
WORK PROGRAMME FOR GRANTS

of the Government of the Republic of Serbia, represented by the Ministry of Finance, Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

1. Basic act and/or Financing source

Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 of 17 July 2006 establishing an Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)

National Programme for the Republic of Serbia under Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) – Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for 2013

2. Objectives of the programme, priorities for 2015 and expected results

a) European Partnership with Municipalities

The overall objective is to contribute to sustainable development of underdeveloped areas of Serbia by creating more favourable environment for business and infrastructure growth, thus increasing employability and social inclusion.

The specific objective is to improve local governance and the conditions for business and infrastructure development by increasing and/or strengthening planning and management capacities, and advancing business enabling environment, as well as enhancing implementation of social inclusion and employment policies.

Expected results:

- Improved infrastructure which will contribute to better living conditions of citizens;
- Improved infrastructure which will establish conditions for development of new businesses and attraction of investments.

b) Development of Effective Community Services in the Area of Education and Social Welfare at the Local Level

The overall objective is to contribute to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth for the Republic of Serbia by building a more knowledgeable and skilled labour force, improving social protection policies and promoting the social inclusion of vulnerable populations, enabling greater opportunities for a better standard of living in alignment with the targets set forth by the Europe 2020 Strategy.

The specific objective is to advance social inclusion and reintegration of marginalized and vulnerable populations through enhancing education and social welfare measures and effective community services, with particular focus on drop-out reduction, family care and access to justice for children.

Expected results:

Social inclusion and poverty reduction of vulnerable and multiply disadvantaged groups with particular emphasis on children, the elderly, persons with disabilities and income support users through:

- Support to social inclusion of the most vulnerable and multiply disadvantaged groups provided through high quality and innovative community-based social services and social business initiatives;
- Social welfare system strengthened and mechanisms developed to ensure the highest quality and cost-effectiveness in providing social services and financial support, and quality protection of children guaranteeing two systems, justice and social welfare, act 'in the best interests of the child;
- Inter-sectorial measures for decreasing early school leaving and drop-out prevention designed and implemented at local level;
- Capacities of stakeholders in the fields of education and social protection strengthened to plan, implement and monitor drop-out prevention measures at central and local level.

c) Creating a Comprehensive Research and Development (R&D) Collaboration

The overall objective is to strengthen the role of public sector in creating preconditions for modernisation and growth of Serbian economy by focusing, among others, on R&D and innovation capacities and cooperation. Also to create a strategic framework for R&D and innovation, and promoting cooperation between research institutions and private sector in order to build research and strengthen SME (Small and Medium Enterprises) capacities to innovate and increase (business) investments in R&D.

The specific objective of this project is to increase investment in research and innovation.

Expected results:

Enhanced system for supporting innovation and technology transfer through:

- Adopted and implemented technology transfer practices by the Innovation Support Organizations (ISO) and/or R&D organisations;
- Technologies transferred by R&D organizations;
- New products or services developed.

d) Support to the National Employment Service (NES) Employment Programme

The overall objective is to contribute to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth for the Republic of Serbia by building a more knowledgeable and skilled labour force, improving social protection policies and promoting the social inclusion of vulnerable populations, enabling greater opportunities for a better standard of living in alignment with the targets set forth by the Europe 2020 Strategy.

The specific objective is to develop a system that significantly contributes to the efficient and effective matching of supply and demand and overall functioning of the labour market, with special emphasis on the inclusion of the people with disabilities (PWDs).

Expected results:

The effectiveness and inclusiveness of employment services increased through the:

- Support to the NES Employment programme by delivery of trainings and subsidies for creation of new jobs and self-employment.

e) Implementation of durable housing solutions, accompanying measures at hosting communities and physical infrastructure improvement

The overall objective is to contribute to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth for the Republic of Serbia by building a more knowledgeable and skilled labour force, improving social protection policies and promoting the social inclusion of vulnerable populations, enabling greater opportunities for a better standard of living in alignment with the targets set forth by the Europe 2020 Strategy.

The specific objective is to support the implementation of the Strategy for Improvement of the Status of Roma in the Republic of Serbia through the further development and realisation of sustainable and inclusive models for resolving housing and improvement of physical infrastructure in selected Roma settlements.

Expected results:

- Improved living and housing conditions among the Roma population presently residing in informal settlements;
- Improved infrastructural and housing conditions in Roma settlements in 20 pilot municipalities previously selected and supported in regulatory preparations within the IPA 2012 Sector fiche for Social Development (measure 5);
- Improved capacities of Roma civil society organisations to participate in planning and implementing sustainable housing models and local action plans in a total of 40 pilot municipalities.

3. Eligibility conditions

- a) **European Partnership with Municipalities** - Call for proposals.
- b) **Development of Effective Community Services in the Area of Education and Social Welfare at the Local Level** - Call for proposals.
- c) **Creating a Comprehensive Research and Development (R&D) Collaboration** - Direct award.
- d) **Support to the National Employment Service (NES) Employment Programme** - Direct award.
- e) **Implementation of durable housing solutions, accompanying measures at hosting communities and physical infrastructure improvement** - Call for proposals.

4. Selection and award criteria

The evaluation will be carried out in accordance with the procedures set out in the Practical Guide to contract procedures for EU external actions.

5. Maximum rate of European Union financing

- a) **European Partnership with Municipalities**

The maximum rate of Community co-financing is 90% of eligible expenditure.

b) Development of Effective Community Services in the Area of Education and Social Welfare at the Local Level

The maximum rate of Community co-financing is 90% of eligible expenditure.

c) Creating a Comprehensive Research and Development (R&D) Collaboration

The maximum rate of Community co-financing is 54.5% of eligible expenditure.

d) Support to the National Employment Service (NES) Employment Programme

The maximum rate of Community co-financing is 90% of eligible expenditure.

e) Implementation of durable housing solutions, accompanying measures at hosting communities and physical infrastructure improvement

The maximum rate of Community co-financing is 85% of eligible expenditure.

6. Indicative time-schedule of calls for proposals

a) European Partnership with Municipalities

The indicative date of publication of calls for proposals falls in the 1st quarter of 2015.

b) Development of Effective Community Services in the Area of Education and Social Welfare at the Local Level

The indicative date of publication of calls for proposals falls in the 2nd quarter of 2015.

c) Creating a Comprehensive Research and Development (R&D) Collaboration

The indicative date for award of the decision falls in the 2nd quarter of 2015.

d) Support to the National Employment Service (NES) Employment Programme

The indicative date for award of the decision falls in the 4th quarter of 2015.

e) Implementation of durable housing solutions, accompanying measures at hosting communities and physical infrastructure improvement

The indicative date of publication of calls for proposals falls in the 4th quarter of 2015.

7. Indicative amount of calls for proposals

a) European Partnership with Municipalities - EUR 3,500,000

b) Development of Effective Community Services in the Area of Education and Social Welfare at the Local Level - EUR 5,500,000

c) Creating a Comprehensive Research and Development (R&D) Collaboration - EUR 4,400,000

d) Support to the National Employment Service (NES) Employment Programme - EUR 5,000,000

e) Implementation of durable housing solutions, accompanying measures at hosting communities and physical infrastructure improvement - EUR 9,500,000