



CERV-2023-CITIZENS-TOWN-NT Networks of Towns CERV Programme

Online Info Session

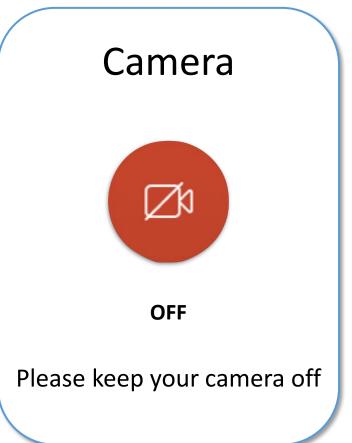
European Education and Culture Executive Agency



14 March 2023

Get Webex ready...

Microphone **OFF** Stay muted





We remind you...

- When entering the meeting please do not put your name but write your organisation and your country, e.g. 'Municipality of Brussels, BE.'
- This info session will be recorded using WebEx, for dissemination and publication purposes (on EACEA website for 1 year).
- If you do not wish to appear in the recording, keep your camera and microphone off.
- No personal data will be collected from participants (no list of participants/emails of participants).
- Please refer to the **Data Protection Notice** of the event for more information.

No personal data will be collected!!



Live Poll (1)

Which country are you joining us from?



#4227090





Live Poll (1)

Which emoji best represents how you feel at the moment?



#4227090





Live Poll (2)

How familiar are you with the Call Networks of Towns?



#4227090





Agenda

Info Session on the CERV-2023-CITIZENS-NT Call

14th of March 2023 9:30 am – 13:00 pm Online (Webex)

9:15-9:30	Connection of participants & speakers to Webex	SLIDO		
9:30-9:45	Welcome and opening remarks	Gilles PELAYO, EACEA.B3, Head of Unit "Citizens and EU Values"		
9:45-10:00	PART I Political priorities Information on policy priorities, areas of intervention, budget available, expected activities and results	DG JUST - Christopher SHARP		
10:00-10:15	National Contact Point (NCPs) and their role in assisting the applicants	Asta Kulbačiauskienė - NCP Lithuania Manuela MARSANO - NCP Italy		
10:15-10:30	PART I Questions & Answers			

Agenda

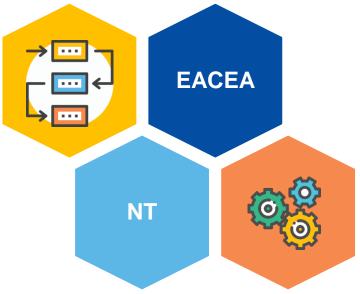
10:30-10:45	Break	
10:45-11:45	PART II Application procedure Admissibility, eligibility and award criteria Horizontal aspects: EU values, gender mainstreaming and child protection policy Lump - sum financing system Submission process Communication obligations	EACEA.B3 - Luminita STANCIULESCU Simona-Gabriela VARZAN Maria-Inmaculada PEREZ-ROCHA Stella MANCINI
11:45-12:15	Question & Answers	
12:15-12:35	Best practice testimony (ICEI-NetIDEA) Tips and tricks	EACEA.B3 – Michela BEATI EACEA.B3 - Elena PEDONE
12:35-12:40	Feedback from the meeting (Slido)	EACEA. B3
12:40-13:00	Closing remarks	Katerina XETHALI, Head of Sector EACEA.B3

Welcome and opening remarks

European Education and Culture Executive Agency EACEA

Citizens' engagement and participation & Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values

eGrants





1) Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme

EU FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Christopher Sharp



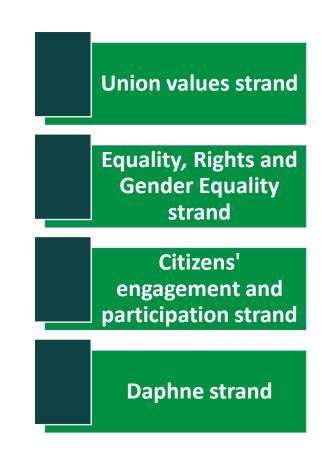


What are the Programme's objectives?

To protect and promote rights and values as enshrined in the EU Treaties and the EU Charter

by **supporting civil society organisations** and other stakeholders active at local, regional, national and transnational level,

by encouraging civic and democratic participation, in order to sustain and further develop open, rights-based, democratic, equal and inclusive societies based on the rule of law





Budget: 1.55 billion euro for 2021- 2027

Union Values

€ 690 million

Equality, rights and gender equality

Daphne (gender-based violence)

€ 470 million

Citizens engagement and participation

€ 395 million

General objectives Networks of Towns 2023

To promote exchanges between citizens of different countries

To discover the cultural diversity of the European Union

To guarantee peaceful relations between Europeans

To reinforce mutual understanding and friendship

To encourage cooperation between municipalities and the exchange of best practices

To support good
local governance and
reinforce the role of
local and regional
authorities in the
European integration
process

Specific policy Priorities Networks of Towns 2023 (I)

- ➤ Promoting awareness and building **knowledge of EU citizenship rights** and **associated European common values**and **common democratic standards**, ensuring the provision of information to **mobile** EU citizens
- ➤ Promoting awareness and building knowledge of the **30th** anniversary of the entry into force of the Maastricht Treaty (1 November 2023)
- ➤ Promoting awareness, building knowledge and sharing best practice on the **benefits of diversity, gender equality** as well as effective measures on how to **tackle discrimination and racism** at local level

Specific policy Priorities Networks of Towns 2023 (II)

- ➤ Bringing citizens together to discuss local actions on the climate and the environment, including energy-related issues, solidarity and sharing best practices, and thus helping to increase citizens' engagement in society and ultimately their active involvement in the democratic life of the Union
- Networks of Towns projects may also more generally, but not exclusively, reflect on any impact the **COVID-19 pandemic**
- Projects may also draw inspiration from or be related to the New European Bauhaus initiative (About the initiative (europa.eu))

Horizontal: The **gender equality perspective** should be taken into account when designing the 'format' of the activities

Networks of Towns - Expected impact

- To develop larger-scale projects to increase projects' impact and sustainability
- To allow thematic and policy-related projects and forge lasting links with partner organisations
- To increase citizens'
 engagement in society and
 ultimately their active
 involvement in the
 democratic life of the
 Union

- To raise awareness of the benefits of diversity and to tackle discrimination and racism
- To encourage mutual understanding towards European minorities, such as Roma
- To raise awareness on the 30th anniversary of the entry into force of the Maastricht Treaty and the adoption of the electoral directives
- To inform on the rights conferred by EU citizenship and improve their implementation in Member States, with a focus on mobile EU citizens



NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS

@CITIZENS-TOWN-NT Info Session

LINK TO PRESENTATION: https://qrco.de/CERV-NCP-Pres















OUR MISSION

INFORMATION

 providing information about the Programme & its FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES and about the policy initiatives in the areas covered by the Programme.

ADVICE

- facilitating the participation of stakeholders and giving advice to applicants;
- increasing the CAPACITY of stakeholders to take part in the Programme.

SUPPORT

- facilitating the MATCH-MAKING between potential partner entities on a transnational level;
- supporting applicants during the APPLICATION PROCESS.

DISSEMINATION

- dissemination of BEST PRACTICE projects;
- increasing knowledge and awareness of Programme results.



JOINT EVENTS

THU 16/03 CERV CITIZENS' FORUM

10 am-12 PM Call: CITIZENS-TOWN-NT & TT

TUE 21/03 CERV CITIZENS' FORUM

10 am-12 PM Calls: CHAR-LITI & EQUAL

MON 27/03 CERV CITIZENS' FORUM

12 PM-14 PM Calls: CHAR-LITI & EQUAL



NCP CERV Partner Search



https://qrco.de/ CERVps

NCP Event Registration



https://qrco.de/ CERV-forum



www.facebook.com/ CERVprogramme



2) Timetable, main aspects, evaluation criteria

Luminita Stanciulescu, project officer



Timetable (section 4 in Call Document)

Deadline for submission

Evaluation

Information on evaluation results

Grant signature

20 April 2022-3 17:00:00 CET (Brussels)

May- July 2023

September-October 2023 November– December 2023

Networks of Towns - Eligibility

- Organizations must be legal entities (public or private non profit bodies)
- Be established in one of the eligible countries
- Public bodies or non-profit organisations: towns/municipalities and/or other levels of local authorities or their twinning committees or non-profit organisations representing local authorities (support letter)
- Organisations from at least 4 different eligible countries of which at least 2 are EU Member States (Consortium); it is a multibeneficiary action
- Activities must take place in at least 2 different eligible programme countries



Duration: 12 - 24 M

Budget: no limit

Grant: lump sum

Overall budget for this topic 6.000.000 EUR

Co-financing principle (the lump sum does not cover all the costs of the project)

Networks of Towns - Eligibility

- Under the Call CERV-2023-CITIZENS-TOWN-NT the grants are lump sums.
- The lump sum calculation is based on two parameters: number of direct participants at the events and number of eligible countries per event (in situ or online)



- All participants are taken into account for the calculation of the lump sum not only the international ones (all direct participants from eligible countries local and travelling).
- Lump sum amounts and other requirements to be consulted here: <u>ls-decision cerv en.pdf (europa.eu)</u>
- For in-situ events, the lump sum amount is intended to cover staff costs, travel and subsistence, room rental/interpretation/translation/technical resources, communication/dissemination costs, costs for research and IT tools, and coordination costs.
- For online events, costs for travel and subsistence costs have been excluded.

Networks of Towns

 Subcontracting is allowed but it should be limited and observe certain criteria (for lump sums subcontracting is not applicable in the Part B - it does not have to be explained)



9.3 Subcontractors

Subcontractors may participate in the action, if necessary for the implementation.

Subcontractors must implement their action tasks in accordance with Article 11. The beneficiaries' costs for subcontracting are considered entirely covered by the lump sum contributions for implementing the work packages (irrespective of the actual subcontracting costs incurred, if any).

The beneficiaries must ensure that their contractual obligations under Articles 11 (proper implementation), 12 (conflict of interest), 13 (confidentiality and security), 14 (ethics), 17.2 (visibility), 18 (specific rules for carrying out action), 19 (information) and 20 (record-keeping) also apply to the subcontractors.

The beneficiaries must ensure that the bodies mentioned in Article 25 (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.) can exercise their rights also towards the subcontractors.

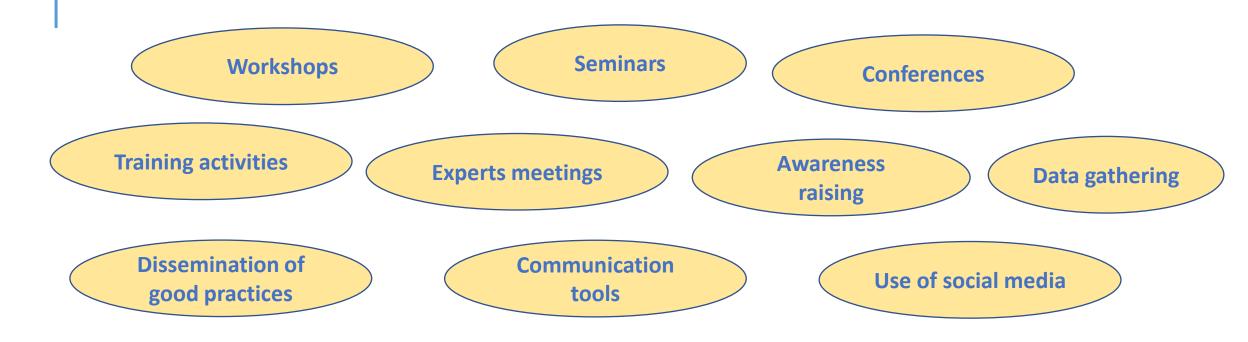
Subcontractors vs suppliers of goods, works and services

The core criterium for distinguishing between **subcontracts** and contracts/purchases is whether it concerns an action task as set out in the description of the action (Annex 1 of the Grant Agreement).

Subcontracts	Contracts/Purchases		
Subcontracts concern the implementation of 'action tasks', i.e. parts of the project/project tasks that have been outsourced.	Purchases concern travel, equipment and goods and services that are necessary for the beneficiaries to implement the work (can range from big equipment to petty goods).		
The price for the subcontracts will be declared as 'Subcontracting costs' in the financial statement.	The price for these contracts will be declared in one of the 'Purchase costs' columns in the financial statement.		

Example (subcontracts): Subcontract to organise a conference that is set as part of the tasks in the description of the action.

Types of activities



- Gender equality to be mainstreamed
 - If activities involving **children**: declaration on **child protection requirements** to be provided

Why you should pay specific attention to gender mainstreaming in your proposal

- Attention to gender mainstreaming has an impact on the score you receive in the evaluation.
- Integrating a gender perspective in the design and implementation of your project increases the quality of your proposal
- For more information on gender mainstreaming please visit:

https://eige.europa.eu/gender-mainstreaming

How to make sure you integrate a gender perspective?

When you draft your proposal, please consider the questions below

Basic

Basic

Basic

Basic

Basic

Advan ced

- Did I conduct a gender equality analysis to assess my project's design, implementation and impact?
- Did I take into account gender aspects in my needs assessment?
- Will the data and indicators I collect and create be disaggregated by sex?
- Did I include in my proposal a commitment to advance gender equality?
- Did I include in my proposal a commitment to monitor and report on the gender equality results achieved by the project in the evaluation phase?
- Do I plan to create **gender-specific indicators** to measure the project's gender equality objectives?

Evaluation criteria

Admissibility

- Respect the deadline
- Electronic submission
- Part A+B+C+Annexes

Eligibility

- Legal entities (public or private) from eligible countries
- Activities in eligible countries
- Min. 4 organisations
- Minimim participation for in situ and online (see <u>lump sum decision</u>)

Exclusion

Bankrupt, fraudulent organisations, in breach of laws and contracts (Article 136, 141 EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046)

Selection

Operational capacity Financial capacity (if selected for funding)

Award

- Relevance
- Quality
- Impact



Please refer to the <u>Call</u>

<u>Document</u> for complete set of requirements

Focus on Award criteria

1. Relevance (40 points)

• Minimum pass score: 25 points

MAX
SCORE
100
POINTS

2. Quality (40 points)

• Minimum pass score: n/a

3. Impact (20 points)

• Minimum pass score: n/a

MIN PASS SCORE

70 points

Coffee Break - See you in 10 minutes!



3) How to apply?

Simona Varzan, project advisor



Toolbox for a successful application

- 1. Preliminary steps before creating your proposal
- 2. Mind the proposal structure
- 3. Create proposal, required data
- 4. Structure of work packages and Deliverables
- 5. Reference documents and Online guidance

Preliminary steps

Go to the **Funding & tender opportunities portal**

STEP 1 - Find the Networks of Towns call and documents

STEP 2 - Find your project partners

STEP 3 - Create your EU login account

STEP 4 - Register your organisation and get your PIC

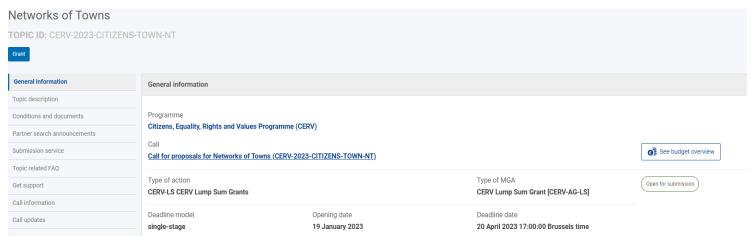
STEP 5 – Create a draft proposal

BEFORE CREATING YOUR PROPOSAL

Step 1: Find the call

Call ID: CERV-2023-CITIZENS-TOWN-NT

European Commissio		tender oppor	tunities			
SEARCH FUNDING & TO	ENDERS ▼ HOW TO PARTIC	IPATE ▼ PROJECTS & RESUL	TS WORK AS AN EXPERT S	UPPORT ▼		
Find calls for propo	sals and tenders					
Networks of Towns	J				Q Search	
EU Programmes						
Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)	Border Management and Visa Instrument (BMVI)	Customs Control Equipment Instrument (CCEI)	Connecting Europe Facilit (CEF)	Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV)	Creative Europe (CREA)	



Step 1: Find the call documents

General information

Topic updates

Topic description

Conditions and documents

Partner search announcements

Submission service

Topic related FAQ

Get support

Call information

Call updates

Topic conditions and documents

1. Eligible countries: as described in the Call Document.

Please add the hyperlink of the call document (as embedded link).

Please send all the call documents by filling in the Publication webform. You will receive the hyperlinks to be added. Delete all the green texts before publication as these are only guidance for call coordinators.

- 2. Eligibility and admissibility conditions: as described in the Call Document.
- 3. Proposal page limits and layout: Please refer to Part B of the standard proposal template.
- 4. Evaluation

Evaluation criteria, scoring, threshold and process are described in the Call Document.

5. Indicative timetable for evaluation and grant agreement: as described in the Call Document

Publication of the call: 15/12/2022

Deadline for submitting applications: April 20th,2023 17:00 (Brussels Time)

Evaluation period: May - July 2023

Information to applicants: October 2023

Signature of grant agreement: December 2023

Read carefully the **Call document** before
preparing your project

Call document available in 24 EU languages

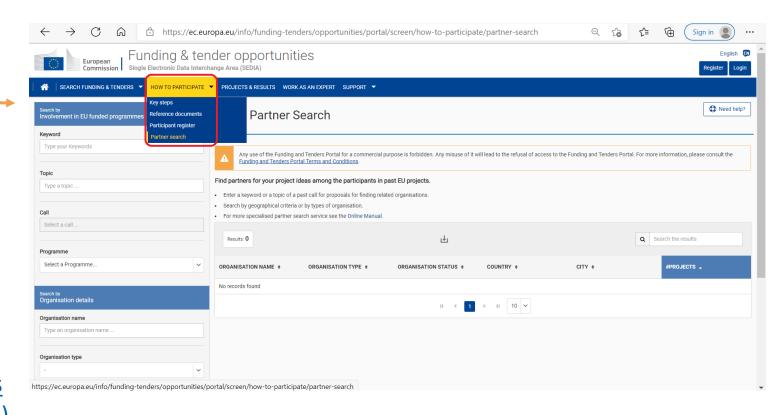
Step 2: Find project partners

Launch your query by selecting the criteria of your interest



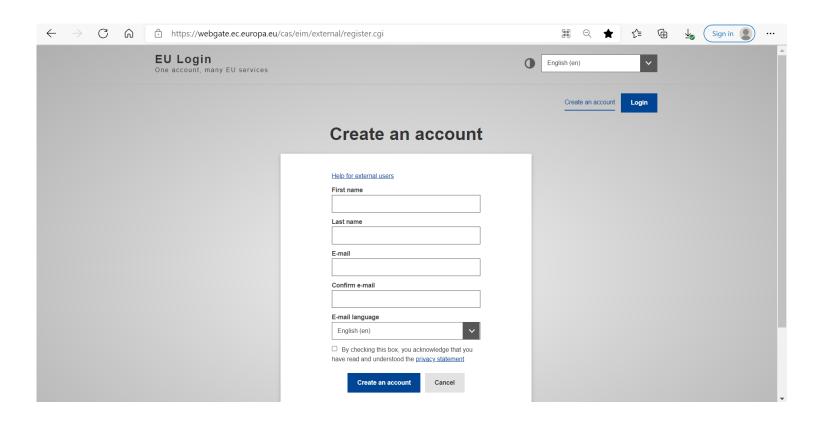
USEFUL TIPS:

- Refine your partner search via the tutorial available on the FTP portal: Find partners IT How To Funding Tenders Opportunities (europa.eu)
- Contact the CERV contact points



Step 3: Create your EU login account

Go to the page https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/cas/login and click on the "Create an account" link

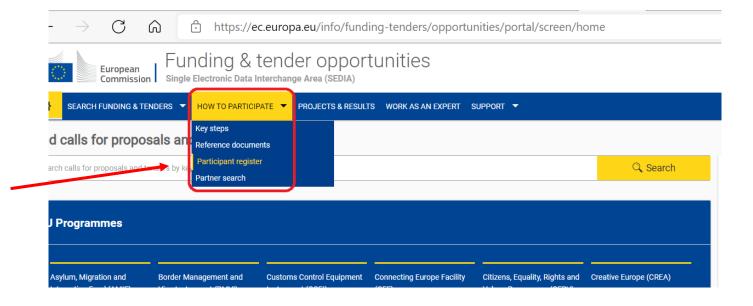


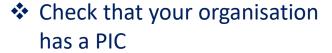
Step 4: Register your organisation and get your PIC

Upon registration, you will receive your **Participant Identification Code (PIC) to be used in your online application form** and further correspondence with the EU services







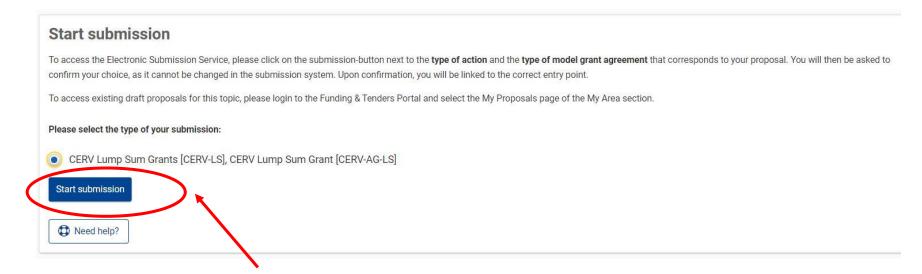




- No need to register your organisation again
- Use your existing PIC

Step 5: Start submission

1. Launch Submission wizard



2. Create a draft proposal by clicking on "Start submission"

Proposal structure

Part A

- **Administrative info**
- Data on project partners
- Information about contact persons
- pdf will be generated

Part B

- **Technical** description
- Data on needs analysis, methodology, activities & results

Calculator

- **Budget** calculator
- Data on the amount requested for the action

Part C

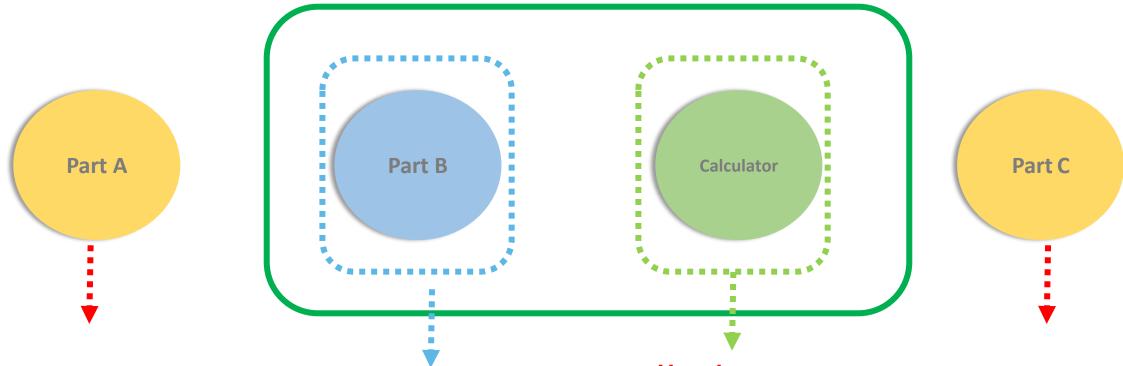
- **Indicators**
- Data on types of organisations, list of events, direct participants pdf will be generated

Consistency should be ensured in the data provided across all parts of the proposal

Ex: same budget in all docs

Proposal structure

To be downloaded



To be filled in directly online

- Download template
- Fill in into Word
- Convert into PDF
- Upload PDF

- Use the right templates (one for NT)
- Download template, fill in & upload

To be filled in directly online

Create proposal Step 1



In case of technical issues, contact the Helpdesk

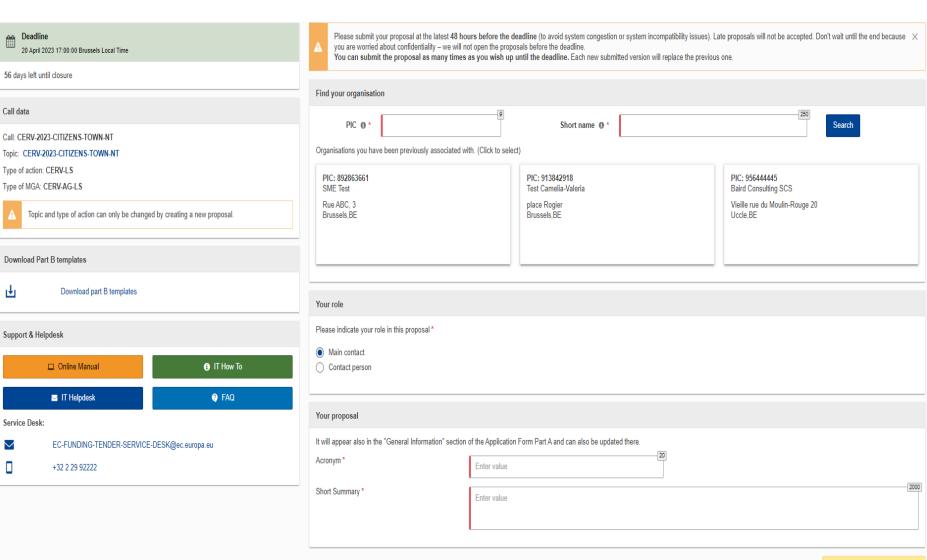
Encode your PIC number

Indicate your role

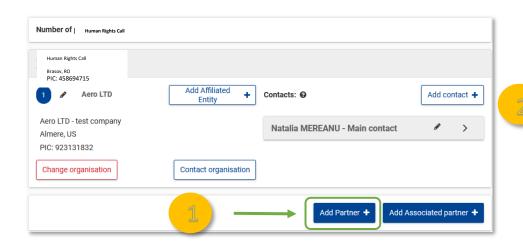
Download Part B templates and keep them aside

Fill in the "acronym" and the "short summary" sections

Fill in information and "Save and go to next step"



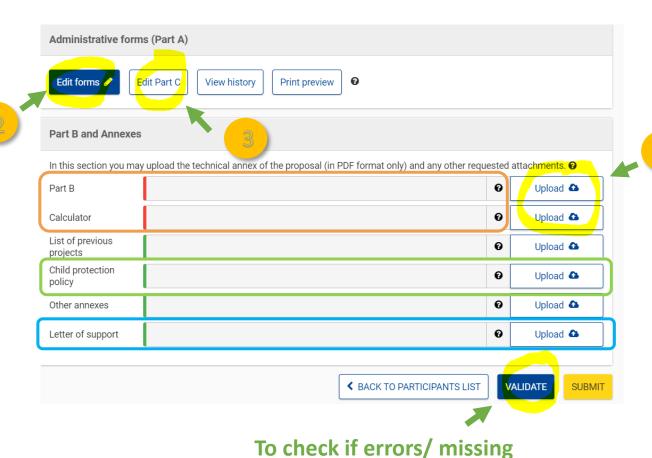
Create a proposal Step 2 - Networks of Towns





MANDATORY:

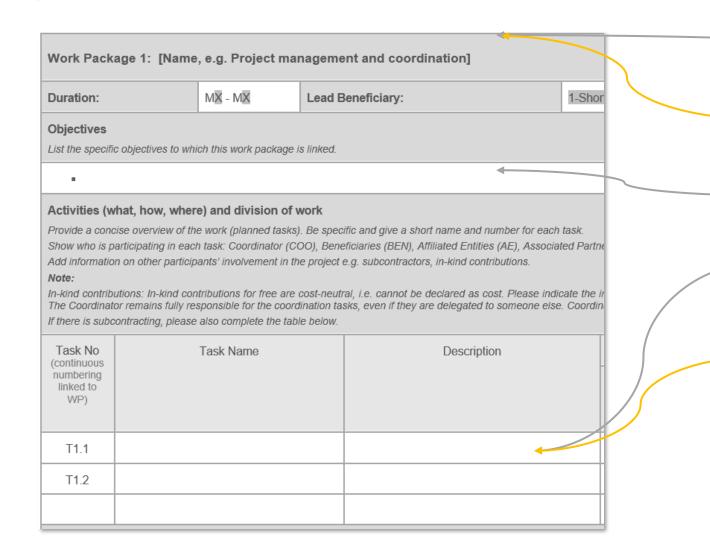
- Add "partner" (=each participant involved in the project)
- Click Edit Forms (=part A) and fill in
- Click Edit Part C and fill in
- Upload the filled version of 'Part B templates', which include:
 - Part B
 - Calculator
- Upload the Child Protection Policy applicable in your organisation/declaration (only if activities involving children are foreseen)
- Upload the letter of support signed by your Municipality (only if a "Non for profit organisation representing a local authority" is involved in the project)



information

Structure of work packages

Work packages - Events



Insert a relevant name for your event, e.g. NT Event / Seminar on ... / ...

WP dedicated to management and coordination is NOT applicable for NT

Describe objectives

List activities, e.g. Conference, workshop, publication of articles, publication on social media....

1 WP = 1 event

1 event = one or more activities

Ref. NT 2023 Call Document: Activities that can be funded, p.8

Deliverables

Insert a relevant name
e.g. publication, data collection, video,
website, White Paper, training
material...

At least one DLV per WP (event)

Describe the DLV (type, estimated number of participants, countries...)

Deliverables are project outputs which are submitted to show project progress (any format). Refer only to major outputs. Do not include minor sub-items or internal working papers, meeting minutes, etc. Limit the number of deliverables (and their data volume) to max 10-15 for the entire project. You may be asked to further reduce the number during grant preparation.

For deliverables such as meetings, events, seminars, trainings, workshops, webinars, conferences, etc., enter each deliverable separately and provide the following in the 'Description' field: invitation, agenda, signed presence list, target group, number of estimated participants, duration of the event, report of the event, training material package, presentations, evaluation report, feedback questionnaire.

For deliverables such as manuals, toolkits, guides, reports, leaflets, brochures, training materials etc., add in the 'Description' field: format (electronic or printed), language(s), approximate number of pages and estimated number of copies of publications (if any).

For each deliverable you will have to indicate a due month by when you commit to upload it in the Portal. The due month of the deliverable cannot be outside the duration of the work package and must be in line with the timeline provided below. Month 1 marks the start of the project and all deadlines should be related to this starting date.

The labels used mean:

Public — fully open (♣ automatically posted online on the Project Results platforms)

Sensitive — limited under the conditions of the Grant Agreement

EU classified — RESTREINT-UE/EU-RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIEL-UE/EU-CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET-UE/EU-SECRET under Decision 2015/444.

Deliverable No (continuous numbering linked to VP)	Deliverable Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Туре	Dissemination Level	Due Date (month number)	Description (including format and language)
D1.1	**	1		[R — Document, report] [DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype] [DEC — Websites, patent filings, videos, etc] [DATA — data sets, microdata, etc] [DMP — Data Management Plan] [ETHICS] [SECURITY] [OTHER]	[PU — Public] [SEN — Sensitive] [Classified R- UE/EU-R] [Classified C- UE/EU-C] [Classified S- UE/EU-S]		
D1.2		1		[R — Document, report] [DEM — Demonstrator	[PU — Public] [SEN — Sensitive] [Classified R-		
				pilot, prototype/ /DEC —Websites, patent filings,	UE/EU-R] [Classified C- UE/EU-C]		

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D1.1		1		[R — Document, report] [DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype] [DEC —Websites, patent filings, videos, etc] [DATA — data sets, microdata, etc] [DMP — Data Management Plan] [ETHICS] [SECURITY] [OTHER]	/PU — Public] /SEN — Sensitive/ /Classified R- UE/EU-R/ /Classified C- UE/EU-C/ /Classified S- UE/EU-S/		
D1.2		1		[R — Document, report] [DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype] [DEC —Websites, patent filings,	[PU — Public] [SEN — Sensitive] [Classified R- UE/EU-R] [Classified C- UE/EU-C]		

Budget & Work packages

Budget calculator

"Tpl_Calculator (CERV LS, NETWORKS NT).xls"

Event (Work Package) Number	Event ty in situ O online (manual input)	R	Number of countrie (manual input)	s Number (manual	of participants input)	Lump sums (EUR) (automatic)	
1	Online		7-9	201-300		EUR 20.925	
2						EUR 0	
3						EUR 0	
4						EUR 0	
5						FUR O	
Online In Situ							
			Countries	s of		Direct	
		residence		participants counted once			
		•	participa	nts	COUI	counted once	

An **event** happens within a defined timeframe and can include different types of **activities** (conferences, workshops, trainings, seminars, debates, webinars, exhibitions, film screenings/making, campaigns, publications, surveys, research, flashmobs, etc).

Lump sum (based on n. of direct participants). It co-finances staff costs, travel and overnight stay costs, rental of rooms, communication/ dissemination costs, research and IT tools costs, indirect costs

ISSUES FROM FORMER SELECTIONS (I)

- Annexes missing such as Child Protection Policy/declaration on honour, letters of support
- Incorrect budget calculator used (not the one for Networks of Towns)
- Inconsistencies in budget between Part A and the budget calculator (total)
- Private for profit among partners
- Insufficient number of partners (for 2023 must be 4 different partners)
- For the moment, the eligible countries are the Member States



ISSUES FROM FORMER SELECTIONS (II)

- Partners are full beneficiaries, they are not to be encoded under associated unless from a country not eligible in CERV
- Carefully choose your partners not to have them withdraw at a later stage (in case the application is successful)
- The partners should be validated as much as possible or have all documents uploaded in the Portal to save time at grant agreement signature level
- Repetition in the topic, activities, same partners from year to year (duplication); more innovation and diversity is expected

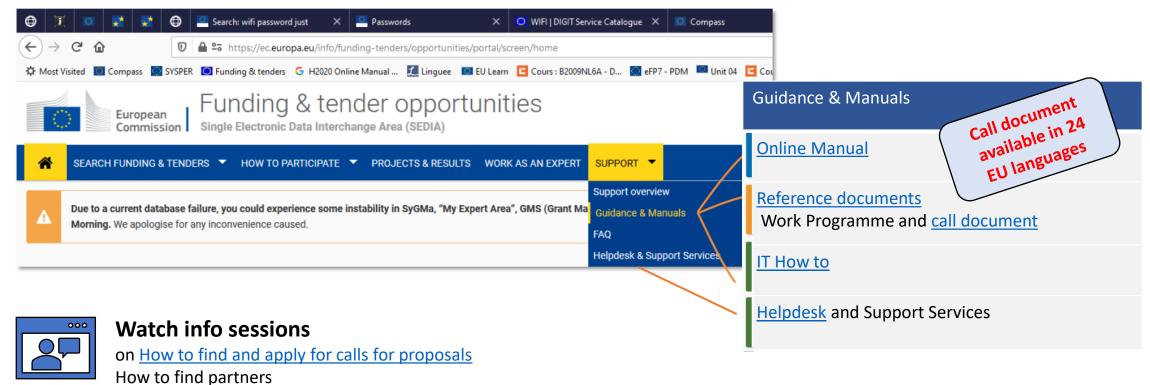


Reference documents & Online Guidance



Funding & tender opportunities

and How to get your Participant Identification Code (PIC)



Contacts and useful links



CERV Contact Points in most EU countries (constantly updated)



DG Justice and Consumers <u>newsletter</u>



EACEA-CERV@ec.europa.eu



Best practices: Example of <u>funded projects</u> under previous <u>CERV call</u> and under the previous programme <u>Europe for Citizens</u>

Communication, dissemination and visibility

- Communication and dissemination activities are part of your project proposal (impact on the score you receive in the evaluation)
- > Issues to consider:
 - Are the activities contributing to the promotion of gender equality and non-discrimination?
 - What are the communication channels identified? Are they accessible to the general audience, in particular to people from marginalized groups?
 - Is the action likely to produce a positive multiplier effect?
 - Is the visibility of EU funding will be ensured?



Help beneficiaries to communicate their project

- **DG JUST/EACEA newsletter:** https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/just/user-subscriptions/1148/create
- ➤ National Contact Points: https://commission.europa.eu/system/files/2023-02/CERV%20Contact%20Points%2015%20Feb%202023b_0.pdf
- EU representation in their countries: https://ec.europa.eu/info/about-european-commission/contact/representations-member-states_en
- **EU Direct:** https://european-union.europa.eu/contact-eu/meet-us_en
- Liaise with other projects: https://european-union.europa.eu/contact-eu/meet-us_en



Best practice



- The original concept for NetIdea NT
- The participatory process to formulate and implement the NT
- Most relevant challenges during the implementation phase
- Suggestions for potential beneficiaries
- Future activities in the NT action

Tips and tricks



- Read carefully the Call!
- Focus on eligibility criteria and mandatory documentation (e.g. eligible countries, letter of support, calculation etc)
- Projects in scope: choose at least one specific priority
- Integrate in the proposal the gender mainstreaming and/or the child protection perspective if the activities involve minors
- Set realistic realistic objectives; clear writing of the application form
- Set a good collaboration among partners/ identify clearly the activities to be done in advance
- Set concrete targets and results
- Communicate! And don't forget the impact of your projects' results
- Don't wait until last moment to submit
- If something is not clear, contact the NT team and check the <u>FAQ</u> section in the portal

Q&A

slido # 4227090



Questions or comments?



Closing remarks

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Thank you and keep in touch!

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