

3rd Update of the Open Call for Submission of Grant Applications for Initiatives financed from the Fund for Bilateral Relations at Programme Level – measure „B“ under the programme CZ13 funded from the Norway Grants 2009 – 2014

The Ministry of Finance, the Operator of the Fund for Bilateral Relations at Programme Level – measure „B“

updates the 1st Open Call (announced on 23 February 2015) for submission of Grant Applications for Initiatives financed from the Fund for Bilateral Relations at Programme Level – measure “B” under the programme CZ13 funded from the Norway Grants 2009 – 2014.

Applications can be submitted **continuously** from the date of the announcement of the Call for proposals until **July 31, 2017** or until the total allocation is used¹.

The allocated amount under Open Call is 463 750 CZK, that means 17 500 EUR.

The minimum and the maximum grant amount per initiative is **53 000 CZK – 463 750 CZK, that means 2 000 EUR – 17 500 EUR**

I. Scope of the Fund

The objective of the Fund is to enhance the development and strengthening cooperation between **Czech entities² and entities in the Donor States and international organisations, within the relevant programme areas³ (programme areas are defined under the section III.)**. The cooperation shall be based on the exchange, sharing and transfer of knowledge, technology, know-how, experience and best practices.

II. Eligible applicants

Applicant eligible to draw on the Fund are Entities⁴ actively involved in relevant programmes for at least 1 year, including the Programme Operator.

¹ Grant Application must be submitted in accordance with the Guidelines for Applicants and Final Beneficiaries from the Fund for Bilateral Relations at Programme Level – measure “B”, available at www.norwaygrants.cz.

² These entities are defined as natural and legal persons, public institutions, municipalities, associations of municipalities, non-profit organizations and others.

³ The programme areas, submission of the bilateral initiative is allowed in, are described in the bilateral open call of the appropriate programme.

⁴ These entities are defined as natural or legal persons, public institutions, municipalities, associations of municipalities, non-profit organizations and others.

The aim of the initiative should be to establish and strengthen cooperation in the framework of the relevant programme areas:

- a) in cooperation with other **entities from the donor states** active within the relevant programme areas (i.e. actively involved in the programme area for at least 1 year)⁵;
- b) in cooperation with other **entities from the donor states** active within the relevant programme areas (i.e. actively involved in the programme area for at least 1 year) **and international organization**⁶.

III. Programme Areas

<p>CZ13</p>	<p>Programme Area: Mainstreaming gender equality and promoting work-life balance</p> <p>Outcome: Balance between work, private and family life improved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures to increase awareness at national, regional and local levels through data collection, educational programmes and campaigns targeting both women and men on issues of gender equality and anti-discrimination • Research structures and activities on gender issues, including but not limited to poverty, women’s participation in decision-making and public life, equal economic independence for women and men, and balancing work, private and family life • Activities to ensure gender mainstreaming in design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policy, research, legislation, programmes and resource allocation at national, regional and local levels • Measures to reduce the gender pay gap, including awarenessraising, initiatives to promote gender equality in the workplace, and efforts to improve the supply and quality of statistics • Measures to foster the capacity of public authorities to develop gender mainstreaming and promote gender equality • Mainstreaming and awareness activities to promote the reconciliation of work, private and family life • Establishment of gender equality ombudspersons/authorities • Information and awareness-raising activities on gender mainstreaming techniques through workshops, seminars and training, and manuals • Exchanges between social partners, NGOs, the private sector and local and national governments • Advocacy activities on gender equality • Capacity-building for gender equality organisations and networks • Exchange of best practices between EEA EFTA and Beneficiary State entities on gender mainstreaming and
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⁵ In exceptional cases, the Fund Operator can approve an initiative which is planned in cooperation with the institutions out of donor countries assuming that the institution participates in the initiative in a role of an expert or consultant. The applicant must justify that the partner of similar quality and professional knowledge is not available in donor state or is not interested in such cooperation. Terms of financing expenditures related to the participation of institutions from other than the donor states are included in this Guideline, Chapter V – Eligible expenditures.

⁶ International organizations are organizations with an international membership, international scale or scope. These are intergovernmental organizations and international non-governmental organizations.

		awareness
	<p>Programme Area: Domestic and Gender-based violence</p> <p>Outcome: Domestic violence reduced</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support development of policies and national strategies to combat gender-based violence and trafficking • Support measures to increase cooperation and knowledge in law enforcement and support services on gender-based violence and trafficking • Support advocacy and awareness-raising activities on gender-based violence and trafficking • Support protection services for victims of gender-based violence and trafficking, including shelters, phone lines and crisis centres • Support the use of technical aids in the fight against domestic violence i.e mobile violence alarms and electronic monitoring of offenders, including financial support for investing in such technical aids • Improve research and data collection, including financial support for necessary technical devices • Support counselling/treatment programmes for offenders • Support capacity-building for organisations preventing and tackling gender-based violence and trafficking

IV. Eligible initiatives

The Fund is designed to finance targeted **short-term supplementary initiatives**.

Eligible initiatives that may be financed from the Fund are activities that help to strengthen bilateral relations which are implemented in cooperation with the bilateral partner of the initiative and are beneficial for programme or programme areas (see the section III).

The following initiatives may be financed from the Fund:

- study trips, **study/research/exchange stays**, visits and bilateral working meetings aiming at sharing experience and know-how, transferring best practices;
- bilateral/multilateral meetings, workshops, seminars;
- conferences aimed at bi-/multilateral meetings, presentations and building on contacts and working relations;
- the production of studies, analyses and documentation, data collection, their sharing and exchange to strengthen the cooperation between the Final Beneficiaries and entities in Donor States and international organisations;
- information and promotional initiatives to strengthen bilateral partnerships;
- other bilateral type actions.

Supported initiatives must finish their implementation by September 15, 2017 at the latest.

V. Eligible expenditures and their reimbursement

According to Article 7.7 of the Regulation on the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009-2014, adopted by the Norwegian Financial Mechanism Committee, the following categories of expenditure are eligible for funds:

- fees and travel costs for participation in conferences, seminars, study/exchange stays, courses, work meetings and workshops;
- travel costs for study trips abroad;
- travel costs, per diems and salary costs for visits by experts;
- taxi costs - taxi may be used only in exceptional and justified cases, if transportation cannot be assured by other means of transport;
- expert fees;
- costs related to studies, including feasibility studies, and preparation of financial, economic and technical analyses;
- costs of conferences, seminars, working meetings and workshops, interpreting and translations of working materials;
- costs for promotional and information activities aimed at strengthening bilateral relations;
- external consultancy fees;
- travel insurance, ticket cancellation insurance;
- other costs related to the bilateral initiative (justified within the application).

Dates of the eligibility of expenditures to be covered by the Fund are given in the Grant Award Approval Letter and subsequently in the Grant Award legal act. The final date for the eligibility of expenditures is 1 month after the completion of all activities within the approved initiative financed from the Fund. Expenditures will be eligible no later than till **October 15, 2017.**

The mechanism of eligible expenditures reimbursement (in CZK) is based on **ex-post** payments of incurred costs after the Final Report on the initiative implementation has been approved by the Fund Operator.

VI. Submission of the grant application

Grant applications will be submitted on a continuous basis, starting from the date of the call launch.

Evaluation of formal requirements and eligibility will be followed by the evaluation of the application relevance to initiatives and objectives implemented within the approved project, the scope of strengthening bilateral relations and the compliance with the Bilateral

Fund objectives. Applications will be evaluated in the order according to the application submission date in the IS CEDR.

The application shall be submitted in the Czech language in given format and the requested grant amount shall be given in CZK.

The form of Grant Application for Initiatives financed from the Fund for Bilateral Relations at Programme Level is included in the Guidelines for Applicants and Final Beneficiaries from the Fund for Bilateral Relations at Programme Level – Measure “B”.

Submitting an application does not constitute a legal grant award claim.

Method of application submission in the IS CEDR, system of the ex-post reimbursement of expenditures and Final Report submission procedure, are described in the Guidelines for Applicants and Final Beneficiaries from the Fund for Bilateral Relations at Programme Level – Measure “B”. The document is also available online at www.norwaygrants.cz.

VII. Further information

Questions may be sent electronically to: fmrealizace@mfcz.cz. Replies will be sent by e-mail within 10 calendar days.

Based on the assessment of the implementation of the Fund and after mutual agreement with the donors, conditions of the Call for Proposals may be revised.

Information on each revision will be always published at www.norwaygrants.cz.