



SUPPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT - SINGLE PROJECTS – 2015

F.A.Q. - Frequently Asked Questions Call for Proposals EAC 17/2014 Deadline for submitting applications: 15/01/2015 & 16/04/2015

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-sp-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 to Development Schemes?

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 countries in the MEDIA sub-programme is often evolving, we highly recommend that you check this list regularly.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

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.

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. This would be the best one but others, like statutes of the company, can be accepted if the production activity is clearly indicated.

The company was legally established in 2007. In 2014 its legal status was modified and it received a new registration number. Would it be eligible according to the rule of at least 12 months of legal constitution?

In case of a change of legal status which often provokes a change of the registration number, in order to establish operational continuity, the applicant must prove 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 project can be a co-production between several

companies. The applicant company must own the majority of the rights related to the project.

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 a producer submit an application as a main producer, and in the same deadline/Call appear in another application as a co-producer (confirmed by deal-memo)?

Yes, this is possible because it respects the rule one application by company.

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

An applicant has to choose between single project or slate funding. Furthermore, if single project is chosen, application under one deadline only is possible. In addition, beneficiaries of an on-going slate funding support granted in 2014 cannot apply for a single project.

Is a project a resubmission if it was once submitted as part of a slate application?

A project which was included into a rejected slate application earlier will not be considered as resubmission, because the award criteria are different in a single project and slate funding. This kind of an application would be considered as the first application for the project.

If a company received support for a single project in the framework of call 2014, is it allowed to apply under the development single project call for 2015?

Companies selected for a single project in 2014 can apply with a new project under the present Call for Proposals.

PROVEN TRACK RECORD / PREVIOUS WORK

Could the previous work of an US producer working for an European company be eligible as previous work?

If the personal credit is used, the nationality is not taken into account. What counts is that the applicant company to this Call for Proposals is European and majority owned by Europeans (i.e. participating country to the scheme and their nationals) and that an owner or a managing director of the applicant company has a personal track record as a producer or a delegate producer.

What kind of document is required in order to demonstrate that the applicant company produced the eligible previous work?

The principle rule is that the applicant company must have produced the previous work. Either it is the only company involved, i.e. sole production company or it was a co-production and the applicant company has the majority role by financing the biggest part or was the delegate producer. If it is by the financing plan, certified final budget would be the proof. Sole production company is proved by onscreen credits.

If it is a person credit, onscreen credit is necessary where the name of the person is visible with the title of producer or delegate producer. Only onscreen credit is the only possible proof for personal credit. All the proofs on eligibility are to be kept by the applicant and could be requested by the Agency at a later stage in the selection process.

If there are two producers from different companies both stated as a producers at on-screen credits. Can they both use it as a reference work?

When it is a personal credit as producer and both persons are credited as such for the film, yes both can use it. Co-producer as credit will not be accepted.

How recent must the previous production be to be eligible?

The applicant must prove it has produced a previous work as described in section 6.2 of the Guidelines, which has been released or broadcast at the earliest in the two calendar years preceding the publication of the Call for Proposals (i.e. at the earliest 1/01/2012). There is no reference to the year of production of the previous work in Single Projects.

What is acceptable as a reference project for a film production company who now wants to apply for a project to be exploited on digital platforms?

For single projects addressed to digital platforms, any work as described under 6.2 of the Guidelines can be accepted as previous work. Crossing the genre and platform of the previous experience is also accepted: like creative documentary application with fiction track record.

If the previous work is a fiction project for young children (for television), a series of 20 episodes of 10 minutes, is it eligible?

For fiction, the total length/duration must be of minimum 90 minutes (for TV and including the whole of a series if applicable). In this case, 20 episodes à 10 minutes = 200 minutes is eligible. .

Is a compilation of animated short films (overall duration more than 24 minutes) eligible as previous work?

The notion of a series imply that all parts/episodes are produced by the same producer and that it is sold as a package. Being a producer on a part of a series is not accepted. The producer must have credit for one complete season. If a short film is part of a compilation and can be distributed alone, it would not be an eligible track record.

Is a reference project accepted 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?

No, only effective distribution is taken into consideration - applicants must prove the date of release in cinema or broadcast date. Contracts are not acceptable taken for the date of distribution.

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

No. Only official release in cinema or television broadcast date are accepted. 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 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 a country that is not participating in the MEDIA Sub-programme, is it eligible?

Also non-participating countries are accepted as distribution territories of the proven track record project.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Can a project which was previously supported by the old MEDIA Programme reapply to Creative Europe?

Same action can be supported only once by an EU Programme.

Are wildlife documentaries eligible?

Reportages are not eligible whatever the subject but a creative documentary about wildlife is an eligible genre. The experts will evaluate the project against the award criteria defined in the Guidelines (in particular with regards with added value and originality).

Are theatrical projects that combine animation with live action eligible (e.g. using motion capture technology)? And if so should the applicant apply under fiction or animation? Is the ratio of animation/live action important?

Yes, these projects are eligible. The category under which the applicant should apply is determined by the ratio animation/live action and the strategies devised as well as the outlets thought of.

Is a remake of a film eligible as single project?

Technically, it is eligible. It has yet to have its own identity to be able to score well under the quality of the project and in particular originality. In addition, the applicant company must hold the rights to this remake.

If the applicant is planning to start the principal photography according to the Guidelines (later than 8 months after the application) but in the further development process it turns out that they have to shoot earlier (e.g. due to unexpected casting obligations). What happens in this case?

The project would become ineligible and no support can be given in that case. The eligibility rules must be respected throughout the application process and life time of the grant. If not respected, a project can become ineligible during the process.

If a project is an adaptation and the company has the rights to the book but hasn't yet contracted the writer for the script - will that project be eligible?

The 2 levels of rights are needed in order to be eligible.

No later than on the date of submission, the applicant must show that it holds the majority of the rights relating to the project for which support is being sought. This includes at least the artistic materials included in the application (treatment, script etc.). Contract covering these materials must be duly signed and dated by the author(s).

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 with an option agreement or transfer of rights contract duly dated and signed.

Regarding rights agreements are option agreements that have not yet been exercised by the production company accepted? The company has an exclusive option to acquire all rights but do not want to exercise the option at this stage as it will trigger a payment.

If the developments rights are covered by the option (agreement) at the submission stage, it fulfils the criteria.

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 are considered low production capacity countries under these Guidelines.

What is a project targeted for young audience?

The project should target specifically an audience up to a maximum of 16 years old. This will have to be addressed in detail in the application and substantiated in the strategies provided.

Which participating countries have a common official language?

Participating countries that have common official languages:

- Germany, Austria, Luxembourg, Belgium (German)
- France, Belgium, Luxembourg (French)
- Belgium and the Netherlands (Dutch)
- Croatia and Bosnia Herzegovina (Croatian)
- Greece and Cyprus (Greek)
- Finland and Sweden (Swedish)
- UK, Ireland and Malta (English)

Are automatic points only for coproduction with another production company? Is it also possible with a broadcaster?

Yes, this is possible if the applicant can provide a deal memo. However, this is rarely seen at development stage.

What are the required proofs to justify a project intended for co-production with a company established in a different participating country which does not have a common official language?

The proofs needed are a deal-memo or a co-production agreement. Only such a binding document signed by the two parties can be accepted. Letters of intent are not accepted to obtain the automatic points. It is recommended to scan these documents with the artistic materials.

3. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Can I apply only in paper form?

No, only e-forms 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.

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?

No, the applications cannot be modified after the deadline. If the Agency needs further information for clarification, it will contact the applicant.

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

Yes, please include the links in both the application form and the descriptive artistic material and do not forget the password if there is any (with a validity of over 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 in the eForm 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?

Yes, this is possible. 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

Could you please explain the lump sum funding forms?

A lump sum means that the EU grant requested is calculated on the basis of the genre of the

project, not as a percentage of the total costs of the project which is the case with budget-based funding.

In the project proposal, applicants have to present a detailed budget coherent with the project activities, and this aspect will be assessed by the experts. However, at final report stage, a detailed budget of actual expenditures will not be requested. Beneficiaries will be asked to provide the final (or estimated) total development costs and final (or estimated) total production costs (including development) and will have to prove that the project has advanced in terms of artistic creative development and financial and marketing research.

Can I request less than the amount indicated in the e-form?

This support is granted through lump sums only. These are defined in 11.2 of the Guidelines. The amount of the grant cannot be modified in the eForm. A grant calculator (60.000 € max for animation for example) shows the amount of grant that may be requested. When applicant selects the genre and indicates the total production budget, the amount updates automatically.

The EU funding indicated in the Eform is incorrect. What should I do?

Please check that you have chosen the correct sub-action when you download the e-form, i.e. animation, documentary or fiction. This is visible in the front page of the application form.

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 hopefully 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.