



CREATIVE EUROPE

MEDIA Sub-programme

SUPPORT FOR TELEVISION PROGRAMMING OF AUDIOVISUAL EUROPEAN WORKS

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Annexes:

All the annexes are available on the EACEA/MEDIA website:

http://ec.europa.eu/culture/media/fundings/creative-europe/call_8_en.htm

1. INTRODUCTION

These guidelines are based on Regulation No 1295/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11/12/2013 concerning the implementation of a programme of support for the European cultural and creative sector (CREATIVE EUROPE).¹

The European Commission is responsible for the implementation of the Creative Europe Programme and for the decision to grant individual European Union funds. The Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency hereafter "the Agency" manages the Culture and MEDIA Sub-programme on behalf and under the control of the European Commission.

General background information about the Creative Europe programme can be found on the following link: <http://ec.europa.eu/creative-europe/>.

2. OBJECTIVES - PRIORITIES

2.1 Objectives and Priorities

Within the specific objective of reinforcing the European audiovisual sector's capacity to operate transnationally and internationally one of the priorities of the MEDIA Sub-programme shall be to:

- increase the capacity of audiovisual operators to develop European audiovisual works with a potential to circulate in the Union and beyond and to facilitate European and international co-production, including with television broadcasters.

The MEDIA Sub-programme shall provide support for the following measures:

- the development of European audiovisual works in particular films and television works such as fiction, documentaries, children's and animated films, as well as interactive works such as videogames and multimedia with enhanced cross-border circulation potential;
- activities aiming at supporting European audiovisual production companies, in particular independent production companies, with a view to facilitating European and international co-productions of audiovisual works including television works.

Under this Support scheme, the applicant submits a project intended primarily for television programming in the following categories: animation, creative documentary and drama.

2.2 Targeted Projects:

The MEDIA Sub-programme supports European production companies interested in producing a television work presenting:

- high creative/artistic value and wide cross-border exploitation potential able to reach audiences at European and international level
- enhanced cooperation between operators from different countries participating in the MEDIA Sub-programme as well as between broadcasters
- increased co-production and circulation of high-profile European television drama series.

¹ Published in the Official Journal of the European Union on the 20/12/2013 (OJ L347/221).

3. TIMETABLE

The indicative timetable is the following:

	Stages	Date or indicative period	
a)	Publication of the call	December 2013	
b)	Deadline for submitting applications	28 February 2014 - 12:00 (noon, Brussels Time)	13 June 2014 - 12:00 (noon, Brussels Time)
c)	Evaluation period	March-May 2014	July-Sept 2014
d)	Information to applicants	June 2014	October 2014
e)	Signature of grant agreement or notification of grant decision	July 2014	November 2014
f)	Starting date of the action	Starts 6 months before the date of submission	Starts 6 months before the date of submission
g)	Max. duration of the action / Period of eligibility	24 months (or 36 months for series) after the date of submission	24 months (or 36 months for series) after the date of submission

4. AVAILABLE BUDGET

The total budget available for the co-financing of Television Programming projects is estimated at EUR 11.8 M.

For drama and animation works the financial contribution awarded may not exceed EUR 500.000 or 12.50% of the total eligible costs, whichever is the lower.

Only for co-produced TV drama series with an eligible production budget of at least EUR 10.000.000 (consisting of at least 6 episodes each of a minimum length of 45 minutes) an amount of maximum EUR 1.000.000 or 10% of the eligible costs whichever is the lower can be requested.

For creative documentary, the financial contribution awarded may not exceed EUR 300.000 or 20% of the total eligible costs whichever is the lower.

The Agency reserves the right not to distribute all the funds available.

5. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Only applications which comply with the following criteria will be the subject of an in-depth evaluation.

5.1 Formal criteria

In order to submit an application, applicants and partners must provide their Participant Identification Code (PIC) in the application form. The PIC can be obtained by registering the organisation in the Education, Audiovisual, Culture, Citizenship and Volunteering Participant Portal².

The Participant Portal allows applicants and partners, to upload or update the information related to their legal status and attach the requested legal and financial documents.

See the section on Registration in the Participant Portal for more information.

Only proposals submitted in one of the EU official language, using the official application form, completed in full, signed (original signatures or equivalent required) and received by the specified deadline, will be considered.

The application form must be accompanied by all the documents referred to in the application form. Applicants must submit a budget that is balanced in terms of expenditure and revenue and that complies with the ceiling for European Union cofinancing set at 12.50% of the total eligible costs for drama and animation works (10% for ambitious and high quality co-produced TV drama series) and at 20% of the total eligible costs for documentaries.

5.2 Eligible countries

Applications from legal entities established in one of the following countries are eligible as long as all conditions referred to in Article 8 of the Regulation establishing the Creative Europe Programme are met and the Commission has entered into negotiations with the country:

- EU Member States;
- Acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidates benefiting from a pre-accession strategy, in accordance with the general principles and general terms and conditions for the participation of those countries in Union programmes established in the respective Framework Agreements, Association Council Decisions or similar agreements;
- EFTA countries which are members of the EEA, in accordance with the provisions of the EEA Agreement;
- The Swiss Confederation, on the basis of a bilateral agreement to be concluded with that country;
- Countries of the European neighbourhood area in accordance with the procedures defined with those countries following the framework agreements providing for their participation in European Union programmes.

² The organisation has to register in the Unique Registration Facility (URF) hosted in the Education, Audiovisual, Culture, Citizenship and Volunteering Participant Portal. The Unique Registration Facility is a tool shared by other services of the European Commission. If your organisation-already has a PIC that has been used for other programmes (for example the Research programmes), the same PIC is valid for the present call for proposals.

The Agency may select proposals from applicants in non EU countries, provided that, on the date of the award decision, agreements have been signed setting out the arrangements for the participation of those countries in the programme established by the Regulation referred to above.

(Updated list of countries that fulfil the conditions referred to in Article 8 of the Regulation and that the Commission has started negotiations with can be found on the following link: <http://ec.europa.eu/culture/creative-europe/documents/eligible-countries.pdf>).

5.3 Eligible applicants

Television Programming support is open to European independent audiovisual production companies that are the majority producer of the work.

A **European company** is a company established in one of the countries participating to the MEDIA Sub-programme and owned directly or by majority participation, by nationals from such countries.

An **independent company** is a company which does not have majority control by a television broadcaster, either in shareholding or commercial terms. Majority control is considered to occur when more than 25% of the share capital of a production company is held by a single broadcaster (50% when several broadcasters are involved).

An **audiovisual production company** is a company whose main object and activity is audiovisual production.

The applicant must be the majority producer of the work, in terms of rights. In case of co-production, the applicant must be the majority co-producer and must be designated by the partners as delegate producer to be the contractual partner with the Agency.

5.4 Eligible activities

Only the activities for the following projects are eligible:

Drama films (one-off or series) of a total duration of minimum 90 minutes, animation (one-off or series) of a total duration of minimum 24 minutes and creative documentaries (one-off or series) of minimum 50 minutes intended primarily for the purposes of television exploitation.

For drama series, sequels or second and third seasons are eligible.

Works which are designed to be a series with a joint marketing strategy have to be submitted as a series. Single episodes of a series cannot be split into separate applications.

The application must be submitted at the latest on the first day of principal photography. No grant may be awarded retrospectively for actions already completed.

The work must be by majority produced by companies established in one or more countries participating in the MEDIA Sub-programme.

The work must be produced with the significant participation of professionals who are nationals and/or residents of countries participating in the MEDIA Sub-programme. ‘Significant participation’ is defined as having more than 50% of the points on the basis of the tables below:

Drama / Documentary	Points	Animation	Points
Director	3	Director	3
Scriptwriter	3	Scriptwriter	3
Composer	1	Composer	1
Actor 1/ Voice over artist	2	Storyboard Artist	2
Actor 2/ Voice over artist	2	Character Designer	2
Actor 3/ Voice over artist	2	Animation Supervisor	2

Artistic Director	1	Artistic Director	1
Director of Photography	1	Technical Director	1
Editor	1	Editor	1
Sound	1	Sound	1
Shooting location	1	Studio Location	1
Laboratory	1	Laboratory	1
Total	19	Total	19

The audiovisual work proposed must involve the participation of at least three broadcasting companies from three countries participating in the MEDIA Sub-programme. In all cases, the contribution of the required broadcasters must be above the following minimum thresholds in order to be eligible:

Broadcaster coming from ³ :	Minimum % of total production budget	
	Drama, Animation	Documentary
France, Germany, Italy, Spain, United Kingdom	1%	0,5%
Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Norway, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland	0,5%	0,5%
Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Lichtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia	0,1%	0,1%

The exploitation rights licensed to the broadcasters participating in the production have to revert to the producer after a maximum license period of:

- 7 years if the broadcaster's participation takes the form of a pre-sale;
- 10 years if the broadcaster's participation also takes the form of a co-production. In this case, the contract between the producer and the broadcaster must clearly specify the price and licence term for the pre-sale of the exploitation rights and the conditions for the co-production. A co-production between a broadcaster and a TV producer is accepted only if the broadcaster takes a significant financial risk in the production and is involved in the organisation and economic handling of the production. In any case, the broadcaster cannot be the majority co-producer of the work and its contribution cannot exceed 70% of the total financing of the production.

The broadcasters' involvement must be supported by contracts or signed binding letters of commitment. These contracts or letters of commitment must clearly specify the licence price and term.

Minimum 50% of the estimated total financing of the production budget must be guaranteed from third party sources of finance (either through direct financing or by advance rights sales) and must be minimum 50% financed by European sources (i.e. from countries defined in point 5.2). Third party sources of finance must be proven by signed binding letters of commitment, including the action title, the exact amount of the financial contribution, the rights sold and the licence period. Contributions from broadcasters, distributors, public funds or co-producers are considered as third party sources of financing. The producer's own investment is not considered as a third party source of finance. If the action is co-produced by several production companies, a co-production

³ The application of this grid is subject to the condition of fulfilment of the conditions set out in section 5.2 Eligible countries

contract (or deal-memo) indicating the share of financing, share of rights, share of costs and share of revenues, has to be submitted with the application.

The maximum duration of projects is 30 months (or 42 months for series).

However, if after the signing of the agreement and the start of the project it becomes impossible for the beneficiary, for fully justified reasons beyond its control, to complete the project within the scheduled period, an extension to the eligibility period may be granted. A maximum extension of 6 additional months will be granted, if requested before the deadline specified in the agreement. The maximum duration will then be 36 months (or 48 months for series).

The following projects are ineligible:

- live recordings, TV games, talk shows, magazines, tv-shows, reality-shows, school and “how-to” programmes;
- documentaries promoting tourism, "making-of", reports, animal reportages, news programmes and "docu-soaps";
- series and sequels of episodes based in whole or in part on a previous animation or documentary work;
- projects including pornographic or racist material or advocating violence;
- works of a promotional nature;
- institutional productions to promote a specific organisation or its activities;
- projects that are fully financed and/or already financed by Eurimages;
- productions originally intended as cinema works (e.g. several theatrical distributors and/or an international cinema sales agent involved).

Theatrical release for drama and animation films is accepted only for works originating from countries with a low audiovisual production capacity, for which a national theatrical distribution takes place after an initial TV transmission. For documentaries, a theatrical release is allowed prior to an initial TV transmission, regardless of the territory from which the work originates and the territory in which it will be released, subject to the condition that the production must have been intended primarily for the television market.

6. EXCLUSION CRITERIA

6.1. Exclusion from participation

Applicants will be excluded from participating in the call for proposals procedure if they are in any of the following situations:

- (a) they are bankrupt or being wound up, are having their affairs administered by the courts, have entered into an arrangement with creditors, have suspended business activities, are the subject of proceedings concerning those matters, or are in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations;
- (b) they or persons having powers or representation, decision making or control over them have been convicted of an offence concerning their professional conduct by a judgment of a competent authority of a Member States which has the force of res judicata;
- (c) they have been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means which the responsible authorising officer can justify including by decisions of the EIB and international organisations;
- (d) they are not in compliance with their obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions or the payment of taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which they are established or with those of the country of the responsible authorising officer or those of the country where the grant agreement is to be performed;
- (e) they or persons having powers or representation, decision making or control over them have been the subject of a judgment which has the force of res judicata for fraud, corruption,

- involvement in a criminal organisation, money laundering or any other illegal activity, where such an illegal activity is detrimental to the Union' financial interests;
- (f) they are currently subject to an administrative penalty referred to in Article 109(1) of the Financial Regulation.

6.2 Exclusion from award

Applicants will not be granted financial assistance if, in the course of the grant award procedure, they:

- (a) are subject to a conflict of interests;
- (b) are guilty of misrepresentation in supplying the information required by the Agency as a condition of participation in the grant award procedure, or fail to supply this information;
- (c) find themselves in one of the situations of exclusion referred to in the above section 6.1.

Administrative and financial penalties may be imposed on applicants who are guilty of misrepresentation or are found to have seriously failed to meet their contractual obligations under a previous grant award procedure.

6.3 Support documents

Applicants for a grant exceeding EUR 60.000 must sign a declaration on their honour certifying that they are not in one of the situations referred to in the above sections 6.1. and 6.2, filling in the relevant form attach to the application form accompanying the call for proposals and available at http://ec.europa.eu/culture/media/fundings/creative-europe/call_8_en.htm

7. SELECTION CRITERIA

Applicant must have stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain their activity throughout the period during which the action is being carried out or the year for which the grant is awarded and to participate in its funding. They must have the professional competencies and qualifications required to complete the proposed action or work programme.

Applicants must submit a declaration on their honour, completed and signed, attesting to their status as a legal person and to their financial and operational capacity to complete the proposed activities

7.1. Operational Capacity

In order to permit an assessment of their operational capacity, organisations applying for a grant above EUR 60,000 must submit, together with their applications:

- the Curriculum Vitae of the Managing Director of the company;
- the Curriculum Vitae of the Director of the work;
- a presentation of the activities of the company over the last five years.

7.2. Financial Capacity

Applicants must have stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain their activity throughout the period during which the action is being carried out or the year for which the grant is awarded and to participate in its funding. The applicants' financial capacity will be assessed on the basis of the following supporting documents to be submitted with the application:

- a) Low value grants (\leq EUR 60 000):
- a declaration on their honour

b) Grants > EUR 60 000:

- a declaration on their honour
- the financial statements (including the balance sheet, the profit and loss accounts and the annexes) of the last two financial years for which the accounts have been closed
- financial capacity form provided for in the application form, filled in with the relevant statutory accounting figures, in order to calculate the ratios as detailed in the form.

c) Grants for an action > EUR 750 000:

- an audit report produced by an approved external auditor certifying the accounts for the last financial year available.

In the event of an application grouping several applicants, the above thresholds shall apply to each applicant.

On the basis of the documents submitted, if the Agency considers that financial capacity is not satisfactory, it may:

- request further information;
- propose a grant agreement without pre-financing;
- propose a grant agreement without pre-financing but an interim payment based on expenses already occurred;
- propose a grant agreement with a pre-financing covered by a bank guarantee (see section 9.2 below);
- reject the application.

8. AWARD CRITERIA

Eligible applications will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

	Criteria	Definitions	Max. Weighting
1	Relevance and European added-value	Potential for European and international distribution of the project	30
2	Quality of the content and activities	Quality of the project and the European dimension and financing of the project	30
3	Dissemination of project results	Quality of the distribution and marketing strategy	30
4	Quality of the project team	Experience, potential and adequacy of the production and creative team	10

The criterion "Potential for European and international distribution" is scored as follows⁴:

	For works from France, Germany, Italy, Spain and United Kingdom	For works from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Norway, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland	For works from Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Lichtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia
3 broadcasters from 3 different countries participating in the MEDIA Sub-programme	1-10 points	10-15 points	15-20 points
At least 4 broadcasters from 4 different countries (of which at least 3 from countries participating in the MEDIA Sub-programme)	10-30 points	15-30 points	20-30 points

Automatic Award criteria

	Description	Extra points
	A project targeted for young audience ⁵	5
	A project intended for co-production with a producer from a country participating in the MEDIA Sub-programme which does not have a common official language	5
	An applicant company established in a country with low production capacity ⁶	5

⁴ The application of this grid is subject to the condition of fulfilment of the conditions set out in section 5.2 Eligible countries.

⁵ Young audience is intended up to 16 years old.

⁶ All MEDIA countries with the exception of France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom.

9. FUNDING CONDITIONS

An EU grant is an incentive to carry out activities that would not be possible without the support of the European Union. It is based on the principle of co-financing. The EU grant supplements the applicant organisation's own financial involvement and/or any national, regional or private support it may have obtained.

Acceptance of an application by the Agency does not constitute an undertaking to award a grant equal to the amount requested by the beneficiary. Furthermore, under no circumstances may the amount awarded exceed the amount requested.

The award of a grant does not establish an entitlement for subsequent years.

9.1 Contractual provisions and payment procedures

In the event of definitive approval by the Agency, a Grant Agreement, drawn up in euro and detailing the conditions and level of funding will be sent to the beneficiary.

The 2 copies of the original Grant Agreement must be signed by the beneficiary and returned to the Agency immediately. The Agency will sign it last.

A pre-financing payment of 60% will be transferred to the beneficiary within 30 days counting from the written confirmation of the start of principal photography/production. Pre-financing is intended to provide the beneficiary with a float.

The account or sub-account indicated by the beneficiary must make it possible to identify the funds transferred by the Agency.

The Agency will establish the amount of the final payment to be made to the beneficiary on the basis of the final report.

9.2 Guarantee

In the event that the applicant's financial capacity is not satisfactory, a pre-financing guarantee for up to the same amount as the pre-financing may be requested in order to limit the financial risks linked to the pre-financing payment.

The financial guarantee, in euro, shall be provided by an approved bank or financial institution established in one of the Member State of the European Union. When the beneficiary is established in a third country, the authorising officer responsible may agree that a bank or financial institution established in that third country may provide the guarantee if he considers that the bank or financial institution offers equivalent security and characteristics as those offered by a bank or financial institution established in a Member State. Amounts blocked in bank accounts shall not be accepted as financial guarantees.

The guarantee may be replaced by a joint and several guarantees by a third party or by a joint guarantee of the beneficiaries of an action who are parties to the same grant agreement

The guarantee shall be released as the pre-financing is gradually cleared against interim payments or payments of balances to the beneficiary, in accordance with the conditions laid down in the grant agreement.

9.3 Double financing

Applicants may receive only one grant for action for the same application from the budget of the European Union.

To ensure this, they must give details in their application form of any other grant requests which they have submitted or intend to submit to the European Institutions stating in each case, the budgetary year, the budget heading, the European Union programme and the amount requested

9.4 Funding method

9.4.1 Lump sum grant: Not applicable

9.4.2 Budget-based financing

✓ General provisions

Budget-based grants are calculated on the basis of a detailed estimated budget. The budget attached to the application form must be complete and in balance, i.e. total estimated expenditure must equal total revenue, including the Agency grant application. The budget must indicate clearly the costs that are eligible for EU funding. The EU grant is limited to a maximum co-financing rate of 12.50% of the total eligible costs or EUR 500.000, whichever is the lower, for drama and animation works, 10% of the eligible costs or EUR 1.000.000, whichever is the lower for TV drama series and 20% of the total eligible costs or EUR 300.000, whichever is the lower, for documentaries.

The budget must be drawn up in euros. Applicants not based in the euro zone must use the exchange rate published in the Official Journal of the European Union on the date of the publication of this call for proposals. This exchange rate is available from the Creative Europe Desks and from the web site of the European Commission at <http://ec.europa.eu/budget/inforeuro>).

Part of the total estimated eligible expenses must be financed from sources other than the Union grant. Applicants must indicate the sources and amounts of any other funding received or applied for in the same financial year for the implementation of the project or work programme concerned.

The beneficiary shall supply evidence of the co-financing provided, either by way of own resources, or in the form of financial transfers from third parties. The applicants shall provide an explicit undertaking from each co-financing organisation to provide the amount of funding stated in the grant application for the operation.

The allocated amount may not exceed the amount requested.

EU grants may not have the purpose or effect of producing a profit within the framework of the action of the beneficiary. **Profit shall be defined as a surplus of receipts over the eligible costs incurred by the beneficiary, when the request is made for payment of the balance.** In this respect, where a profit is made, the Agency shall be entitled to recover a percentage of the profit corresponding to the Union contribution to the eligible costs actually incurred by the beneficiary to carry out the action.⁷

✓ Eligible costs

Eligible costs of the action are costs actually incurred by the beneficiary, which meet the following criteria:

- they are incurred during the duration of the action as specified in the grant agreement, with the exception of costs relating to final reports and certificates on the action/work programme's financial statements and underlying accounts.

The period of eligibility of costs will start 6 months before the date of submission of the application and end 24 months (or 36 months in case of series) after that date.

⁷ This provision does not apply for grants which are lower than or equal to €60 000.

- they are connected with the subject of the agreement and they are indicated in the estimated overall budget of the action/work programme;
- they are necessary for the implementation of the action/ work programme which is the subject of the grant;
- they are identifiable and verifiable, in particular being recorded in the accounting records of the beneficiary and determined according to the applicable accounting standards of the country where the beneficiary is established and according to the usual cost-accounting practices of the beneficiary;
- they comply with the requirements of applicable tax and social legislation;
- they are reasonable, justified, and comply with the requirements of sound financial management, in particular regarding economy and efficiency.

The beneficiary's internal accounting and auditing procedures must permit direct reconciliation of the costs and revenue declared in respect of the action/project with the corresponding accounting statements and supporting documents.

Eligible direct costs:

The eligible direct costs for the action are those costs which, with due regard for the conditions of eligibility set out above, are identifiable as specific costs directly linked to the performance of the action and which can therefore be booked to it directly.

The applicant company has to indicate in the application form if in the framework of a co-production contract, costs linked to the action are incurred and/or invoiced to a co-producer and if these costs have to be included in the eligible budget. In this case, the information about the co-producer will have to be submitted and in case of selection the co-producer will be part of the agreement as a co-beneficiary. Only European independent production companies (see section 5.3) may be co-beneficiaries and therefore bring eligible costs to the action.

Eligible indirect costs (administrative costs):

- a flat-rate amount, not exceeding 7% of the eligible direct costs of the action, is eligible under indirect costs, representing the beneficiary's general administrative costs which can be regarded as chargeable to the action.

Indirect costs may not include costs entered under another budget heading.

Applicants's attention is drawn to the fact that in the case of organisations receiving an operating grant, indirect costs are no longer eligible under specific actions.

- ✓ Ineligible costs

The following costs shall not be considered eligible:

- return on capital,
- debt and debt service charges,
- provisions for losses or debts,
- interest owed,
- doubtful debts,
- exchange losses,
- costs of transfer from the Agency charged by the bank of the beneficiary,
- costs declared by the beneficiary and covered by another action receiving a European Union grant,
- excessive or reckless expenditure,
- contributions in kind,
- expenditure for partners from countries not participating in the programme or not being co-beneficiaries of the agreement.

Applicants are invited to pay particular attention to the following ineligible costs, which must not figure on the eligible cost column of the budget:

- Costs incurred before the start of the eligibility period
- Development costs that have been co-financed by MEDIA Development. (The development budget presented to MEDIA Development is ineligible.)
- Costs incurred by a co-producer, who will not be a co-beneficiary of an agreement in case of selection
- Indirect producers' fees and contingencies
- Contributions in kind (such as professional/industry credits and deferred salaries). Production services offered by the broadcasters are not considered as being in kind.

✓ Calculation of the final award

The Agency will establish the final amount of the grant on the basis of the following documents:

- a final report providing details of the implementation and results of the action;
- the final financial statement of costs actually incurred.

In cases of grants for an action of less than EUR 750 000, the beneficiary is required to submit, in support of the final payment, a “Report of Factual Findings on the Final Financial Report - Type I” produced by an approved auditor or in case of public bodies, by a competent and independent public office.

The procedure and the format to be followed by an approved auditor or in case of public bodies, by a competent and independent public officer, are detailed in the following “Guidance Notes”:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/about/documents/guidance-notes-audit-type-i_11.2012_en.pdf

The use of the report format set by the “Guidance Notes” is compulsory.

In cases of grants for an action of EUR 750 000 or more, when the cumulative amounts of request for payment is at least EUR 325 000, the beneficiary is required to submit, in support of the final payment, a “Report of Factual Findings on the Final Financial Report - Type II” produced by an approved auditor or in case of public bodies, by a competent and independent public officer. The certificate shall certify, in accordance with a methodology approved by the Agency, that the costs declared by the beneficiary in the financial statements on which the request for payment is based are real, accurately recorded and eligible in accordance with the grant agreement.

The procedure and the format to be followed by an approved auditor or in case of public bodies, by a competent and independent public officer, are detailed in the following “Guidance Notes”:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/about/documents/guidance-notes-audit-type-ii_11.2012_en.pdf

The use of the report format set by the “Guidance Notes” is compulsory.

The calculation of the final grant amount by the Agency is based on a detailed final financial statement of the beneficiary, accompanied by supporting documentation for the incurred expenditure. If the eligible costs actually incurred by the beneficiary are lower than anticipated, the Agency will apply the rate of co-financing stated in the grant agreement to the expenditure actually incurred. The Agency also reserves the right to reduce the amount of the grant if the organisation has not fully implemented the agreed project/work programme.

Where applicable, the beneficiary will be required to reimburse any excess amounts paid by the Agency in the form of pre-financing.

10. SUB-CONTRACTING AND AWARD OF PROCUREMENT CONTRACT

Where the implementation of the action or the work programme requires the award of procurement contracts (implementation contracts), the beneficiary must award the contract to the bid offering best value for money or the lowest price (as appropriate), avoiding conflicts of interests and retain the documentation for the event of an audit.

Sub-contracting, i.e. the externalisation of specific tasks or activities which form part of the action/work programme as described in the proposal and which cannot be performed by the beneficiary itself must satisfy the conditions applicable to any implementation contract (as specified above) and in addition to them the following conditions:

- it may only cover the implementation of a limited part of the action;
- it must be justified having regard to the nature of the action and what is necessary for its implementation;
- it must be clearly stated in the proposal or prior written authorisation from the Agency must be obtained.

11. PUBLICITY, COMMUNICATION AND DISSEMINATION

11.1 Publicity

All grants awarded in the course of a financial year must be published on the Internet site of the European Union institutions during the first half of the year following the closure of the budget year in respect of which they were awarded. The information may also be published using any other appropriate medium, including the Official Journal of the European Union.

The beneficiary authorises the Agency to publish the following information in any form and medium, including via the Internet:

- the beneficiary's name and locality,
- the amount awarded
-the nature and purpose of the grant.

Upon a reasoned and duly substantiated request by the beneficiary, the Agency may agree to forgo such publicity, if disclosure of the information indicated above would threaten the safety of the beneficiaries or harm their business interests.

Beneficiaries must clearly acknowledge the European Union's contribution in all publications or in conjunction with activities for which the grant is used. The name and logo of the programme must appear on all publications, posters, programmes and other products created in relation to the co-financed action.

The logo of the Creative Europe Programme can be downloaded from the following address:

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education_culture/promo/creative-europe/eps/eps.zip

11.2 Communication and dissemination

To maximise impact, projects should have a clear and strong strategy for communication and dissemination of their activities and results, and applicants must provide enough time and resources to communicate and interact appropriately with peers, audiences and local communities as appropriate.

The Commission together with the Agency may identify good practices and prepare relevant dissemination materials to be shared within and across all participating countries and beyond.

Data and results from projects will be made freely available to be used by stakeholders, policy makers and others in a wide range of ways.

Beneficiaries may be required to attend and to participate in events organised by the European Commission or the Agency to share their experience with other participants and/or policy makers.

12. DATA PROTECTION

All personal data (such as names, addresses, CVs, etc.) will be processed in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the European Union institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data.⁸

Unless marked as optional, the applicant's replies to the questions in the application form are necessary to evaluate and further process the grant application in accordance with the specifications of the call for proposals. Personal data will be processed solely for that purpose by the department or Unit responsible for the Union grant programme concerned (entity acting as data controller). Personal data may be transferred on a need to know basis to third parties involved in the evaluation of applications or in the grant management procedure, without prejudice of transfer to the bodies in charge of monitoring and inspection tasks in accordance with European Union law. The applicant has the right of access to, and to rectify, the data concerning him or her. For any question relating to these data, please contact the Controller. Applicants have the right of recourse to the European Data Protection Supervisor at any time. A detailed Privacy statement, including contact information, is available on Agency's website:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/about/documents/calls_gen_conditions/eacea_grants_privacy_statement.pdf

Applicants and, if they are legal entities, persons who have powers of representation, decision-making or control over them, are informed that, should they be in one of the situations mentioned in:

- the Commission Decision of 16.12.2008 on the Early Warning System (EWS) for the use of authorising officers of the Commission and the executive agencies (OJ, L 344, 20.12.2008, p. 125), or
- the Commission Regulation of 17.12.2008 on the Central Exclusion Database – CED (OJ L 344, 20.12.2008, p. 12),

their personal details (name, given name if natural person, address, legal form and name and given name of the persons with powers of representation, decision-making or control, if legal person) may be registered in the EWS only or both in the EWS and CED, and communicated to the persons and entities listed in the above-mentioned Decision and Regulation, in relation to the award or the execution of a procurement contract or a grant agreement or decision.

13. PROCEDURE FOR THE SELECTION OF PROPOSALS

13.1 Publication

Following the adoption the Annual Work Programmes, the Calls for proposals will be published in the Official Journal of the European Union and will be accessible on the MEDIA Sub-programme website at the following address:

http://ec.europa.eu/culture/media/fundings/creative-europe/call_8_en.htm

13.2 Registration in the Participant Portal

Before submitting an electronic application, applicants and partners will have to register their organisation in the Education, Audiovisual, Culture, Citizenship and Volunteering Participant Portal and receive a Participant Identification Code (PIC). The PIC will be requested in the application form.

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he Participant Portal is the tool through which all legal and financial information related to organisations will be managed. Information on how to register can be found in the portal under the following address: <http://ec.europa.eu/education/participants/portal>

⁸ Official Journal L 8, 12.1.2001.

The tool also allows applicants to upload different documents related to their organisation. These documents have to be uploaded once and will not be requested again for subsequent applications by the same organisation.

Details on the supporting document that need to be uploaded in the portal can be found on the following link: http://ec.europa.eu/culture/media/fundings/creative-europe/call_8_en.htm.

13.3 Submission of the grant application

An online application system has been set up. Grant applications must be drawn up in one of the official EU languages, using the online form (eForm) specifically designed for this purpose. To facilitate the assessment of the application, an English or French translation of the documents relevant to the assessment of the project must be submitted.

The eForm can be obtained on the Internet at the following address:

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

Proposals must be submitted by the deadline mentioned in the call for proposals and in Section "3. Timetable" of the present Guidelines **before 12:00 CET/CEST (Midday, Brussels time)**, using the online application form.

Please note that no other method of submission of an application will be accepted. Applications submitted in any other way will be automatically rejected. No exceptions will be made.

Make sure that you have officially submitted your electronic application form and that you have received an e-mail acknowledging receipt of your submission with a project reference number.

Applicants shall ensure that all the documents requested and mentioned in the eForm are provided electronically.

In addition, a set of compulsory annexes that cannot be submitted online have to be sent to the Agency by post.

The package must include the copy of the acknowledgment of receipt of the application, the paper annexes and a CD-Rom or USB stick containing all these documents (please see details in the Annexes and application guide).

The package must indicate:

the name of the company:

the title of the project:

the online form confirmation number:

Address to which the documents must be sent:

Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency
Creative Europe Programme (2014–2020)
MEDIA Sub-programme – Reference of Call for Proposals
Avenue du Bourget 1
BOUR 3/50
BE – 1049 Brussels
Belgium

No changes to the dossier can be made after the deadline for the submission of applications. However, if there is a need to clarify certain aspects, the Agency may contact the applicant for this purpose.

Only applications that fulfil the eligibility criteria will be considered for a grant. If an application is deemed ineligible, a letter indicating the reasons will be sent to the applicant.

13.4 Evaluation procedure

The eligible proposals will be ranked according to the award criteria defined and weighted in section 8 of the present Guidelines. Within the limit of the available budget, actions obtaining the highest scores will be selected.

The assessment is made solely on the basis of the documents sent by the relevant deadline. Nevertheless, the Agency reserves the right to request additional information from the applicant.

13.5 Award decision

Only after completion of the procedure mentioned above, is the selection process finalised and the award decision adopted by the Agency.

Applicants will be informed of the results of the selection within two weeks of the date of adoption of the award decision.

Unsuccessful applicants will receive a letter stating the reasons why their application was not selected.

Once applicants informed the list of selected proposals will be published on the websites of the Commission/Agency: http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/creative-europe/selection-results_en

13.6 Rules applicable

Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p.1).

Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p.1).

Regulation (EU) No 1295/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing the Creative Europe Programme (2014 to 2020) concerning the implementation of a support Programme for the European creative sector (Creative Europe) (OJ L 347/221, 20 December 2013).

13.7 Contacts

For any further information please contact your Creative Europe desk:
http://ec.europa.eu/culture/creative-europe/creative-europe-desks_en.htm

Contact within the EACEA:
EACEA-MEDIA-TV@ec.europa.eu

If you encounter a technical problem in relation to the e-Form, please ensure that you contact the HelpDesk well in advance of the deadline for submission: eacea-helpdesk@ec.europa.eu