



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

MINISTRY OF LABOUR & SOCIAL
AFFAIRS

GENERAL SECRETARIAT FOR LABOUR

SPECIAL SERVICE EXECUTIVE NSRF
STRUCTURE–DIVISION OF
EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL
ECONOMY

SUB-DIRECTORATE I - "Transnational
Programmes and Programmes of
other Financial Mechanisms of the
EU, EGF and EEA Grants", Unit A

Date: 05/10/2020

Ref. 0.4093

Call No: 4622

TO: The Special Service NSRF Structure of the
Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs - Sector of
Social Solidarity (EDKA)
60, Solomou street, 104 32, Athens

SUBJECT: Executive Summary «CALL FOR THE SUBMISSION OF A PROPOSAL IN THE CONTEXT OF THE FINANCIAL MECHANISM OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA 2014-2021 with the TITLE "INCLUSION AND EMPOWERMENT OF ROMA».

The Minister of Labour and Social Affairs

CALLS

The Special Service NSRF Structure of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs - Division of Social Solidarity (EDKA) for the submission of a proposal for the implementation of the Predefined Project 1 "Task Force supporting Roma inclusion and empowerment" (Action Group for the Support of Social Inclusion) in order to be funded under the Roma Inclusion and Empowerment Program.

The abovementioned body is called, as it has been declared as the Implementing Body (Project Promoter) of the Predefined Project 1 "Task Force supporting Roma inclusion and empowerment" in the reference no. 91761 / 03-09-2020 (Government Gazette 4027 / B / 21-09-2020) Decision of the Deputy Minister of Development and Investments for the Financing of the Programme, as it incorporates the Programme Agreement between the EEA Grants Financial Mechanism Committee 2014-2021 and the Ministry of Development and Investments.

1. CONTENT OF THE CALL

In the context of the European Union's policy for the development of national strategies for Roma integration, the Greek state has developed the "National Strategy for Roma Integration". The primary

goal of the Action Plan has been the removal of the conditions of social exclusion of the Roma and the creation of the conditions for their social inclusion.

The above strategic goal is served through three general objectives:

- a) Securing and guaranteeing of "housing",
- b) Development of a supportive network of social intervention (in the fields of employment, education, health and social inclusion),
- c) Development of social dialogue and consensus, through the social emancipation and the participation of the Roma themselves. These general objectives are being implemented in the framework of the five-year national action plan for the social inclusion of Roma for the period 2017-2021 and will continue to be implemented during the next operational programme.

The programme "Roma inclusion and empowerment" is co-funded by the Financial Mechanism of the European Economic Area Grants and by national resources and is consists of the implementation of two independent but mutually reinforcing predefined projects and of three Small Grant Schemes.

The Predefined Project 1 provides for the creation of a Task Force which will serve as the main tool for strengthening, monitoring and implementing the national strategy for Roma inclusion and the related policies and measures, equally at regional and local level.

For this reason, the Task Force will develop collaborations, mechanisms, and coordination and communication tools for:

- (a) Strengthening, monitoring and evaluating the policies of the National Strategy and Action for Roma Inclusion.
- (b) The empowerment of the Roma to actively participate in the social integration process. In addition, the Task Force will strengthen Roma communities to be actively involved in the design, monitoring and implementation of policies that affect them.

2. OBJECT OF THE CALL

The Predefined Project 1 concerns the establishment of a Task Force, which will be led by the Program Partner (PP), namely the General Secretariat for Social Solidarity and Fight against Poverty, and which will consist of one Central Unit / Steering Committee and four Regional Task Force Units located in four regions with a high concentration of Roma population: Attica, Central Macedonia, Eastern Macedonia and Thrace and Western Greece), according to the study conducted and published in the National Strategy for Roma Social Inclusion (December 2011).

STRUCTURE OF THE TASK FORCE

A. The Central Unit/Steering Committee

The Central Unit/Steering Committee will consist of five (5) people, as follows:

- four (4) experts, with extensive experience and know-how in the integration and empowerment of socially excluded groups,
 - one (1) member, in the role of Roma mediator, graduate of at least compulsory education (CE) and with knowledge of the social characteristics of the community and / or possess of the Romani dialect.
- Gender equality will be ensured.

The Central Unit/Steering Committee, first, will provide guidance and elaborate guidelines, training material, reporting templates and tools for the regional Task Force units working on the ground in order to assist the beneficiaries for the implementation of the interventions, as well as the monitoring and evaluation of the Roma integration measures and actions. Furthermore, it will develop easy-to-use templates, guidelines and tools to facilitate the engagement of Roma grassroots organisations and

networking at local, regional, national and European / international level. Where such civil society organisations do not exist, local Roma residents will be empowered, trained and supported to develop such forms of civil engagement as partners to inclusion activities with a particular focus on the empowerment and participation of Roma women and young people. In order to definite the specific activities to be carried out by both the Steering Committee and the Task Force Units, consultation sessions will be organised involving Roma Branches, Roma civil society and local authorities. Such consultations will be carried out throughout the PDP1, updating the work programme and tools of the Task Force Units.

B. Four Regional Task Force Units

The Regional Task Force Units will consist, in total, of twenty (20) people, out of whom:

At least four people will have the role of Roma mediator (who will be aware of the social characteristics of the community and / or the Romani dialect) and who will staff each of the Regional Action Groups

The rest of the people will be experts with extensive experience and know-how in the integration and empowerment of socially excluded groups.

Specifically:

One (1) group of 5 people, consisting of four (4) experts and one Roma mediator, will be based in the Region of Central Macedonia and may provide service to the adjacent Region of Thessaly.

- One (1) group of 5 people consisting of four (4) experts and one Roma mediator will be based in the Attica Region and may provide services to the adjacent Regions of Central Greece and Peloponnese.

- One (1) group of 5 people consisting of four (4) experts and one Roma mediator, will be based in the Region of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace.

- A (1) group of 5 people consisting of (4) experts and one Roma mediator, will be based in the Region of Western Greece and may provide service to the adjacent Regions of Epirus and the Peloponnese.

The staff of the regional Task Force Units will be trained by the members of the Central Unit/Steering Committee and in turn will transfer their knowledge and expertise gained at regional level. The regional Task Force Units will facilitate interventions in their respective areas ensuring that Roma inclusion actions are designed, implemented and monitored in a participatory way. FRA, as international programme partner can also provide training in participatory methodologies. The regional Task Force Units will report on: The implementation of the interventions; The recording and the problem-solving of the arising issues; Impact of local sensitization including the outcome of relevant information campaigns, consultations, etc.; The development of local networks with relevant key stakeholders; The provision of support for the public authorities and Roma communities implementing social inclusion activities; The engagement of grassroots organisations or other forms of civil engagement in Roma inclusion actions.

The regional Task Force Units will work closely together with Roma mediators and local youth and other organisations to support activities aiming to improve the participation and empowerment of Roma. In the long run, the expertise attained by the operation of the Task Force Units will assist in implementing social inclusion actions for other vulnerable groups, such as refugees, migrants, etc. This will be an important added value for the national public administration.

As a first step, each regional Task Force Unit after its training will submit to the project promoter and the Central Unit/Steering Committee a detailed proposed action plan, which will include the basic information for project implementation (regional mapping, key actors, needs, proposed interventions, time-plan, risk assessment, etc.). Based on these plans and other information, the Central Unit/Steering Committee will develop the Monitoring and Evaluation System using a dedicated IT software. The reporting system will be based on a bi-monthly reporting process which will be linked to the annual reporting system of the programme.

The proposal to be submitted should be under the following thematic objective(s), regions per Budget heading or per Programme (Operational Programme).

Template 1

PROGRAMME : “Task Force supporting Roma inclusion and empowerment”		ΚΩΔ.	
ΑΞΟΝΑΣ ΠΡΟΤΕΡΑΙΟΤΗΤΑΣ (Budget heading): Programme Area 07		ΚΩΔ.	
(Programme Objective) : E3 Combating Poverty, Social Exclusion and any form of discrimination”		ΚΩΔ.	E3
	I Athens II Attica		EL301 EL30
	III West Greece		EL23
REGIONS: 5	IV Central Macedonia V East Macedonia and Thrace	ΚΩΔ.	EL12 EL11

Template 1: Output Indicators

O.P.: 33	Budget heading PA07	FUND: EEA GRANTS				
CODE	NAME	MEASUREMENT UNIT	REGION	TARGET PRICE		
				TOTAL	MEN	WOMEN
1	Job creation	Number of jobs created	4 regions	25		
1	Consultation and engagement processes involving Roma, national/regional/local authorities, statutory human rights bodies (e.g. Ombudsman) and relevant civil society actors	Number of national policies and laws influenced	4 regions	3		
1	PDP1: Engagement and consultation with Roma communities and relevant public authorities to establish needs and identify potential measures	Number of Roma beneficiaries of social inclusion actions and services [2]	4 regions	1.500		

1.2	Social inclusion services provided to Roma	Number of prefectures in which social inclusion services are provided to Roma	4 regions	4		
1.3	Staff training	Number of Roma inclusion Task Force staff trained	4 regions	20		
1.3	Meetings and other activities involving public/local authorities and Roma communities to assist them in resolving issues and promoting Roma inclusion	Number of meetings and other activities with public/local administration and Roma communities carried out by the Task Force	4 regions	3		
1.3	Policy Reports	Number of policy recommendations produced by the Task Force	4 regions	3		
1.3	Training of municipal staff	Number of municipal staff trained in Roma inclusion by the Task Force (by gender)	4 regions	15		
1.3	Training	Number of other public officials (e.g. teachers, police officers, medical staff, etc.) trained in Roma inclusion (by gender)	4 regions	5		
1.3	IT system for monitoring the implementation of Roma inclusion policies	IT system for monitoring Roma inclusion policies developed	Athens	1		

1.4	Training of Community Services staff	Number of Community Services Offices participating in capacity building initiatives	4 regions	30		
1.5	Development and support of social cooperative enterprises of Roma	Number of Social Cooperative Enterprises of Roma supported	4 regions	2		
1.6	Awareness raising Roma attitudes	Number of awareness raising and training meetings	4 regions	10		
1.7	Consultation to improve the advocacy capacity of Roma civil society	Number of Roma NGOs participating in learning initiatives on effective advocacy	4 regions	5		

Template 2: Outcome indicators

O.P.: 33	Budget heading: P07	FUND: EEA Grants	FM EEA Grants 2014-2021				
CODE	NAME	MEASUREMENT UNIT	REGION	BASE PRICE	TARGET PRICE		
					ΣΥΝΟΛΟ	ΑΝΔΡΕΣ	ΓΥΝΑΙΚΕΣ
	Enhanced inclusion and empowerment of Roma	5 Task Force Units	4	5			

3 FINANCIAL ELEMENTS OF THE CALL

3.1 The co-funded public expenditure for the implementation of the Predefined Project 1 within this call is € 3,100,000.00.

Template 4

PROGRAMME: Task Force supporting Roma inclusion and empowerment				
BUDGET HEADING : Programme Area 07				
PROGRAMME OBJECTIVE: E3 "Combating Poverty, Social Exclusion and any form of discrimination"				
S/N	AREA OF SUPPORT	ACTION	REGION	CO-FUNDED PUBLIC EXPENDITURE
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	9	"Task Force Units supporting Roma inclusion and empowerment"	4 regions Attica West Greece Central Macedonia East Macedonia and Thrace	3.100.000,00€
TOTAL				3.100.000,00€

3.2 The PO may amend the total amount of co-funded public expenditure of this call or even make a reasoned withdrawal of it informing, in any case, the Implementation Bodies through the official web page eeagrants-roma.gr.

4 ELIGIBILITY

The deadline for the eligibility of the costs of the proposed Action is the 31st of December 2024. The Predefined Project 1 must be completed (by the above date). Transactions that have been physically completed or fully executed before the issue of the project contract are not eligible, regardless whether the relevant payments have been made or not.

The rules for the eligibility of the costs of the co-funded operations are set out in Chapter 8 of the Joint Ministerial Decision for the Management and Control System for EEA Grants.

Indirect costs according to the article 8.5 of the Joint Ministerial Decision for the Management and Control System for EEA Grants

Indirect costs (general expenses)

According to the article 8.5 of the Joint Ministerial Decision for the Management and Control System for EEA Grants, the indirect costs may be eligible. The indirect costs of the Project must reflect a fair distribution of the general (operating) costs of the Implementing Body. The Implementing Body must define and specify the indirect costs in the Proposal to be submitted.

5 PROPOSALS INSTRUCTIONS

The proposal must be submitted through the EEA OPS (Integrated Information System of EEA Grants) at the email address logon.ops.gr starting from the day following the date of the call issue (start date of submission of proposals), time 08:00, until, exclusively, December 7th 2020 (closing date of submission proposals), time 23:59.

Direct attention to the proposal's submission at the EEA OPS by the legal representative of the Implementing Body. After the successful submission of the proposal the Implementing Body is informed through the EEA OPS.

No proposal will be accepted after the above deadline.

6 SELECTION PROCESS AND ACCESSION OF THE PROJECT

A. Evaluation stages and criteria

The submitted proposal is evaluated in 2 stages :

STAGE A : Check of the completeness of the submitted proposal.

STAGE B : Evaluation of the submitted proposal according to de to the predefined description of the project in the Programme Agreement and the fulfillment of the criteria of Art. 6.5 of the JMD for the Management and Control System for EEA Grants considering the quality and the contribution of the project to the objectives of the Programme and its compliance with the Community and national legislation.

The evaluation of the proposals (Stage A and B) will be carried out by the competent Unit I.A. of Special Service Executive NSRF Structure – Division of Employment and Social Economy. In addition, the evaluation of Stage B will be carried out by an external legal entity independent from the Programme Operator, the selection of which will be made either through a call for proposals addressing to a Body with relevant previous experience, or with the involvement of another Ministry or Public Entity with executive officers disposing previous similar experience.

Stage A: Check of the completeness of the submitted proposal.

The evaluation of this stage will be carried out by the executives of Unit I.A. In particular, the following criteria are considered at this stage:

Administrative criteria which include at least the following:

- The Implementing Body is the one predefined in the operation description in the Programme Agreement.
- If the funding proposal has been submitted within the deadline set by the Invitation (date and time).
- If the funding proposal has been submitted in accordance with the permitted delivery method(s) (number of copies, electronic and / or copies, signatures, etc.).
- If all the required documents as specified in this Call have been submitted.

At any stage of the evaluation, the evaluators may request the submission of additional information and clarifications, by e-mail. The candidate must respond to the request within five (5) working days. Otherwise the proposal is rejected and put on file.

All the criteria of Stage A should have a positive evaluation (YES) for the proposal to proceed to Stage B of the evaluation. Otherwise, the proposal is rejected and the potential Beneficiary is informed accordingly.

Stage B: Proposal's evaluation by set of criteria.

Only if the submitted proposal meets the administrative criteria of completeness proceeds to stage B.

In stage B the evaluation is carried out on the basis of the provisions of the JMD for the Management and Control System for EEA Grants (hereinafter JMD) and in particular according to the criteria of the

Article 6.5. The evaluation criteria are included in Form L.I.2_2 Practice Evaluation Sheet. These criteria are:

1st CRITERIA GROUP

Elements of the project as declared and included in the Program Agreement (Reg., JMD, Art. 6.5, par. 2)

2nd CRITERIA GROUP

Adherence to the institutional framework and integration of horizontal policies (Reg., JMD, Art. 6.5, par. 3)

3rd CRITERIA GROUP

Administrative, operational and Financial capacity of the potential Implementing Body

1. The Body has implemented a similar operation within the framework of programmes / projects co-funded by the Programme of Public Investments (in case of a positive answer, the evaluation in the next 3 criteria is not required).
2. The Body has the competent administrative capacity
3. The Body has the competent operational capacity
4. The Body has the competent financial capacity

Based on the above criteria, the evaluator(s) will carry out the evaluation in stage B, which will be binary (YES / NO).

The results of each stage of the evaluation and the relevant documentation of the results of the completeness and the eligibility control of the proposal's evaluation per criterion / group of criteria are recorded in detail in the completeness checklist and in the Practice Evaluation Sheet, according to the approved selection criteria.

The time of evaluation of the submitted proposal for funding shall not exceed the period of sixty (60) days after the proposal's submission date by the potential Implementing Body. It is noted that in case that additional information is requested by the evaluator(s), the time period after the notification of the potential beneficiary is not counted in the deadline for the evaluation completion, until the additional information is received on time.

B. Evaluation tools and Procedure

After the completion of the evaluation and if:

The evaluation is positive, the PO finalises the approved elements of the Project in the Integrated Information System, through which are produced:

- the Proposal for the Accession of the Project (form EI.2_4: Proposal for the Accession/Rejection of the Project)
- the Project contract (form E.I.2_5: Project contract).
- the finalised Technical Data Sheet (form E.I.1_3: Technical Data Sheet)

The Head of the PO proposes the Project contract and issues it. The Project contract is notified to the Implementing Body of the Project.

If the evaluation is negative, the proposal is rejected.

C. Submission and examination of objections

The potential Implementing Body may object to the PO regarding the results of the evaluation. Objections are submitted once per each evaluation stage, within an exclusive period of seven (7) working days from the day following the notification of the evaluation results, namely:

- a) the Rejection Decision of the Proposal issued at Stage A of the evaluation
- b) the Rejection Decision of the Proposal issued at Stage B of the evaluation.

The objection must be justified and signed by the Implementing Body.

The PO examines the submitted objection. The result of the objection's examination is approved by the Head of the PO and is notified to the potential Implementing Body who submitted it, within fifteen (15) working days.

The objection is examined by a three-member committee, established with a decision of the Head of the PO, within three (3) working days after the deadline for the objection's submission. The persons who participated in the evaluation process of the specific proposal cannot participate in the process of examining the objections.

D. Issue of a Project contract for funding

The Project contract and its annexes define the terms and conditions of the grant, as well as the roles and responsibilities of the parties. In particular, the Project contract shall include the provisions ensuring that the Implementing Body undertakes to fully comply with the provisions of the FM EEA Grants Legal Framework 2014-2021, as referred to in Article 1(5) of its Regulation, which are relevant to the implementation of the project including any further obligation applicable after the completion of the project.

7 COMMUNICATION - INFORMATION

7.1 For further information on the submission of proposals and other clarifications, please call Ms. Angeliki Christopoulou, phone: 2105271155 & e-mail: achristopoulou@mou.gr and Mr. Kornilakis Andreas, phone: 2105271361 & e-mail: akornilakis@mou.gr.

tool of communication of the PO with all stakeholders for the Program and is communicated to him any relevant information.

7.2 Further information on the Programme "Social Inclusion and Empowerment of Roma", the Management and Control System of the Programme, the institutional framework for the implementation of the operations included in the Programme, the rules for eligibility of the expenditure, as well as any information on Submission of proposals can be found at the e-mail address eeagrants-roma.gr.

The Minister of Labour
and Social Affairs