



Soutien aux secteurs de la culture et de la création ACP

Supporting the cultural and creative sectors in the ACP countries

[EuropeAid/167697/IH/ACT/Multi](#)

QUESTIONS & REPONSES no. 4

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS no. 4

25 Janvier 2020 - 28 février 2020

25 January 2020 - 28 February 2020

FR – EN

**(les réponses sont données dans la langue de l'appel à propositions
dans laquelle les questions sont formulées)**

DISCLAIMER

As per section 2.2.4 of the Guidelines, in the interest of equal treatment of applicants, the Contracting Authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of an applicant, a co-applicant, an affiliated entity, an action or specific activities.

AVIS

Comme stipulé dans la Section 2.2.4 des Lignes directrices, et afin de garantir un traitement équitable entre les demandeurs, l'Autorité Contractante ne peut émettre d'avis préalable sur l'éligibilité d'un demandeur, un codemandeur, une entité affiliée, une action ou d'activités spécifiques.

QUESTION 4.1

Reference is made to the application for grants titled “Supporting the cultural and creative sectors in the ACP countries”.

Could you please confirm if co-financing by the lead applicant/ co-applicant and affiliated entity is a requirement?

If yes, kindly inform us of the percentage (%) co-financing required.

ANSWER 4.1

A co-funding is normally requested, but a specific percentage of co-funding of the total eligible costs of the action is not specified.

However, as indicated in the same paragraph, 3rd comma, of point 1.3 of the Guidelines, 100% financing is possible only under some condition: **“The grant may exceptionally cover the entire eligible costs of the action** to ensure a clear visibility of the European Union contribution and of the ACP Group of States role. If that is the case, the lead applicant must justify full financing in Section 2.1 of Part B of the grant application form. The validity of the justification provided will be examined during the evaluation procedure.”

QUESTION 4.2

I am writing you following the interest of our organization in applying for the EuropeAid/167697/IH/ACT/Multi grant.

Consequently, we would like to have further clarification about the following:

Can an organization be lead applicant if it awarded grants to individuals of ACP countries totalling the required amount for human development purposes (grants for attending conferences, seminars, etc.) in various areas?

ANSWER 4.2

As indicated in the Disclaimer, “As per section 2.2.4 of the Guidelines, in the interest of equal treatment of applicants, the Contracting Authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of an applicant, a co-applicant, an affiliated entity, an action or specific activities.

However, we draw the attention on the eligibility criteria of the leads applicant (Art. 2.1.1 of the Guidelines for Applicant, point 1, 5th bullet point), which reads:

- *demonstrate three years' experience over the **period 2015-2019** in awarding and monitoring the implementation of support funds, including in supporting third parties in the fields of culture and/or creative industries and/or social and human development, with the following specific features:*
 - *they must have awarded third parties at least two grants meeting **all** the following criteria:*
 - *the grants were implemented during the same year over the reference period (**2015-2019**); **and***
 - *each grant was implemented in an ACP country **and***
 - *the amount of grants awarded was at least €100,000 over the past three years (**2017-2019**)*

This experience must be verifiable as required in point 7 of Section 2.4.

QUESTION 4.3

Reference is made to the application for grants titled "Supporting the cultural and creative sectors in the ACP countries".

Regarding the demonstration of experience over the period 2015-2019 in awarding and monitoring the implementation of support funds, are grants, which were distributed, by the lead applicant on behalf of other organizations eligible?

ANSWER 4.3

See answer to previous question 4.2.

In addition, the partnership must be verifiable through a mandate signed by co-applicants.

QUESTION 4.4

Kindly clarify whether:

1. We can be a co-applicant for more than one application,
2. and whether, the recent Brexit event will preclude or disadvantage the British Council?

ANSWER 4.4

1. Please refer to the guidelines for applicants (point 2.1.4)

"Number of applications and grants per applicant/affiliated entity

.....

A co-applicant/affiliated entity may not be the co-applicant or affiliated entity in more than one application per lot under this call for proposals."

"The United Kingdom ceased to be an EU Member State on the 31 of January 2020. Pursuant to the Withdrawal Agreement concluded between the EU and the UK, references to the eligibility of 'Member States' for participation in programmes under the current 2014-2020 MFF and the EDFs also cover the United Kingdom (Article 127(6), Article 137 and Article 152(1) Withdrawal Agreement)."

"

QUESTION 4.5

1. On the maximum amount to be allocated to sub-grantees (max. 180 000 euros per project)
 - Projects' duration can be longer than 12 months. Therefore, can this amount be allocated to multiannual projects?
 - Are investments costs considered eligible (infrastructures, technical material etc.)?
2. The budget for expenditure verification of each single sub-granted project can be included in the sub-granted project's own budget (hence, falling under the 75% of the grant to be allocated to sub-grants)?

ANSWER 4.5

1. a) Please refer to the Annex M, point ii – Eligible activities, 3rd paragraph:
“*The maximum duration of the activities eligible for financial support must not exceed the planned duration of the action specified in Section 2.1.4.*”, (which is 40 months).
Yes. The financial support to third parties therefore can be allocated to multiannual projects.
1. b) The Annex M, point ii gives a non-exhaustive list of eligible activities. In reference to the point 2.1.4. of the guidelines, par. *Financial support to third parties*, **the lead applicant must indicate** in Section 2.1.1 of the grant application form the different types of activities eligible for financial support, on the basis of a fixed list, in order to achieve the objectives of the present call.
2. Yes, the costs for expenditure verification is an eligible cost under 75 % sub grants to final beneficiaries

QUESTION 4.6

Kindly may I know if I must apply for the full amount indicated as 6,000,000 Euros for East Africa or just part of it?

In your call this amount is indicated as both minimum and maximum

ANSWER 4.6

Yes. As indicated in the Guidelines for applicants, point 1.3 - Size of grants, any grant requested under this call for proposals must correspond to the below:

– Lot 1 – Western Africa:	€6,200,000
– Lot 2 – Eastern Africa:	€6,000,000
– Lot 3 – Central Africa:	€4,200,000
– Lot 4 – Southern Africa:	€3,800,000
– Lot 5 – Caribbean:	€3,000,000
– Lot 6 – Pacific:	€2,800,000

QUESTION 4.7

I am interesting in this fund. However, I wanted to ask which call is geared towards individual grantees? Is the Call for proposal 1 geared towards francophone organizations located in English speaking Caribbean? Also, is the deadline for larger organizations who plan to provide the funds to smaller organizations or for smaller institutions?

ANSWER 4.7

1. Individual grantees (natural persons) are **not** eligible for this call for proposals. Please refer to the Guidelines for Applicants, point 2.1.1:
*“Lead applicant
(1) In order to be eligible for a grant, the lead applicant must:*
 - *be a legal person”*
2. The call is divided in 6 geographical lots and the selection criteria for the direct beneficiaries – identical for all the lots - are set up in the point 2.1.1 of the Guidelines for Applicants. The name of the successful entities will be published at the end of this call for proposals, once the grant contracts have been signed.
3. The present call for proposals will select only entities (direct beneficiaries), whose main activity will be to give financial support to third parties (sub-grants) at least once a year, in accordance with the conditions set out in the Guidelines for Applicants and in its Annex M. The third parties (final beneficiaries) of financial support will successively be selected by the direct beneficiaries through specific local Calls for Proposal.

QUESTION 4.8

Below are some questions for the call for submissions above.

1. The funding is allocated in regional slots. If we apply as an organization based in Southern Africa, with a project that disburses across Africa, including Western and Eastern Africa, will this prejudice our application and how? Would make our proposal stronger?
2. In addressing the objectives of the programme, can we respond to all the four strands supported by the call? Does make our proposal stronger or viable?
3. The minimum and maximum amounts for the grant (page 5 of the guidelines) is the same amount. Please confirm whether this is correct. Does it mean that applications have to be €3, 800, 000
4. The requirement of the programme is that the applicant disburses grants through an annual callout. Is it compulsory for the call out to be issued each year or can one call out take place for a 3-year period? If an annual call out is issues over three years, can an organization be awarded more than once?

ANSWER 4.8

1. Please refer to the Guidelines for Applicant, point 2.1.4 - Geographical coverage
*“Actions must be implemented in **one or more of the ACP countries** listed in Annex L. Applicants have to specify in the first page of the grant application form for which lot they are applying.
Some activities may be carried out in ACP countries belonging to other lots than the one chosen by the applicant, or in non-ACP countries (Annex L). The applicant should explain in the application form how the location of activities is justified within the context of the overall action and how these activities benefit the target populations in the ACP countries.”*

Please note also **that actions taking place in South Africa are not eligible**. Entities established in South Africa may participate as applicants (lead applicants and co-applicants) in this call for proposals. As stated in Annex L, while natural and legal persons established in South Africa are eligible to participate in procedures financed by the 10th/11th EDF, South Africa cannot be a beneficiary of contracts financed by the 10th/11th EDF.

2. Yes. The proposal must cover all the four strands listed in the Guidelines for Applicants – point 2.1.4 - Sectors or themes:

“The actions must relate to improving creation and production of cultural goods and services, both in qualitative and quantitative terms; improving distribution/dissemination of cultural goods and services, with access to national, regional and international markets, increasing visual literacy education for young people and improving access to financing mechanisms and innovative technological approaches.

3. Yes. Please see answer to the previous question 4.6.

4. a) Please refers to the Annex M – first page, 2nd paragraph:

*“A call for proposals for third parties must be made **at least once a year**. ”*

- b) As indicated in the Guidelines for applicants, point 2.1.4. Eligible actions, par. Number of applicants and grants per applicant/affiliated entity

“- The lead applicant may not submit more than one application per lot under this call for proposals.

- The lead applicant may not be a co-applicant or an affiliated entity in another application for the same lot at the same time.

- A co-applicant/affiliated entity may not be the co-applicant or affiliated entity in more than one application per lot under this call for proposals.

- A co-applicant/affiliated entity may not be awarded more than one grant per lot under this call for proposals.”

QUESTION 4.9

Ma question concerne la couverture géographique des appels à propositions (en cascade) qui seront lancés par les organisations bénéficiaires (annexe M):

Est-il exact que ces appels ne doivent pas obligatoirement couvrir tous les pays d'une région ?

ANSWER 4.9

Oui. Se référer aux lignes Directrices, point 2.1.4 :

« Couverture géographique

*Les actions doivent être mises en œuvre dans **un ou plusieurs des pays ACP** dont la liste figure dans l'Annexe L.*

Les demandeurs doivent préciser sur la première page du formulaire de demande de subvention le lot auquel se rapporte leur demande »

Certaines activités peuvent être menées dans des pays ACP appartenant à d'autres lots que celui choisi par le demandeur, ou dans des pays non ACP (annexe L).

Le demandeur doit expliquer dans le formulaire de demande en quoi la localisation des activités est justifiée dans le cadre de l'action globale et comment ces activités profitent aux populations cibles des pays ACP. »

QUESTION 4.10

With reference to Annex M Financial Support to **third parties**, we will be grateful if you could please clarify the definition of the term "third party" as separate from "beneficiary". In our view, the third party is also the beneficiary. Is this correct?

(i) Criteria for determining the exact amount of financial support to third parties

The application must set out the criteria and methodology used to determine the amount of the financial support to third parties.

It must also include the following indicative information:

- The total amount allocated for financial support to third parties; and
- The number of third-party projects to be supported.

(ii) Maximum amount of financial support per third party

The financial support per third party may not exceed **€180,000 per project selected**.

Applicants should propose in their applications, which documents the third parties will need to keep to demonstrate that the financial support has been used in accordance with the grant contract, as specified in the introductory paragraph of this Annex.

ANSWER 4.10

Yes. Applicants and co-applicants, as defined in Section 2.1.1 of the Guidelines are the **direct beneficiaries** of the present call for proposals. These entities will be responsible for awarding financial support to third parties (entities that benefit from funds and that are nor applicants nor co-applicants), as the main activity, in accordance with the conditions set out in these Guidelines and in Annex M.

The third parties are the **final beneficiaries** of the funds.

QUESTION 4.11

Notre question concerne la compatibilité entre 2 situations, dans les 2 cas de figure suivants :

- Celles où nous pourrions être amené à travailler en tant que « contractant » pour le demandeur chef de file ou les codemandeurs qui auront été retenus au terme de la procédure d'appel à proposition EuropeAid/167697/IH/ACT/Multi, et à la fois candidater, dans les années à venir, en tant que « tiers », aux appels à proposition qui seront lancés par le demandeur, après qu'il ait été sélectionné.

Le fait d'être contractant du demandeur est-il compatible avec le fait d'être un « tiers » bénéficiaire des subventions qui seront attribués par le demandeur.

- Celles où nous pourrions être amené à travailler en tant que « associé » pour le demandeur chef de fil ou les codemandeurs qui auront été retenus au terme de la procédure d'appel à proposition EuropeAid/167697/IH/ACT/Multi, et à la fois candidater, dans les années à venir, en tant que « tiers », aux appels à proposition qui seront lancés par le demandeur, après qu'il ait été sélectionné.

Le fait d'être associé du demandeur est-il compatible avec le fait d'être un « tiers » bénéficiaire des subventions qui seront attribués par le demandeur.

ANSWER 4.11

Veillez-vous référer à l'Annexe M des Lignes Directrices, premier paragraphe :

« Dans le cadre du présent appel, les demandeurs proposent de soutenir des tiers financièrement pour contribuer à atteindre les objectifs de l'action. Ces tiers ne sont ni des codemandeurs (voir section 2.1.1 des présentes lignes directrices), ni des entités affiliées (voir section 2.1.2 des lignes directrices), ni des associés ou des contractants (voir section 2.1.3 des lignes directrices). »

QUESTION 4.12

With reference to the Call for Proposals «Supporting the cultural and creative sectors in the ACP countries" (Europe Aid/167697/IH/ACT/MULTI) I humbly request you to clarify on the following points:

In the "Guidelines for grant applicants" Section 1.3 (page 5) and Section 2.1.4 (page 12), it is stated that the minimum amount and maximum amount for the grant for Lot 2 - Eastern Africa is € 6,000,000 of which 75% has to be distributed by the Lead-Applicant (Coordinator) to third parties through organised annual call of proposals in bits not exceeding € 180,000. In other words, the budget to submit in the call of proposal is € 6,000,000.

From colleagues attending the Information Session held in Kampala (Uganda), I understood that the minimum amount for the call of proposal (EuropeAid/167697/IH/ACT/MULTI) is not necessarily € 6,000,000 but can be as low as € 180,000 or anything in between those two figures.

ANSWER 4.12

Please see answer 4.6.

QUESTION 4.13

Could you please explain the meaning behind the phase "minimum/maximum?"

For the case I am involved with it says

Lot 2 – Eastern Africa:

Minimum amount and maximum amount: €6,000,000

What does this actually mean?

ANSWER 4.13

Please see answer to the point 4.6

QUESTION 4.14

Je vous contacte à propos de l'appel à projet « Soutien aux secteurs de la culture et de la création dans les pays ACP ». J'aimerais répondre à cet appel à projet pour proposer un projet de centre culturel à Porto Novo, mais j'ai lu dans les critères que cet appel à projet était seulement ouvert

aux porteurs de projet ayant obtenu un montant annuel des subventions s'élevant à au moins 100 000 euros au cours des trois dernières années (2017-2019).

Le porteur de ce projet ne remplit pas cette condition, car il a reçu uniquement une subvention de 8000 € au cours de ces 3 dernières années, cela constitue-t-il un critère éliminatoire ?

ANSWER 4.14

Veillez noter qu'il y a deux niveaux de bénéficiaires : les bénéficiaires directs et les bénéficiaires finaux (porteurs de projets).

Les demandeurs et codemandeurs, tels que définis à la section 2.1.1., sont **les bénéficiaires directs du présent appel à propositions. Leur activité principale sera l'octroi d'un soutien financier à des tiers (bénéficiaires finaux)** au minimum une fois par an pour un montant maximal de 180 000 euros par proposition, conformément aux conditions définies dans les présentes lignes directrices et à l'annexe M.

QUESTION 4.15

We would like to request clarification in writing on the following questions:

1. Regarding "at least 75% of the total amount of the grant must be redistributed to third parties", can you confirm that these represent 75% of the amount of the EU grant and not the total budget? I.e. on the lot 5 the grant to 3rd parties will represent at least 2,250,000 EUR regardless of the total budget.
2. Regarding the grant-giving entity – either lead applicant and co-applicant
 - a) Could you clarify whether this entity should be based in the region of the lot we apply for? We understood from the meeting yesterday that the entity issuing the grants to third parties should be based in the region of the lot.
 - b) Should they be issuing the totality or can they only issue part of the grants?

ANSWER 4.15

1. Yes. Please refer to point 2.1.4. of the Guidelines for applicants Types of activities, "*At least 75% of the total amount of the grant must be redistributed to third parties.*"
 - a) Please refer to the Corrigendum, which amends the point 2.1.1. of the Guidelines for applicants, as followed:
Actions must be implemented by a partnership between the lead applicant and at least one co-applicant. The partnership must comply with the following minimum criteria:
"**... the lead applicant or co-applicant awarding sub-granting to third parties must be established in one of the ACP countries of the referred Region lot**, as defined in Annex L..."
 - b) Please refer to point 2.14 of the Guidelines for applicants – Types of activities
"*Applicants and co-applicants, as defined in Section 2.1.1, are the direct beneficiaries of the present call for proposals. These entities will be responsible for awarding financial support to third parties, as the main activity, in accordance with the conditions set out in these Guidelines and in Annex M.*"

- At least 75% of the total amount of the grant **must be** redistributed to third parties.
- At least 15% of the total amount of the grant **must be** allocated to robust mechanisms designed to ensure the transfer to third parties of skills, know-how, experience of providing support, and monitoring and evaluation, all of which must be related to the objectives of the call.”

QUESTION 4.16

With reference to the Corrigendum Ares issued on 12th February 2020, we would like to ask for a clarification on point 5: eligibility criteria for co-applicants.

Are co-applicants possibly awarding sub-grants to third parties supposed to demonstrate an average annual turnover or annual revenue of at least €200,000 during the last three years (2017-2019)?

On the contrary, are they exempted?

ANSWER 4.16

The co-applicants awarding sub-grants to third parties must demonstrate an average annual turnover or annual revenue of at least €200,000 during the last three years (2017-2019).

See Corrigendum:

« demonstrate an average annual turnover or annual revenue of at least €200,000 during the last three years (2017-2019) as demonstrated by the supporting documents required under point 4 of Section 2.4) ».

QUESTION 4.17

Is there no means to send proposals via e-mail?

ANSWER 4.17

Please refer to the Guidelines for applicants, point 2.2.2:

“Applications must be sent in a sealed envelope by registered mail or private courier service or delivered by hand...”

and:

“Applications sent by any other means (e.g. by fax or by e-mail) or delivered to other addresses will be rejected.”

QUESTION 4.18

1. The corrigendum published informs that "Co-applicants possibly awarding sub-grants to third parties must satisfy the same eligibility criteria with the exception of the following: demonstrate an average annual turnover or annual revenue of at least 200.000 EUR during the last three years (2017-2019)... What we had understood from the guidelines was that the co-applicants did not have to satisfy any of the three points of eligibility criteria of the main applicant. Does this corrigendum mean that all the co-applicants have to have an annual turnover of 200.000 EUR? Or only those that will be awarding grants together with the main applicant?

2. Is it compulsory to include all countries of the region in the Call for Proposals to be launched by the selected entity?

ANSWER 4.18

1. As per the Corrigendum, only co-applicants **possibly awarding sub-grants to third parties** must « *demonstrate an average annual turnover or annual revenue of at least €200,000 during the last three years (2017-2019) as demonstrated by the supporting documents required under point 4 of Section 2.4).* ».
2. Yes. Please refer to the Annex M, point iv:
“*The coordinator may apply their own rules to the selection and evaluation process, provided that they comply with the principles of proportionality, sound financial management, equal treatment and **non-discrimination**”*
and Annex L for the list of eligible countries for each lot.

QUESTION 4.19

1. In the corrigendum on page 10, it was clarified that “the lead applicant or co-applicant awarding sub-granting to third parties must be established in one of the ACP countries”.

Does the corrigendum imply that the entity awarding financial support to third parties must be legally established in an ACP country or does this mean that the entity awarding financial support to third parties must be physically established in an ACP country through a local office, e.g. a branch office, without being legally established in the respective country?

Our organisation is legally established in a Member State of the EU but has offices in ACP countries.

2. On page 13 of the guidelines it is stated that “at least 75% of the total amount of the grant, to financial support for third parties, which must be included under the budget heading ‘6. Other’”. In addition it is stated that “the allocation of at least 15% of the total amount of the grant, to the transfer to third parties of skills, know-how, experience of providing support, and monitoring and evaluation, which must be included under the budget heading ‘6. Other’”.

Are the 15% for ‘the transfer to third parties of skills, know-how, experience of providing support, and monitoring and evaluation’ part of the 75% that are dedicated to financial support to third parties and can thus be included in the respective amounts for projects of third parties?

Or do these 15% have to be included as separate items in the budget, meaning that 90% of the grant amount needs to be budgeted under budget heading ‘6. Other’ for financial support to third parties (75%) and the transfer to third parties of skills, know-how, experience of providing support, and monitoring and evaluation (15%)?

If the latter is the case, this would leave no more than 10% of the grant amount for budget lines 1,2,3,4,5 and 7. Please kindly clarify and/or confirm.

ANSWER 4.19

1. As indicated in the “Disclaimer”, as per section 2.2.4 of the Guidelines, in the interest of equal treatment of applicants, the Contracting Authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of an applicant, a co-applicant, an affiliated entity, an action or specific activities

However, we draw your attention on the Guidelines for Applicants, page 8, note 4:

“The place of establishment is determined on the basis of the organization’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, a legal entity whose statutes have been established in another country cannot be considered an eligible local organization, even if the statutes are registered locally or a ‘Memorandum of Understanding’ has been concluded. »

2. Please refer to the Guidelines for Applicants, point 2.1.4., Types of activities:
“The allocation of at least 75% of the total amount of the grant, to financial support for third parties, which must be included under the budget heading ‘6. Other’
and:
“The allocation of at least 15% of the total amount of the grant, to the transfer to third parties of skills, know-how, experience of providing support, and monitoring and evaluation, which must be included under the budget heading ‘6. Other’”

Therefore both the allocation (75% for financial support to third parties and 15% for the transfer to third parties of skills, know-how, experience of providing support, and monitoring and evaluation) must be budgeted under the budget heading 6-Others.

QUESTION 4.20

The Alliance Française de Nairobi is considering applying for the above-mentioned call for proposals: supporting the cultural and creative sectors in the ACP countries.

We are a not for profit – locally registered (Kenya) language and cultural institution, established in Kenya as a Trust since 2003.

In our opinion, we meet all the criteria listed for a lead applicant, except that:

We do not directly award grants to third parties but support the development of the cultural and creative industries in Kenya and in the region through the provision of resources (both financial and in kind, capacity building and exposure, producing quality works for commercial exploitation) to help stimulate growth in these sectors. As a leading cultural operator in the region, our support to the cultural and creative sector can be quantified at 100,000 euro over the last three years.

Given this scenario, please can you advise if our institution qualifies as an applicant?

ANSWER 4.20

As stated in the “Disclaimer” at the beginning of this document, *“in the interest of equal treatment of applicants, the Contracting Authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of an applicant, a co-applicant, an affiliated entity, an action or specific activities.”*

However, we would like to draw the the Guidelines for Applicants and Corrigendum:

Section 2.1.1. Eligibility of applicants (i.e. lead applicant and co-applicant(s))

Lead applicant

[...]

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

“...demonstrate three years’ experience over the **period 2015-2019** in awarding and monitoring the implementation of support funds, including in supporting third parties in the fields of culture and/or creative industries and/or social and human development, with the following specific features:

- they must have awarded third parties at least two grants meeting **all** the following criteria:
 - the grants were implemented during the same year over the reference period (**2015-2019**); **and**
 - each grant was implemented in an ACP country **and**
 - the amount of grants awarded was at least €100,000 over the past three years (2017-2019).

This experience must be verifiable as required in point 7 of Section 2.4. **and**

- demonstrate an average annual turnover or annual revenue of at least €400,000 during the last three years (**2017-2019**) as demonstrated by the supporting documents required under point 4 of Section 2.4). “

Co-applicant(s):

[...]

The co-applicants possibly awarding sub-grants to third parties, must satisfy the same eligibility criteria as the lead applicant as followed

- demonstrate three years’ experience over the **period 2015-2019** in awarding and monitoring the implementation of support funds, including in supporting third parties in the fields of culture and/or creative industries and/or social and human development, with the following specific features:
 - they must have awarded third parties at least two grants meeting **all** the following criteria:
 - the grants were implemented during the same year over the reference period (**2015-2019**); **and**
 - each grant was implemented in an ACP country **and**

- the amount of grants awarded was at least €100,000 over the past three years (2017-2019). This amount must be verifiable as required in point 7 of Section 2.4 and

the co applicants possibly awarding sub-grants to third parties have to

- demonstrate an average annual turnover or annual revenue of **at least €200,000** during the last three years (2017-2019) as demonstrated by the supporting documents required under point 4 of Section 2.4).

After verifying the supporting documents, the evaluation committee will decide the eligibility to be a co-applicant awarding sub-grants to third parties and decide on the awarding of grants

QUESTION 4.21

We would like to ask a clarification as regards the CORRIGENDUM N.1 published on 12 February 2020.

On page 4 of the French version the new line, at the second bullet point, reads the following:
« le demandeur chef de file ou le codemandeur chargé de **lancer les appels pour octroi aux tiers**, doit être établi dans un des pays ACP de la région du lot de référence tels que définis à l'annexe L »

and also, on page 5 :

« Les codemandeurs éventuellement chargés de lancer les appels pour octroi aux tiers doivent satisfaire aux mêmes critères d'éligibilité que ceux qui s'appliquent au demandeur chef de file lui-même, sauf »

While, in the English version, on page 10, second bullet point:

“the lead applicant or co-applicant **awarding sub-granting to third parties** must be established in one of the ACP countries of the referred Region lot, as defined in Annex L”

and, on page 11:

“Co-applicants possibly awarding sub-grants to third parties must satisfy the same eligibility criteria as the lead applicant, with the exception of the following:”

We understand that the wordings “lancer les appels” (FR) and “awarding sub-grants” (ENG) have different meanings and that, therefore, the interpretation of the lines may be misleading. We do not understand whether the co-applicant, which has to be established in an ACP country of the referred Region lot, shall be responsible for the launch, dissemination and follow-up of the calls for proposals (“lancer les apples”), or also for the management of the sub-granting mechanism (“awarding sub-grants”).

ANSWER 4.21

Please refer to the French version.

At the page 2 of the Guidelines for Applicants, English version is stated that:

“The French version of the guidelines and the annexes should be regarded as authentic”

QUESTION 4.22

Je voudrais savoir si une institution sous régionale comme l'UEMOA peut être éligible pour cet appel.

ANSWER 4.22

Comme indiqué dans l'avis publié au début du présent document, « *afin de garantir un traitement équitable entre les demandeurs, l'Autorité Contractante ne peut émettre d'avis préalable sur l'éligibilité d'un demandeur, un codemandeur, une entité affiliée, une action ou d'activités spécifiques.* »

Vous voudrez bien vous référer aux lignes directrices à l'intention des demandeurs, point 2.1.1 Critères d'éligibilité

[...]

Pour prétendre à une subvention, le demandeur chef de file doit:

appartenir à l'une des catégories d'organisations suivantes: fondation, association, organisation non gouvernementale, opérateur du secteur public/privé, autorité locale, institution d'éducation supérieur et universités, organisation internationale (intergouvernementale) telle que définie à l'article 156 du règlement financier de l'Union européenne¹ (y compris Banque de Développement internationale et institution financière régionale) [...]

¹ Les organisations internationales sont les organisations de droit international public créées par des accords internationaux ainsi que les agences spécialisées créées par celles-ci; le Comité international de la Croix-Rouge et la Fédération internationale des Sociétés nationales de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge sont également assimilés à des organisations internationales.