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(Announcements)

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

CALL FOR PROPOSALS — EACEA/11/10

'Youth in Action' programme

Action 3.2 — 'Youth in the world': Cooperation with countries other than the neighbouring countries of the European Union

(2010/C 64/04)

1. OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this call for proposals is to support projects, which promote cooperation in the youth sector between 'Youth in Action' programme countries and partner countries other than those which are neighbours of the European Union (countries which have signed with the European Union an agreement relevant to the youth field). This call provides grants to projects.

Its objectives are as follows:

- to improve the mobility of young people and youth workers,
- to promote youth empowerment and active participation,
- to foster capacity-building for youth organisations and structures in order to contribute to civil society development,
- to promote cooperation and the exchange of experience and good practice in the field of youth and non-formal education,
- to contribute to the development of youth policies, youth work and the voluntary sector, and
- to develop sustainable partnerships and networks between youth organisations.

Preference will be given to those projects which best reflect the permanent priorities of the 'Youth in Action' programme:

- participation of young people
- cultural diversity
- European citizenship
- inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities.

Preference will also be given to projects reflecting the following annual priorities of the call:

- global issues affecting young people, such as climate change, sustainable development, migrations, and the Millennium Development Goals (¹),
- combating poverty and social exclusion (2),
- strengthening the Euro-African dialogue, exchange and cooperation in the field of youth (3).

Geographic scope

Within the geographic scope of this call for proposals as defined in point 5.2, and in addition to the above mentioned priorities, following the joint statement to the 12th China-EU summit, held in Nanjing on 30 November 2009 (4), which announced the launch of 2011 as the Europe-China Year of Youth, particular attention will be devoted to projects aiming at promoting dialogue and cooperation in the field of youth between the EU and China with a view to contributing to the Europe-China Year of Youth in 2011.

2. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Proposals must be submitted by non-profit organisations. These organisations can be:

- non-governmental organisations (NGOs),
- public bodies at regional or local level, or
- national youth councils.

The same applies to the partner organisations.

Applicants must — at the specified deadline for submitting their proposals — have been legally registered for at least two (2) years in one of the programme countries. The programme countries are as follows:

- the Member States of the European Union: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom (5),
- those countries of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) which are parties to the agreement on the European Economic Area (EEA): Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway,
- candidate countries for which a pre-accession strategy has been established, in accordance with the general principles and general terms and conditions laid down in the framework agreements concluded with these countries with a view to their participation in EU programmes: Turkey.

Projects must involve partners from at least four different countries (including the applicant organisation), including at least two programme countries, of which at least one is a Member State of the European Union, and two partner countries.

(1) More information is available at: http://www.undp.org/mdg/basics.shtml

(3) More information is available at: http://ec.europa.eu/development/geographical/regionscountries/euafrica_en.cfm (4) The statement is available at: http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/er/111567.pdf

⁽²⁾ In line with the Decision No 1098/2008/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion (2010).

⁽⁵⁾ Persons from overseas countries and territories and, if applicable, public or private institutions based there, are eligible under the 'Youth in Action' programme, depending upon the rules of the programme and those which apply in the Member State with which they are connected. A list of these overseas countries and territories is given in Annex 1A of Council Decision 2001/822/EC of 27 November 2001 on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Community (Overseas Association Decision) OJ L 314, 30.11.2001: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CONSLEG:2001D0822:20011202:EN:PDF

3. ELIGIBLE ACTIONS AND PROPOSALS

The project must include activities of a non-profit-making nature that are related to the field of youth and non-formal education.

Projects must start between 1 November 2010 and 31 December 2010, with a minimum duration of six months and a maximum duration of 12 months.

Only typed proposals submitted in one of the official EU languages, using the official application form, completed in full, and sent by the specified deadline (17 May 2010) will be considered. The application has to be sent in one unique package and as a single copy (the original document). It must be dated and signed (original signatures required) by the person authorised to enter into legally binding commitments on behalf of the applicant organisation.

The application form must be accompanied by an official letter from the applicant organisation, documents attesting its financial and operational capacity, and all the other documents referred to in the application form.

Applicants must submit a budget that is balanced in terms of expenditure and revenue and must comply with the ceiling for Community cofinancing, which is set at 80 % of the total eligible expenses of the project, and with the maximum grant amount set at EUR 100 000.

4. AWARD CRITERIA

Eligible applications will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

Qualitative criteria

The qualitative criteria will represent 80 % of the points available within the evaluation procedure (coefficient 4).

- Relevance of the project in relation to the objectives and priorities of the call
 In this respect the following aspects will be assessed:
 - (a) the project meets the general objectives of the 'Youth in Action' programme;
 - (b) the project meets the objectives and priorities (including the geographical focus) of this call for proposals.
- Quality of the project and of the working methods that it comprises
 In this respect the following aspects will be assessed:
 - (a) the scope of the project; in other words, its multiplier effect and in particular its sustainable impact, as well as its long-term viability;
 - (b) the high quality of the work programme in terms of content and methodology, its clearness and consistency;
 - (c) the active involvement of young people in the project;
 - (d) the visibility of the project as the quality of measures aimed at disseminating and exploiting project's results:
 - (e) the quality of the partnership, and in particular the clarity of the tasks, description of the partners' actual role in the cooperation, as well as the experience and motivation of the partners to set up the project;
 - (f) the consistency of the budget with the activities planned in the work programme.

Quantitative criteria

The quantitative criteria will represent 20 % of the points available within the evaluation procedure (coefficient 1).

- Profile and number of participants and of promoters involved in the project
 - (a) the balance of the partnership, which must be twofold: the projects must both involve a similar number of organisations located in the programme countries and in the partner countries, and also ensure fair representation of national groups;
 - (b) the number of partners involved in the project and the number of countries covered by the partnership;
 - (c) the number of young people and youth workers directly involved in the project.

5. BUDGET

The total budget allocated to the cofinancing of projects under this call for proposals is estimated at EUR 2 600 000.

Financial assistance from the Agency shall not be granted for more than 80 % of a project's total eligible expenses. The maximum grant shall not exceed EUR 100 000.

The Agency reserves the right not to distribute all the funds available.

6. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Applications must be sent no later than 17 May 2010 to the following address:

Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency 'Youth in Action' programme — EACEA/11/10 BOUR 4/029 Avenue du Bourget 1 1140 Bruxelles/Brussel BELGIQUE/BELGIË

- by post, date as per postmark,
- by an express courier company, the date of receipt by the courier company being taken as proof of posting (a copy of the original deposit date receipt must be included in the application form).

Applications sent by fax or e-mail will not be accepted.

7. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Detailed applicants' guidelines and application forms can be found on the Internet at the following address:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/funding/2010/call_action_3_2_en.php

Grant applications must use the application form specifically designed for this purpose and contain all the annexes and information required.