



SUPPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT – SLATE FUNIDNG – 2015

**F.A.Q. - Frequently Asked Questions
Call for Proposals EAC 18/2014
Deadline for submitting applications: 05/02/2015**

This document is intended to provide useful information to applicants. It does not replace or overrule the criteria or any other conditions contained in the Call for proposals notice or in the Guidelines available under: <https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/sites/eacea-site/files/guidelines-sf-2015.pdf>

It applies only to the Call for Proposals and rounds as indicated above.

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1. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES

Which countries are eligible to participate?

The EU Member States as well as Iceland, Norway, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro.

For more details, please read this note on the eligibility of non-EU countries in the Creative Europe programme http://ec.europa.eu/culture/opportunities/documents/eligible-countries_en.pdf

NB: As the list of non-EU participating in the MEDIA sub-programme is often evolving, we highly recommend that you check this list regularly.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

A company has to be legally constituted for 36 months before when?

The applying company has to be officially constituted (i.e. date of registration/incorporation as shown on the registration documents) at least 36 months before the submission date.

Is an association, which is legally registered with the main activity “production of audiovisual works” and which has been developing and producing documentary films for several years eligible?

An association can be eligible as long as it is officially registered at national level and fulfils the other eligibility criteria such as audiovisual production as its main activity and proven track record. Natural persons (individuals) are not eligible.

Is there a minimum size for Slate companies?

The guidelines do not contain any indication of a minimum size of a company to be eligible for slate funding. The evaluation of the company's capacity to develop, manage and produce a slate at European level is done by experts on a case-by-case basis.

A company is listed as having two separate business activities. Film production is one of them but how to evidence that it is the main activity?

The proof to be provided is the text in the national registration certificate and the activity code. Statutes of the company are accepted if the production activity is clearly indicated.

The company was legally established in 2007. This year it changed its name and it received a new legal status and a new registration number. Would it be eligible according to the rule of at least 36 months of legal constitution?

Normally a name change does not change the register number. In case of a change of legal status which often provokes a change of the registration number, in order to establish operational continuity, you must proof that all active and passive of the previous company was transferred to the new entity and that the old company is closed.

Are Development grants only allowed to a unique beneficiary and not to several co-producers?

Development grants are mono-beneficiary support, therefore only one producer should be indicated in the eform. However, the projects contained in the Slate funding application can be the subjects of a co-production agreement or co-development between producers. The applicant company must own the majority of the rights related to the projects.

In the case of co-production between 2 companies, would 50/50 share be eligible?. What about 3 co-producers?

In the case of 2 co-producers, 50/50% share of rights is acceptable. In case of 3 producers, the one which has the biggest share is considered as having the majority (example 35%-33%-32% ownership) and is the one who should apply.

What are the proofs required to justify that the applicant company is the owner of the majority of rights related the project ?

The applicant must show that it holds the majority of the rights relating to each project, no later than on the date of submission. It is required to provide a duly dated and signed contract covering the rights to the artistic material included in the application. This artistic material shall include at least: concept, subject, treatment, script or bible. If the project is an adaptation of an existing work (novel, biography etc.), the applicant must also show that it holds the majority of the rights relating to the rights of adaptation to this work.

MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS/RESUBMISSIONS

Can applicants apply for a slate funding as well as a single project with different projects for the coming calls?

An applicant has to choose between applying for either Slate Funding or Single Project and if single, then one deadline only is possible.

In addition, beneficiaries of an on-going slate funding support granted in 2014 cannot apply for a single project, nor a slate funding support in 2015.

If a company got support for a single development project in the framework of call 2014, can it apply under the development slate funding call for 2015?

Companies having received a Single Project support in 2014 can apply under this call for proposals for Slate Funding in 2015. You can also choose to apply again for the development support of a Single Project in 2015.

Is it possible to apply for a slate under the current call if the previous slate under MEDIA 2007 is still running?

Companies having an open slate from the previous MEDIA 2007 Programme can apply under the Creative Europe Programme.

PROVEN TRACK RECORD / PREVIOUS WORK

How recent must the previous production be to be eligible?

The previous work has to be produced within the five years preceding the submission of the application. Moreover, previous work has to be officially released in cinemas or broadcast on

television in at least three countries other than that of the applicant during the two calendar years preceding the publication of the Call for Proposals (at the earliest 1/01/2012). In case of broadcast, 3 different broadcasters are necessary.

Is a reference project accepted even if the cinema release or the broadcast date was after the reference period of 2 years preceding the call publication, as long as the contract was within this time frame?

Only effective distribution is taken into consideration for the previous work- applicants must prove the date of release in cinema or broadcast date. Contracts are not accepted as proof of distribution.

Is DVD distribution of the previous work eligible? What about internet platforms?

Official release in cinema or television broadcast dates are accepted as proofs of distribution. Commercial distribution online and distribution from international sales agent are accepted if duly documented by a revenues report related to the reference period.

If the previous work produced by the applicant has been released or broadcasted after the submission date, can it be considered?

The reference period for distribution of the previous work starts on 01/01/2012 for this current Call and will end at the date of submission of the application. Release after the submission of the application will not be accepted.

If the previous work has been distributed in three countries that are not participating in the MEDIA Sub-programme, is it eligible?

There is no reference in the guidelines where these countries should be or to which group they should belong to. Therefore, any foreign country is accepted as distribution territory.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Can the second season of a drama series apply for Development if a company already got support for the Development of the first season?

Second (or any other) season is eligible. What should be kept in mind is that the project will be assessed against the award criteria defined in the Guidelines and in particular quality and originality of the project and its potential for international distribution.

2. AUTOMATIC POINTS

What is a country with low production capacity?

All MEDIA participating countries with the exception of France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom.

3. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Can I apply only in paper form?

Only e-form applications are accepted. Please find hereunder the link to the e-Form:

<https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/PPMT/>

Please note that no paper back-up copy is necessary.

The title of the slate project is compulsory. What should an applicant indicate?

Applicants can indicate "Slate Funding 2015" as title for their application. There is no need to list all the titles of the projects in the cover page of the application.

A company wants to apply with four or five projects, but in most cases they have scripts but no treatments. Would it be possible to hand in only the scripts, if a treatment is not available?

For Slate funding applications, treatments and dialog scenes are preferable and essential but if an applicant company does not have them, it should provide the artistic material at its disposal, even if it is only the scripts.

Where do the applicants add their authors' contracts & letters of intention? Do they add them to the project presentations?

All proofs of rights are to be kept by the applicant for further demands by the Agency. On the other hand, any other material the applicant considers valuable for the evaluation can be scanned with the artistic material.

Should the track record of all producers attach the application?

The ground rule is that the applicant company must have a track record. If the company reference works are too thin, the applicant can provide information on personal credits.

Is it possible to make any changes to an application which has already been submitted as we are still before the deadline?

If the time permits, we recommend that you submit a new modified application. We will take into account the last version of the application.

Can I send additional documents or modify my application after the deadline?

The applications cannot be modified after the deadline. If the Agency needs further information, it will contact the applicant.

May I include links to further artwork or even teasers/trailers in my project description?

Applicants can include links in both the application form and the descriptive artistic material and give the password if there is any (with a validity of longer than 3 months).

Is there a difference between the 'Project Summary' in the main application and the 'Short Synopsis' in the annex? More specifically is the Project Summary a summary of the story or summary of the project?

Project summary is a summary of the story and should not exceed 2000 characters. If it is written with another language than English, the English translation is requested.

Do we need to upload the VAT Certificate and legal entity form, etc., to the participant portal before submission or will they be requested in a similar way to the other evidence documents?

As it does not block the application, the VAT certificate, etc, can be uploaded to the participant portal after the application deadline. However, we recommend that you upload these documents as soon as possible to avoid slowing down the application process.

Is it possible to modify company details in the participant database after the deadline?

Company details should be modified in the portal in due time when changes take effect. Please note that the modification has to be done in the portal by the LEAR. Please ensure that this person is available during the selection process or has a back-up.

4. BUDGET AND FINANCING

A company applying for a theatrical fiction project are also keen to develop an online platform which will expand the world of their character and assist with the marketing the project. Would the design and plan of this platform be considered and eligible cost?

Yes, they are considered as marketing actions and costs and are therefore eligible.

Could you please explain us how the applicant's financial capacity is calculated?

The financial capacity is calculated by a matrix taking into account the main figures of the company's last 2 years of exercise. The main elements of the calculation are the following:

- results (profit/loss), dividends and depreciation of 2 previous years;
- the equity, current assets and current liabilities and total costs of the last financial exercise/year (certified accounts);
- the amount of support from MEDIA, total costs of the project and third party financing already in place.

Companies not having 2 years of certified accounts will fail the test. The most negative factor is the equity being negative. Also if the total costs of the project are well above the league of the total costs of the fiscal exercise and no third party financing in place, the financial capacity might be assessed as not solid enough.