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(Announcements)

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

COMMISSION

CULTURE (2007-2013)

CALL FOR PROPOSALS — EACEA/22/07

Support for bodies active at European level in the field of culture

(2007/C 184/03)

1. Legal basis

This call for proposals is based on Decision No 1855/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 establishing the Culture Programme (2007-2013) ⁽¹⁾ (hereinafter referred to as 'the Programme').

2. Objectives and description

The Programme is part of the European Union's ongoing commitment to enhance the cultural area shared by Europeans and based on a common cultural heritage through the development of cultural cooperation between the creators, cultural players and cultural institutions of the countries taking part in the Programme, with a view to encouraging the emergence of European citizenship.

The Programme provides for Community intervention to support bodies working for cultural cooperation providing representation at Community level, collecting or disseminating information for facilitating trans-European Community cultural cooperation, networking at European level for bodies active in the field of culture, participating in cultural cooperation projects or acting as ambassadors for European culture.

3. Purpose of the call for proposals

In order to meet the objectives of the Programme, this call for proposals aims to award operating grants to co-finance expenditure associated with the permanent work programme of bodies pursuing an aim of general European interest in the field of culture or an objective forming part of the European Union's policy in this area.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 372, 27.12.2006, p. 1.

This support shall take the form of framework partnership agreements or annual operating grant agreements. Furthermore, for categories Festival and Network — Structured dialogue platforms defined under point 5.1, the support will take the form of targeted operating grants.

The Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency ⁽²⁾ (hereinafter referred to as the 'Executive Agency') is responsible for carrying out the call for proposals.

4. Budget available and duration of the project

The total budget earmarked for the co-financing of operational grants in 2008 and for all categories amounts to a minimum of EUR 5 million ⁽³⁾.

Framework partnership agreements will represent around $\frac{3}{4}$ of the available budget. Annual grants will represent around $\frac{1}{4}$ of the available budget with a minimum guaranteed of 20 % of the available budget.

5. Eligibility criteria and selection criteria

Eligible applicants must be a non-profit-making body which must have been in existence for at least two years. They must also be public or private independent cultural organisations with legal status, whose activity lies in the cultural sphere.

⁽²⁾ Commission Decision No 2005/56/EC of 14 January 2005 setting up the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency for the management of Community action in the fields of education, audiovisual and culture in application of Council Regulation (EC) No 58/2003 (OJ L 24, 27.1.2005, p. 35).

⁽³⁾ Figure EU 27.

In the context of the present call, international, national, regional or local 'public authorities', such as communes, provinces or regions as well as individuals are not eligible.

Eligible applicants must correspond to one of the categories as defined under point 6.1 of the specifications which are integral part of the present call for proposals, namely:

- category Ambassador,
- category Network,
- category Festival.

Eligible applicants must have their registered legal seat in one of the countries taking part in the Programme ⁽¹⁾. Eligible applicants must also have the financial capacity and operational capacity to complete the cooperation projects.

6. Award criteria

Awarding of a grant is not only dependent on examination of the eligibility, exclusion and selection criteria. Decision will be determined on the basis of the award criteria.

The award criteria can be outlined as follows:

1. the extent to which the work Programme can generate a real **European added value** as well as the European dimension of the proposed activities;
2. the relevance of the work programme and subsequent activities to the **specific objectives** of the Programme;

3. the extent to which the proposed work programme and the subsequent activities are designed and can be carried out successfully with a high **level of excellence**;
4. the extent to which the proposed work programme and subsequent activities can produce **outputs** which reach as many people as possible, both directly and indirectly;
5. the extent to which the results of proposed activities will be appropriately **communicated and promoted**;
6. the extent to which the activities can generate an appropriate level of **sustainability** (long-term results and cooperation) and also to act as multipliers as to other possible promoters.

7. Deadline for submission of applications

5 November 2007

8. Additional information

The specifications which complete the call for proposals EACEA/22/07 are integral part of the call for proposals. Applications must satisfy the requirements laid down in the specifications and must be submitted using the application forms provided for this purpose.

The *specifications*, the *application pack* and all the relevant *forms* are available on the Internet site of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency:

<http://eacea.cec.eu.int/index.htm>

⁽¹⁾ The 27 Member States of the European Union, the EEA countries; the candidate countries Croatia, Turkey and FYROM, subject to the conclusion of a Memorandum of Understanding concerning the participation of this country in the Culture Programme; and the countries of the Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia including Kosovo (under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244)), subject to the conclusion of a Memorandum of Understanding concerning the participation of each of those countries in the Culture Programme.