicants.

Question 75:

I have trouble finding the special conditions file.

We kindly encourage you to read carefully the content of the Guidelines for applicants in order to gather all necessary information on the current call for proposals.
The special conditions to the contract is available under the “**Documents**” tab of the [Grant Scheme 2023 webpage](#), **Annex G zip file**.

Question 76:

Under what conditions can the beneficiary of the grant contribute to third parties to fund (...) small projects?

As established in the [Guidelines](#), 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 refer to **Section 2.1.4** of the Guidelines for applicants, where it is indicated that “Applicants may not propose financial support to third parties”.
For further information on **non-eligible costs for the action**, please consult **section 2.1.5** of the Guidelines.

08/05/2023

Question 77:

What is the minimum number of partners of the consortium in the proposal (both European and from MENA)



As established in the [Guidelines](#), 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 refer to answer to **Question 69**.

Question 78: [Is the submission should by A European Partner?](#)

The proposal shall be submitted by the **lead applicant to the Contracting Authority**.

The eligibility criteria for **lead applicants** are laid out in **Section 2.1.1** of the Call for Proposal Guidelines, among which it is established that:

Lead applicants from Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia can apply by themselves or with co-applicants from a UfM member State (Albania, Algeria, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, North Macedonia, The Netherlands, Palestine, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, Türkiye).

Lead applicants from a UfM Member State can apply only if they do so **with at least one co-applicant established in one of the following countries**: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia.

For further information, please check the answers provided to **Question 8, Question 33, and Question 68**.

Question 79: [How the budget may be distributed in percentage among travel, staff cost, equipment...](#)

As established in the [Guidelines](#), 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.

The budget must reflect the expected actual costs incurred by the beneficiary(ies) and affiliated entity(ies) for the implementation of the project.

There is no additional requisite established in the guidelines with regards to percentage distribution of costs besides the fact that **the maximum allocation for indirect costs shall not exceed 7% of the estimated total eligible direct costs**.

For further information on the eligible and non-eligible costs for the action, please refer to **section 2.1.5 of the Guidelines** for applicants.

Please also find further information on how to fill in the budget template on the Documents Section, Annex B (Budget).

Question 80: [We would like to know if universities can be considered as associates for the projects \(Question translated from Spanish\)](#)

As established in the [Guidelines](#), 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.



If the entity that is to be included does not satisfy any of the eligibility criteria listed in section 2.1.1 or 2.1.2 (i.e. is a public sector operator), **we kindly encourage you to read section 2.1.3 of the Guidelines, where criteria for associates is established**, in particular that “other organisations or individuals may be involved in the action. Such associates play a real role in the action but may not receive funding from the grant, with the exception of per diem or travel costs.

Associates do not have to meet the eligibility criteria referred to in Section 2.1.1. Associates must be mentioned in Part B Section 6 — ‘Associates participating in the action’ — of the grant application form”.

Please also refer to the answers provided to **Question 7, Question 39, Question 41, Question 57, and Question 72.**

Question 81:

For Priority 3: Empowering women as drivers of the green economy, are there specific demographic considerations and/or preferences such as age and other components?

As established in the [Guidelines](#), 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.

The scope of the priority is defined in section 1.2 of the Guidelines for applicants, namely “Projects under this priority should focus on fostering the economic activity of women in the green economy. This includes both women working in sectors and companies with a special relevance for climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as supporting green women entrepreneurship. Examples for such projects could include:

- Green Skills trainings targeted at women
- Establishing role-model and mentorship programmes for women entrepreneur- and leadership in the green economy
- Supporting the access of women entrepreneurs and women-led businesses to funding lines targeted at green entrepreneurship
- Support awareness-raising on the role of women in sustainable business practices and support women as multipliers for sustainable economic activity in their communities.

For further information on the assessment that will be conducted to appraise the relevance and design of the proposed action, **please consult section 2.3 of the Guidelines for Applicants** (“Evaluation and selection of applications”).

Question 82:

Would regional actions of all UfM Member States (not just three) result in a higher bid score?

Please refer to **section 2.3** of the [Guidelines](#) for Applicants (“Evaluation and selection of applications”). In particular, the part dedicated to the relevance of the action. On check 1.2 it is indicated that “For the regional added-value component of this check, proposals tackling 3 or more of the 8 identified target countries or with scale-up or replicable activities in 3 or more of the aforementioned countries will automatically be granted **3 additional points, up to a maximum of 5”.**

Question 83:

Are refugees included in the targeted vulnerable groups?



<p>Section 2.1.4 of the Guidelines for applicants includes a mention to the target (vulnerable groups) on which the projects should focus: “(...) demographics of the (southern) Mediterranean that are already disadvantaged in their economic opportunities and are thereby even more at risk by the economic consequences of the climate change, such as women, people living in rural areas, young people struggling to enter the labour market, migrants and people with disabilities”, etc.</p>	
Question 84:	Can you comment on UfM’s preferences in terms of activities involving virtual training?
<p>As established in the Guidelines, 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.</p> <p>For further information on the assessment that will be conducted to appraise the relevance and design of the proposed action, please consult section 2.3 of the Guidelines for Applicants (“Evaluation and selection of applications”).</p>	
Question 85:	Can applicants account for travel for regional actions? Meaning, are airfare costs permissible under this opportunity if an activity involves such travel?
<p>As established in the Guidelines, 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.</p> <p>Please refer to the General Conditions (Annex G of the Guidelines) applicable to the grant contract, in particular Article 14.2, which states that “Subject to Article 14.1 and, where relevant, to the provisions of Annex IV being respected, the following direct costs of the beneficiary(ies) shall be eligible: (...) travel and subsistence costs for staff and other persons taking part in the action, provided they do not exceed those normally borne by the beneficiary(ies) according to its rules and regulations. In addition, the rates published by the European Commission at the time of contract signature may never be exceeded”.</p>	
Question 86:	Can two or more non for profits enter in a consortium?
<p>As established in section 2.1.1 of the Guidelines, the lead applicant may act individually or with co-applicant(s).</p> <p>If awarded the grant contract, the lead applicant will become the beneficiary identified as the coordinator in the special conditions of the Grant Contract. The coordinator is the main interlocutor of the contracting authority. It represents and acts on behalf of any other co-beneficiary (if any) and coordinate the design and implementation of the action.</p>	
Question 87:	Can you confirm that applicants can subcontract not-for-profit organisations?
<p>Please refer to section 2.6 of the Guidelines for Grant Applicants, where it is established that “Subcontracting is the implementation, by a third party with which one or more beneficiaries have concluded a procurement contract - following requirements established in Annex IV and Annex X of the standard grant contract-, of specific tasks forming part of the action as described in annex to the grant contract (see also the general terms and conditions in the model grant contract)”.</p> <p>Please also refer to Article 10.4 of the General Conditions (Annex G of the Guidelines) applicable to the grant contract, where it is specified that “beneficiary(ies) may subcontract tasks forming part of the action. If it does so, it must ensure that, in addition to the conditions specified in Article 10.1, 10.2 and 10.3, the following conditions are also complied with:</p>	



- subcontracting does not cover core tasks of the action;
- recourse to subcontracting is justified because of the nature of the action and what is necessary for its implementation;
- the estimated costs of the subcontracting are clearly identifiable in the estimated budget set out in Annex III;
- any recourse to subcontracting, if not provided for in Annex I, is communicated by the beneficiary and approved by the contracting authority.

Please also bear in mind the difference between subcontracting (Article 10.4 General Conditions) and financial support to third parties (Article 10.5 General Conditions). Please be reminded that financial support to third parties (i.e., sub-granting), including to other NGOs, is not allowed under the framework of the current Grant Scheme.

Question 88:

Can you clarify the capacity requirements for the applicant (Experience, staff, years in business, number of staff, etc.)? What information should we deliver for key personnel? Would a standard CV format suffice?

Please refer to **Section 8 of part B of the grant application form (Annex A)** for further information, where the lead applicant must declare that its compliance, eligibility and capacity to undertake the action.

As established in the [Guidelines](#) for applicants, the eligibility verification will be performed on the basis of the **supporting documents requested by the contracting authority (see Section 2.4)**. It will by default only be performed for the applications that have been provisionally selected according to their score and within the available budget for this call for proposals.

- The declaration by the lead applicant (Section 8 of Part B of the grant application form) **will be cross-checked with the supporting documents provided by the lead applicant**. Any missing supporting document or any incoherence between the declaration by the lead applicant and the supporting documents may lead to the rejection of the application on that sole basis.

The criteria to be verified in established in the grant application form, namely:

- The eligibility of applicants and the affiliated entity(ies) will be verified according to the criteria set out in **Sections 2.1.1, 2.1.2 and 2.1.3**.

Question 89:

Do you prefer that we send the budget document in excel or pdf

As it is not a requirement established on the guidelines, the validity of Annex B will not be dependent on the format of the document. However, as a recommendation for editing the document, the budget (Annex B) can be sent in the format published on the website (excel file).

Question 90:

For the required documents provided in the RFP, should they be signed and stamped?

As established in the Notice included in the call for proposals Guidelines, “Eligibility will be checked on the basis of the supporting documents requested by the contracting authority and the **signed ‘declaration by the lead applicant’ sent together with the full application (Annex A)**”.

For further information on the procedure and documents to be submitted for application, please refer to **Section 2.2.1, 2.2.2 and 2.4** of the [Guidelines](#) for applicants.



Question 91:	We are an organization attached to the Arab league and not attached to the (...) Government, so we are basically can be considered as an NGO. According to our decree of establishment, we are a non-profitable organization. Are we eligible for this call?
<p>As established in the Guidelines, 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.</p> <p>Please refer to answer to Question 5, Question 7, Question 10, Question 21, Question 29, Question 46, Question 60, Question 64, and Question 65.</p>	

Barcelona, 18th of May 2023

REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATIONS No. 3 After deadline of 08/05/2023 (*)

09/05/2023

Question 92:	Can the Grant partially cover : - the amount of loans to be provided to beneficiaries in the green economy? - the amount of unpaid invoices related to the financing of micro projects (Grant like a Guarantee Fund).
<p>As established in the guidelines, 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.</p> <p>Please refer to section 2.1.4 of the Guidelines, where it is indicated that “applicants may not propose financial support to third parties”.</p> <p>We kindly encourage you to also read section 2.1.5 of the Guidelines, where ineligible costs for the proposed actions are listed, which includes “credit to third parties”.</p>	

Question 93:	I am reaching out to confirm whether Turkey is included or not in the relevant grant application that has been opened for the year 2023.
Please see the answers provided to Question 33 and Question 62 .	

11/05/2023

Question 94:	This is to kindly request Annexes D & E of the project mentioned in the subject line in word format, as they are only available in PDF.
<p>Please note that Annex D and Annex E are pdf forms, this means that the document has editable fields (text boxes) for adding the requested information.</p> <p>You can download the above-mentioned documents from the Grant Scheme 2023 website – Documents section.</p>	



Question 95:	We would like to submit two applications—one as lead partners and another as a co-applicant (...). Are there any restrictions or limitations regarding the submission of multiple applications from the same organization (...)?
<p>Please refer to Section 2.1.4 of the Guidelines for applicants, in particular the paragraph covering “Number of applications and grants per applicants / affiliated entities”.</p> <p>As stated in the document, “The lead applicant may be a co-applicant or an affiliated entity in another application at the same time.”</p> <p>This means that an entity/organisation can only submit one application as lead applicant, but can submit one application as lead applicant and one (or more) as co-applicant.</p>	

Clarification/Notice	“Annex X: Public procurement rules” is mentioned in the Guidelines for applicants but it is not a document included in Annex G (Standard Grant Contract).
<p>Please note that this document is not included in Annex G and therefore is not an integral part of the Standard Grant Contract templates. The mention in the Guidelines is due to clerical error. Contracting rules and thresholds applicable to this call are specified in Annex IV: Contract Award Rules.</p>	

(*) As established in Section 6.5.4 of the Practical Guide of Contract Procedures for European Union External Action (EU PRAG), Lead applicants may submit questions in writing up to 21 days before the deadline for the submission of the full applications. The Contracting Authority must reply to all such questions at least 11 days before the deadline for submission of concept notes/full applications.

Albeit the requests for clarifications listed in Grouping No.3 were received after the established deadline, the Contracting Authority decided, with the aim of ensuring the widest possible participation and the requisite transparency, - although bearing no responsibility or requirement to do so- to nevertheless publish a response to these questions.