

FAQs (v.2) on the 6th Call_Date: 30/08/2019

Q.24) How much is the Grant rate and the beneficiary contribution rate?

A.24) As mentioned in the Indirect Assistance Guidelines for the 6th Call, section 6.1 Call Financing Sources '.....The present Call is exclusively financed by the INTERREG V-A 'Greece-Bulgaria' 2014-2020 Cooperation Programme, Priority Axis 01 «A Competitive and Innovative Cross-Border Area», Specific Objective 02 «To improve SME capacity to expand beyond local markets».....'

Q.25) Is an NGO registered in the eligible regions an Eligible beneficiary for the 6th CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS Interreg Greece Bulgaria Programme?

A.25) Please refer to Chapter 3, page 13, of the Indirect Assistance Guidelines of the 6th Call, where the terms and conditions of the eligible beneficiaries are mentioned.

Q.26) Is a vocational school financed by local government an Eligible beneficiary for the 6th CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS Interreg Greece Bulgaria Programme?

A.26) Please refer to Chapter 3, page 13, of the Indirect Assistance Guidelines of the 6th Call, where the terms and conditions of the eligible beneficiaries are mentioned.

Q.27) The Technical Chamber of Greece (TEE) is the officially recognized professional body of all University graduates in engineering, with regional structure.

The Technical Chamber of Greece / Section of Central Macedonia (TEE/TKM) is a regional branch, a Legal Entity of Public Law and operates autonomously with its own administrative and operational structure. Its members are qualified engineers of all specialties, graduates of highest educational institutions, who live and practice their professional activity within the region of Central Macedonia. As a regional branch, TEE/TKM implements the activities and serves the objectives of the TEE, among which is supporting its members for their employment enhancement and studying new forms of the profession and work of its members. You may find attached the establishment act and the article 4, concerning the Objectives of TEE.

Could you please check the yellow marked parts of the article 4 and tell us if TEE/TKM can submit a proposal in the framework of the 6th call of Greece-Bulgaria 2014-20 Programme?

A.27) The submission procedure within the framework of the 6th call is in two phases.

- The first phase (must be submitted to the MA/JS by post service or in person) where there is a brief description of the activities with some justifying documents
- The second phase which you submit electronically the full application with all justifying documents

Everything is presented in details in Chapter «7: Submission procedure» of the document titled «Indirect Assistance Guidelines» which is in the Call documents

During the 1st Phase you should review Chapter «3: Eligible beneficiaries – Eligible end recipients- Eligibility Terms and Conditions», where according to the conditions mentioned, is defined the eligibility of potential Final Beneficiaries.

Q.28) Regarding the 6th call for proposals of the Greece-Bulgaria programme, in 3.1 there's a bold mark "Eligible beneficiaries are stakeholders, whose major function (as indicated in their establishment act) is clearly related to providing support and promotion to entrepreneurship."

Please kindly advise if a Municipality having a structure to support Entrepreneurship would be eligible, as this is a function of the Municipality. The question is raised because of the phrase "major function" and we wish to know if such would be rejection of the proposal.

A.28) According to Chapter 3, of the Indirect Assistance Guidelines of the 6th Call, where the terms and conditions of the eligible beneficiaries are mentioned, Regional Authorities and/or Municipalities are not able to participate in this call.

Q.29) Are the Bulgarian municipalities eligible to apply under the 6th call for proposals under INTERREG V-A GREECE – BULGARIA 2014-2020 Programme?

A.29) According to Chapter 3, of the Indirect Assistance Guidelines of the 6th Call, where the terms and conditions of the eligible beneficiaries are mentioned, Regional Authorities and/or Municipalities are not able to participate in this call.

Q.30) Could you please, confirm the eligibility of a potential applicant – Association, registered in CBC region (Blagoevgrad) in reference to: "3. Eligible beneficiaries – Eligible end recipients- Eligibility Terms and Conditions 3.1 Call-Specific Eligibility Terms and Conditions Eligible beneficiaries are stakeholders,

whose major function (as indicated in their establishment act) is clearly related to providing support and promotion to entrepreneurship.” from the Indirect Assistance Guidelines.

The statute of Articles of the Association states:

GOALS AND TASKS

“....Creating sustainable jobs;

24. Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility; promoting cross-border mobility, joint local employment initiatives, information and consultation services and joint training;

26. Supporting the creation of an integrated cross-border region in terms of employment and labour mobility, promoting the entrepreneurial spirit, supporting the capacity of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises; promotion of innovative technologies, incl. in the field of environmental protection in a transboundary aspect;

29. Encouraging and supporting the creation of new small and medium-sized enterprises; supporting entrepreneurial training and knowledge transfer; promoting cooperation and networking to introduce innovative technologies for effective management in the waste, soil and water sectors.

37. Promoting access to employment for jobseekers and inactive persons, including the long-term unemployed and persons; promoting the sustainable integration of young people into the labor market; promoting self-employment, entrepreneurship and business creation, including innovative micro, small and medium-sized enterprises; promoting measures to adapt workers, businesses and entrepreneurs to change; promoting measures to reduce unemployment;”

A.30) Please refer to Chapter 3, pages 12-13, of the Indirect Assistance Guidelines of the 6th Call, where the terms and conditions of the eligible beneficiaries are mentioned.

Q.31) We would be grateful if you could clarify the Specific objectives mismatch that we consider, as: On the Call’s webpage http://www.greece-bulgaria.eu/call-for-proposals/7_6th-CALL-FOR-PROJECT-PROPOSALS the Specific Objective is “To improve SME capacity to expand beyond local markets” while in the Indirect-Assistance-Guidelines_final.pdf the Specific objective is to Improve entrepreneurship SME support systems.

A.31) We would like to thank you for your remark. You refer to a typing error in the table of the Call announcement which has been corrected. It should be noted that the correct specific objective of the Call was mentioned in the text below the table and obviously in the “Indirect Assistance Guidelines”, which is the part of the official Call documents which the applicants should consult for the development and submission of their project proposals.

Q.32) Are you planning info days or issuing guidance on how we must fill in the necessary information in the file "Short Project Application Form"?

- For example, is there any characters/words limit per section?
- How the partnership/participation table is supposed to be filled?
- Beyond the proposal template can we provide additional documents containing info about partners' relevant experience and/or relevant projects description?

A.32) The organization of Info Days for the 6th Call is under consideration. Should they be organized, relevant notifications will be uploaded on our website. In the meantime please consider the following:

1. There is no word/characters limit set in the "Short Project Application Form" document. However you should be brief, specific and to the point in your descriptions by answering fully the points required.
 2. There are instructions given on how to fill in the partnership/participation table in the notes below the table.
 3. The information concerning the Project Beneficiaries' experience can be filled in the Partnership/participation table, under the field "Capabilities". It is very important to apply the principles of briefness, specificity and accuracy in order to adequately describe the specific relevant characteristics for each Project Beneficiary. Should the need arises for further clarifications, the JS reserves the right to request additional documentation/clarification during the evaluation process.
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Q.33) Within the Short Project Application Form and in the section "Brief Summary Description of the Project" there is a table with the following columns: Action, Line of item, basis of calculation. What is not fully clear to us is the "Line of Item". For our understanding there are two possible answers:

1. Action: Project meetings, Line of item: 4, basis of calculation: $4 \times 2000 = 8000$ or Action: Training sessions to entrepreneurs, Line of item: 8, basis of calculation: $8 \times 2000 = 16000$
2. Action: Project meetings, Line of item: staff costs, Basis of calculation: $2 \text{ persons} \times 1000 = 2000$

We certainly hope that the 1st is the case since otherwise the table will become huge and needs analysis per partner. If nothing of those applies please provide us a couple of examples of such a reference?

A.33) In the "Short Project Application Form", in the section "Brief Summary Description of the Project", specific instructions are mentioned above the relevant table.

Q.34) 1. In Annex I: Evaluation criteria there is a criterion that staff costs must be below 20% of direct costs. In page 20 of the same guide there are two options flat rate (20% of direct costs) and real costs (50 of PB budget). Which is the correct?

2. If both flat rate and real costs are an option, is that allowed for proposals to have other option for the staff and other for the overhead (i.e. real costs for staff and flat rate for overheads)

A.34) 1. In chapter 5.2 of the Project Application Guidelines of the 6th Call for Proposals, the upper limits of the Budget Lines are clearly mentioned.

2. In Annex II of the Project Application Guidelines of the 6th Call for Proposals, are clearly mentioned the conditions for the calculation of the Budget Line: Staff costs and of the Budget Line: Office and administration (O&A).

Q.35) Within the given deadline for posing questions for clarifications regarding the 6th call, I would like to ask if the applicant and the rest of the partners should be registered on the MIS platform before the deadline of the first phase (6th of September), or they can do so until the deadline of the second submission phase?

A.35) Please be advised that there is no need to obtain a Body code and/or a User name for MIS purposes at this stage of the application process. You will be notified accordingly should that need arises.

Q.36) Regarding the document "establishment act" required by the Project Partners, for the first phase of the applications, it is not sufficiently clarified if that should be the first statute of the partners or the statute "in force". Would you kindly confirm if that (the establishment act) should be "the statute/articles of associate in force" (in order to verify the eligibility terms) or "the statute/articles of associate of the initial establishment"?

A.36) You should provide the latest version of the document "establishment act" in force. Should it is deemed necessary; the JS reserves the right to request additional documentation/clarification during the evaluation process.

Q.37) It is not clearly stated in the Assistance Guidelines that the Establishment Act (phase 1) of the project partners could be in the national language. Would you kindly confirm that?

A.37) The Establishment act, if it is not officially translated in English, then it can be provided in the national language of the Beneficiary.

Q.38) Is it eligible a newly established NGO /having as a primary function to represent specific sectors or to support business sector development/ to apply under Call 06 of Interreg Bulgaria-Greece?

A.38) In relation to your question please note that you should refer to Chapter 3, pages 12-13, of the Indirect Assistance Guidelines of the 6th Call, where the terms and conditions of the eligible beneficiaries are mentioned.

Q.39) According to the Indirect Assistance Guidelines of the 6th Call "Eligible beneficiaries are stakeholders, whose major function (as indicated in their establishment act) is clearly related to providing support and promotion to entrepreneurship". Furthermore, for the national bodies (like Ministries), they should be "having exclusive competences with regard to the objectives of the present call".

Excluding the Ministry of Development and Investments (GR) / Regional Development and Public Works (BG), would any other Ministries (in Greece or in Bulgaria) be eligible, if (a) among its objectives is the support for sustainable and competitive regional economy and the attraction of private investments and innovation in the area of intervention and (b) it would have within its organizational chart, a dedicated Directorate for Private Investments whose major functions include the promotion, the communication with investors, the assessment of investment proposals and the monitoring of the long-term obligations of the investors receiving state funding?

A.39) The submission procedure within the framework of the 6th call is in two phases:

- The first phase (must be submitted to the MA/JS by post service or in person) where you present a brief description of the activities of the applicants', together with some justifying documents
- The second phase which you submit electronically the full application with all justifying documents

Everything is presented in details in Chapter «7: Submission procedure» of the document titled «Project Application Guidelines, 6th Call for Proposals» which is in the Call documents.

It is during the 1st Phase, where according to the conditions mentioned, is defined the eligibility of potential Project Beneficiaries. For this reason you should carefully review Chapter «3: Eligible beneficiaries – Eligible end recipients- Eligibility Terms and Conditions» of the above mentioned document.

Q.40) Does the project have to include one partner from Bulgaria and one from Greece, or could be a Bulgarian company only investing in the region of Haskovo?

A.40) In the document titled «Project Application Guidelines 6th Call for Proposals» in "Chapter 3: Eligible beneficiaries – Eligible end recipients- Eligibility

Terms and Conditions" the number and the type of eligible beneficiaries is described.

Q.41) Does a Photo-voltaic power station /Solar park/ project fit into the areas of financing?

A.41) In the above mentioned document, in "Chapter 4: Eligible activities - Types of actions sought after" you will find relevant information.

Q.42) If we miss the deadline of participation on the 6th of September, would there be a next Call or the end date of the program is 2020?

A.42) Please visit our site (www.greece-bulgaria.eu) regularly for any update on the Calls issued.

Q.43) In the guidelines of the 6th call, it is stated that "Eligible beneficiaries are stakeholders, whose major function (as indicated in their establishment act) is clearly related to providing support and promotion to entrepreneurship" and also in the evaluation procedure of phase 1 it is stated that "NGO having as a primary function to represent specific sectors or to support business sector development". Our questions are related to the major (primary) function to be "support the business sector development".

In case an NGO has among its several objectives, as stated in the establishment act, also the objectives of "Professional and business constitution" and "implementation of activities related to creation of start-up, spin-off and spin-out companies", would it be eligible? Among all functions of the NGO, how is a function being assessed as "primary function"? We wouldn't wish to risk failure of our proposal because of possible different interpretation of the wording "primary/major function".

A.43) The submission procedure within the framework of the 6th call is in two phases:

- The first phase (project proposals must be submitted to the MA/JS by post service or in person) where you present a brief description of the activities of the applicants', together with some justifying documents
- The second phase which you submit electronically the full application with all justifying documents

Everything is presented in details in Chapter «7: Submission procedure» of the document titled «Project Application Guidelines, 6th Call for Proposals» which is in the Call documents.

It is during the 1st Phase, where according to the conditions mentioned, the eligibility of potential Project Beneficiaries is defined. For this reason you should carefully review Chapter «3: Eligible beneficiaries – Eligible end recipients- Eligibility Terms and Conditions» of the above mentioned document.

Q.44) Is the Municipality of Blagoevgrad an eligible partner for this Call of the Programme?

A.44) The submission procedure within the framework of the 6th call is in two phases:

- The first phase (must be submitted to the MA/JS by post service or in person) where there is a brief description of the activities with some justifying documents
- The second phase which you submit electronically the full application with all justifying documents.

During the 1st Phase you should review the document titled “Project Application Guidelines of the 6th Call”. In this document in “Chapter 3: Eligible beneficiaries – Eligible end recipients- Eligibility Terms and Conditions», where according to the conditions mentioned, is defined the eligibility of potential Final Beneficiaries.

According to Chapter 3, Regional Authorities and/or Municipalities are not able to participate in this call.