



# 3rd Health Programme 2014-2020

## New call for operating grants 2018-2021

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# **The 2017 Call for proposals for Operating grants**

## **Looking back to the need for change**

# What is an Operating Grant

- The European Union offers financial support to non-governmental bodies including networks that promote a health agenda in line with the Health Programme objectives
- This financial support aims at co-funding the functioning of such a non-governmental body **in its core activities** in order to carry out a set of activities
- The grant covers a period equivalent to non-governmental body's accounting year



# Award of an OG under the 2<sup>nd</sup> Health programme

- This funding instrument was introduced in 2008, together with other funding mechanisms (Joint actions and conference grants)
- An annual call for proposals for OGs opened every year from 2008 onwards
- Strict eligibility rules: non-governmental, non-profit-making and independent of industry, commercial and business or other conflicting interests
- Possibility of participation as a partner under other funding mechanisms of the health programme (grants for projects or JAs) & other programmes (FP7, IMI, etc.)

# Need for change

- Many important EU-wide umbrella NGOs have been beneficiaries of an operating grant (e.g. Eurordis, Alzheimer Europe, EPHA, EPF, etc) in a recurrent manner
- Inefficient system
  - Applicant organisations have had to apply to a call for proposals for OGs every year
  - There was insufficient predictability for an applicant organisation to plan adequately for the mid-term

# A partnership framework

- Operating grants (OG) are awarded under a new **framework of long-term cooperation** established between Chafea and potential beneficiaries
  - Establishing a partnership procedure for important actors of civil society at the EU level
  - Offering a clearer financial perspective for these organisations/ networks
  - Promoting simplification and efficiency gains for all involved

# Two distinct types of agreements ...

- Multi-annual cooperation will be implemented through the signature of a Framework Partnership Agreement, **or FPA**, covering the next four years 2018-2021
  - Applicant organisation's strategic pursuits
- Annual co-funding will be ensured through the signature of a Specific Grant Agreement, **or SGA**, awarded separately each one of the three years covered by the FPA
  - Applicant organisation's operational activities



## ... with important differences

- Each contract providing a different type of commitment from the EU
- Two distinct technical proposals
  - The first one (FPA) through an open Call;
  - The second one (SGA) through an invitation to submit.



# Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA) proposal and outcome

- It will present an action plan covering the period from 2018 to 2021 (4 years)
- It will not include a request for co-funding, but only a provisional budgetary overview for the period 2018-2021
- Successful applicants will be invited to sign the FPA for that period; this will be **a legal commitment**, serving as the basis for the 4-year partnership
- Once the FPA is signed, it will make the signatory non-governmental body or network eligible for receiving EU funding on the basis of an invitation to submit an SGA proposal

# Specific Grant Agreement (SGA) proposal and outcome

- It will present the detailed action plan and budget for the first year of the partnership (in this case, for year 2018)
- It will include a request for EU financial contribution for the specific year (2018)
- Successful applicants will be invited to sign the SGA for 2018; this will be **a budgetary commitment** for that specific year
- The award of a financial contribution in 2018 does not guarantee to that organisation co-funding for the other two years covered by the FPA

# Advantages of the new procedure

- Sustainability: the partnership will be based on alignment at the strategic level
  - One FPA call covering four years of operations
- Predictability: Invitation based (i.e. no Call) submission of SGA proposals for each year of the FPA
  - SGA co-funding will be based on alignment between strategic plan and operational objectives
- Simplification: less administrative burden on beneficiaries
  - No need to re-submit supporting documents each year

# **New procedure = new terminology**

Terms already covered:

- Operating grant
- Framework Partnership Agreement
- Specific Grant Agreement

Terms related to the Electronic Submission System:

- A suite of platforms and systems that enable eligible organisations to submit their applications directly on-line

# **The 2017 Call for proposals for Operating grants**

## **The AWP 2017 references**

# EU co-funding level

- Total budget EUR 5.000.000
- 60% of the total eligible cost
- 80% - in cases of exceptional utility; 2 criteria:
  - 25 % of the members or candidate members of the non-governmental bodies come from Member States whose gross national income (GNI) per inhabitant is less than 90 % of the Union average
  - The reduction of health inequalities at EU, national or regional level is stated in the mission as well as the annual work programme of the applicant

# Eligible applicant organisations for an Operating Grant

- ***A non-governmental body:***
  - that it is active in at least half of the EU Member States;
  - that it is non-profit-making and independent of industry, commercial and business or other conflicting interests



# Exclusion criteria

## *Exclusion from participation:*

- being bankrupt
- convicted of an offence concerning professional conduct
- guilty of grave professional misconduct
- not in compliance with their obligations relating to the payment of taxes

## *Exclusion from granting procedure:*

- conflict of interest
- guilty of misrepresenting the information required by the Agency

# Selection criteria

## Financial capacity

- Not necessary if  $< 100\ 000\text{€}$  EU co-funding or if the applicant organisation qualifies as a public body
- Necessary if  $> 100\ 000\text{€}$  EU co-funding
- Audit report necessary if  $> 750\ 000\text{€}$  EU co-funding

## Performed through a financial viability self-check

- If the self-check result is "weak" do not be discouraged from applying!

Operational capacity: self-declaration & information provided in the proposal

# The FPA technical proposal structure follows the award criteria

Criterion	Maximum points	Threshold	Threshold in % of max. points
1 – Policy and contextual relevance of the operation of the non-governmental body	10	8	80%
2 – Technical quality of the multi-annual work programme proposed	10	7	70%
3 – Management quality	10	7	70%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>22</b>	



# Policy and contextual relevance of the operation of the non-governmental body

- Pertinence of the applicant in the public health area, and effectiveness of its role in civil dialogue processes at Union level,
- Pertinence of the mission, vision and overall purpose of the applicant to achieving the objectives of the 3rd Health Programme (applicant pursues at least one of the specific objectives of the Programme,
- High EU-added value of the applicant's activities,
- Pertinence of the proposals for dissemination of Health Programme results and best practices in the priority areas mentioned in paragraph 2.3 of Annex I
- Cover more than one area of the priorities listed in paragraph 2.3 of Annex I

# Technical quality of the multi-annual work programme proposed

- Pertinence of the multi-annual work programme in the context of the 3rd Health Programme,
- Relevance of the operational framework for the implementation of the multi-annual work programme of the NGO,
- Quality of the evaluation strategy,
- Quality of the dissemination strategy and plan.

# Management quality of the organisation's multiannual work programme 2018-2021

- Quality of the planning for the implementation of the applicant NGO work programme,
- Relevance and appropriateness of the budget plan for the total period of the FPA.

# The SGA technical proposal structure follows the award criteria

Criterion	Maximum points	Threshold	Threshold in % of max. points
1 – Coherence with the 3-year work programme annexed to the FPA	10	6	60%
2 – Quality of the proposed activities for 2015	10	6	60%
3 – Quality of the proposed budget for 2015	10	6	60%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>60%</b>



European  
Commission

Thank you for  
your attention