

Centre for Civic Education (CCE/CGO)

within the project

Together For LGBTQI+ Equality

publishes

CLARIFICATIONS

of the Call for Proposals

for the support to projects of civil society organisations (CSO) in Western Balkans

Question 1	We were looking at the guidelines for grant applicants for the "Support to projects of CSOs in WB within the project - Together For LGBTQI+ Equality" grant scheme, and for the application package it is stated that "Financial report for 2024 submitted to the relevant tax or related authority of the respective country in which applicant/s are registered". In Serbia we are submitting the financial report to the State by the end of March, they are publishing the reports in June/July, and if we need to follow this guide, I strongly believe that all organisations registered in Serbia will be excluded.
Answer 1	In accordance with the requirements of this Call, applicants from Serbia may fulfil the obligation by submitting evidence of submission to the relevant authority (e.g., a stamped confirmation or receipt), regardless of whether the report has been formally published.
Question 2	Greeting from Yemen. My name is XXXXX XXXX, I am the head of the XXXX organization. My inquiry is can local CSOs in Yemen apply for grants?
Answer 2	Unfortunately, local CSOs from Yemen are not eligible to apply under this grant scheme. The Call is specifically targeted at organizations registered and operating in the Western Balkans region (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia).
Question 3	Does the NGO need to have LGBTQI+ rights explicitly listed in its statute (under goals and activities) to be eligible to apply for this project?
Answer 3	No, it is not mandatory for the NGO to have LGBTQI+ rights explicitly listed in its statute. However, the proposed project activities must clearly contribute to LGBTQI+ rights and equality, and the organization must demonstrate relevant experience or commitment in this field.
Question 4	We are planning to apply for a CfP Together For LGBTQI+ Equality and would like to clarify a point with you. Specifically, we wish to inquire if it would pose any issues for us that we have XXXXXX as a partner in an EU project with the reference number EuropeAid/176877. We would appreciate your feedback on this matter and any guidance you can provide.
Answer 4	CSOs which have been supported within the NDICI-Global Europe Thematic Programme on Human Rights and Democracy, 2023 Global Call for Proposals, Budget line: 14.020211, Reference: EuropeAid/177407/DH/ACT/Multi are not eligible to apply for this Call. Therefore, only projects funded under this line EuropeAid/177407/DH/ACT/Multi are not eligible.
Question 5	Can ERA members apply for the call, considering that ERA is a project partner?
Answer 5	Yes, member organizations of a network or umbrella organization that is involved in the project are eligible to apply, provided they are legally independent entities. The only restriction typically applies to the umbrella organization itself, which cannot act as an applicant or co-applicant under its own sub-granting scheme. To ensure fairness and



	transparency, all applicants are subject to the same eligibility criteria and selection process.
Question 6	When can the action start, immediately after signing the contract, or could it be postponed?
Answer 6	The action can start immediately after the contract is signed, or you may postpone the start date slightly, depending on your implementation plan. In case you are awarded a grant, this will be subject of agreement before the contract signature.
Question 7	Considering the requirement for a signed and certified statement that more than half of the members of the governing body of the organization are not members of political party bodies, public officials, executives, civil servants, or state employees, is it enough to provide our own signed and stamped statement, or is there a specific form you require?
Answer 7	Yes, it is sufficient to provide your own signed and stamped statement. There is no specific template required, but the content must clearly reflect the requirement.
Question 8	Can we mix thematic areas within a single project application?
Answer 8	Yes, you can mix thematic areas within a single project application, as long as the activities are coherent, complementary, and aligned with the objectives of the Call.
Question 9	Is the provision of mental health service eligible activity within this call?
Answer 9	To ensure equal treatment of applicants, we cannot give an opinion on the objectives, expected results and activities of the proposed projects, as well as on other elements of the application.
Question 10	I have one question from ERA member organization, regarding the sub granting call. Namely, an organization from Serbia would like to partner with an organization from Turkiye and apply to the call. I know that the call covers only Western Balkan countries, but I wanted to clarify with you if this can be allowed or not. Just to clarify as I could npt find an answer in the Call for applications. Can you please inform me on this so I can tell them?
Answer 10	Partners must meet the following criteria be a legal person; be non-profit-making; be a civil society organisation; be registered in one of the WB countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia) at least 12 months before the deadline for submission of project proposals; be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the project. See also answer 2.
Question 11	The Call states that we must have an external audit. Are we the ones who organize and pay for it? If the answer is yes, where should we include this cost in the budget, considering there is currently no specific budget line for it?
Answer 11	The financial reports of the subgrants will be subject to an external audit contracted under the Together for LGBTQI+ Equality project, so there is no need for you to engage an external auditor independently.
Question 12	Can we name the budget items differently? For example, we have production costs for public events, but that item is not listed among the offered categories, and it doesn't quite fit into the existing ones. Do we have the right to add a new budget line, or should we include it under "Visibility activities," which is the closest category?
Answer 12	You should not rename predefined budget categories. However, if a certain cost (like production for public events) does not clearly fit into any existing category, you can include it under the closest existing category (e.g. "Visibility activities" in your case). Make sure to provide a clear description in the budget justification column explaining what the cost covers and why it fits there.
Question 13	The guidelines state that projects must be implemented in one of the Western Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia). Does this mean that all activities must be carried out in one of these



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	countries, or is there a possibility to implement activities in multiple Western Balkan countries?
Answer 13	Yes, projects have to be implemented in <u>one</u> of the WB countries.

The project **Together For LGBTQI+ Equality** is implementing the Centre for Civic Education (CCE/CGO), in partnership with ERA – LGBTI Equal Rights Association for Western Balkans and Turkey, Queer Montenegro, Queer Center Skopje, Tuzla Open Center, Open Mind Spectrum Albania, and Center for Social Group Development from Kosovo. The project is financed by the **European Union**.