

EEA FINANCIAL MECHANISM 2014-2021 GREECE
PROGRAMME II: ASYLUM & MIGRATION
CALL FOR PROPOSALS, BILATERAL INITIATIVES

The Call opened on 09/01/2023, time 9:00 (Greek Local Time)

Deadline* for proposal submission: ~~09/03/2023 time 23:59 (Greek Local Time)~~

*Extension for proposals submission: **17/03/2023 time 17:00 (Greek Local Time)**

More information

Fund Operator Email address: info@asylumandmigration-eeagrants.gr

Website: www.udi.no/eea-grants & www.asylumandmigration-eeagrants.gr

Table of content

| | |
|---|----------|
| 1. Bilateral Call | 3 |
| 2. Objective of the Call | 3 |
| 3. Eligible Applicants | 4 |
| 4. Indicative list of Activities | 4 |
| 5. Location of Initiatives | 5 |
| 6. Size of Grants | 5 |
| 7. Eligible expenses | 6 |
| 8. Period of Eligibility | 6 |
| 9. Submission of applications | 7 |
| 10. Right to appeal | 7 |
| 11. Contact Information | 7 |

1. Bilateral Call

The EEA Financial Mechanism has two overall objectives of equal importance:

- contributing to the reduction of economic and social disparities in the European Economic Area and
- strengthening bilateral relations between Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway (hereafter referred to as “the Donor States”), and each of the 15 Beneficiary States

This bilateral call aims at strengthening the relations between legal entities (including NGOs) in Greece and in the Donor States and/or international organizations. Strengthening relations, meaning enhanced cooperation and improved mutual knowledge and understanding, can include networking, cooperation, exchange, sharing and transfer of knowledge, technology, experience and best practices.

SOL CROWE & HumanRights360, is the Fund Operator (FO) for the EEA Grants Programmes “Local Development and Poverty Reduction”- Program I, and the “Asylum and Migration (Addressing urgent needs for the reception and screening of asylum seekers and for the accommodation of vulnerable groups)” - Program II. This bilateral call is announced and funded in relation to **Program II “Asylum and Migration”**, as an additional source of funding to the 16.5 million euros allocated this programme.

The call is open for legal entities, both profit and non-profit institutions registered and established in Greece or in the Donor States (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway).

This Call for applications has an allocated budget of **€ 110,000**.

Further information about the Bilateral Fund and the implementation system can be found at the website www.eeagrants.gr

The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) acting as a Donor Programme Partner (DPP) for the above mention Asylum Programme, will evaluate and select such initiatives in cooperation with the FO. The FO will be contracting the selected beneficiaries while requesting funds for their finance from the NFP (National Focal Point

The available funding will be allocated through a transparent selection procedure to initiatives proposed by the entities. For more information concerning the application process, the eligibility criteria, as well as the evaluation and selection process, kindly see the Guideline for Applicants for Bilateral Initiatives (hereafter referred to as “the Guideline”), as uploaded on the respective websites of the FO and the DPP website; www.udi.no/eea-grants

2. Objective of the Call

This Call for shall support initiatives aiming at enhancing cooperation and improved mutual knowledge and understanding between NGOs and legal entities in Greece and the Donor States **in the field of Asylum and Migration**.

The objective of Program II “Asylum and Migration” is to ensure functioning national asylum and migration management systems and to safeguard the right to seek asylum through:

- Improved quality of accommodation and other services provided in open reception centres
- Strengthened capacity of key institutions to ensure protection of vulnerable asylum seekers, particularly unaccompanied minors
- Improved operational procedures and capacity of the Greek Asylum Service and Appeal Committees
- Orderly and humane voluntary return of migrants or vulnerable groups

Therefore, priorities for initiatives for this call include strengthening the capacity and effectiveness of Greek public and private legal entities, including the exchange of good practices between them and entities in the Donor States. Particular emphasis will be given to areas of concern, such as civic engagement and partnerships with local authorities, promotion and protection of human rights, watchdog and advocacy roles of the civil society sector, empowerment of vulnerable groups (especially unaccompanied minor asylum seekers).

Initiatives related to the situation of Ukrainian refugees in Greece are also welcomed.

Each supported initiative must be aligned with the expected results described in the Guideline.

3. Eligible Applicants

Applicants must comply with the general conditions of the Programme, as set forth in the Guideline.

Apart from these, applications must also meet the following specific conditions:

Bilateral Initiative applicants & partners must be legal entities registered and established in Greece or in the Donor States. Eligible promoters could be both profit and non-profit institutions in Greece or in Norway, Liechtenstein or Iceland.

- At least one entity from one of the Donor States, relevant to achieving the cooperation objectives, must be involved in any initiative.
- Each entity, either Applicant or Partner under the present call, can receive funding for up to two (2) Bilateral Cooperation Initiatives.

A partnership database (<https://ngonorway.org/partners/>) has been established by the Norwegian Helsinki Committee to facilitate the search for potential partners. Potential applicants are advised to register and add a brief description about their organization and search for potential partners among interested Norwegian institutions, NGOs, municipalities, companies, and other relevant bodies.

4. Indicative list of Activities

The proposed initiatives may consist, in general terms, of all activities aiming to deepen the contacts and enhance the collaboration between Greek and Donor State legal entities.

It is assessed that searching for partners in the Donor States (prior to, or during the preparation of a project proposal, including the development of such partnerships and the preparation of an application for a donor partnership project) is a contribution to bilateral cooperation in itself. Activities such as short-term international exchanges of experiences and know-how, participation in conferences, seminars and short training courses, to foster communication amongst NGOs and other entities in Greece and the donor states are eligible for funding under the Call for Bilateral initiatives Cooperation between beneficiary and donor state entities will be facilitated through the FO.

An indicative non-exhaustive list of eligible activities:

- visits aiming at deepening partnerships across sectors and through specific common activities
- networking, exchange, sharing and transfer of knowledge, technology, experience and best practice
- visits by NGO experts / experts from Donor States entities to Greece for training / coaching purposes – and vice versa
- attendance or organization of conferences or workshops with a concrete impact on bilateral partnerships and relations
- technical cooperation and exchange of experts
- capacity building and short-term training, for instance digital/physical workshops
- working visits related to ongoing projects
- any other activities aiming at strengthening bilateral relations between eligible entities in the Donor States and Greece.

5. Location of Initiatives

The activities foreseen in the Bilateral Cooperation Initiatives may take place in Greece and/or in the Donor States (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway). In well justified cases bilateral cooperation initiatives may take place in other locations. Taken into account the current situation with possible travel restrictions, digital interaction between countries may be accepted in well justified cases or a hybrid frame of implementation.

6. Size of Grants

The total amount for funding under this Call is € 110,000.

Initiatives can be supported up to a maximum rate of 100% of the eligible costs, with a maximum grant of €15,000 per application.

7. Eligible expenses

Eligible expenses are those actually incurred by the bilateral initiative Promoter or Partner, which meet the following criteria:

- 1) they are incurred between the first and final dates of eligibility of a bilateral initiative as specified in the bilateral initiative contract. The end date for the eligibility period of the Bilateral Fund is 30 October 2024.
- 2) they are connected with the subject of the bilateral initiative and they are indicated in the estimated overall budget of the initiative
- 3) they are proportionate and necessary for the implementation of the bilateral initiative
- 4) they must be used for the sole purpose of achieving the objective(s) of the bilateral initiative and its expected outcome(s), in a manner consistent with the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness
- 5) they are identifiable and verifiable, through being recorded in the accounting records of the promoter and determined according to the applicable accounting standards and generally accepted accounting principles.

Having regard to the principle of proportionality, travel costs, including subsistence allowance, may be calculated as a lump sum. For details of lump sums please refer to the instructions.

Indicative types of eligible expenses: the following expenses are eligible for funding, under the call for Bilateral Cooperation Initiatives. The list is indicative and non-exhaustive:

- a) registration fees and travel costs for participation in conferences, seminars, courses, meetings and workshops, as well as the acquisition of support materials needed for this purpose
- b) travel costs concerning working visits abroad, to facilitate collaboration and exchange of information between Greek NGOs and other entities and entities in the Donor States
- c) travel and salary costs, for expert exchanges
- d) costs of organizing conferences, seminars, courses, meetings and workshops
- e) publicity and communication activities
- f) costs of purchasing data (statistical or otherwise) essential for the preparation of projects
- g) digital

8. Period of Eligibility

The final eligibility date for the selected projects is the 30 October 2024. The eligible time period for relevant expenses will be defined in the bilateral initiative contract. Only expenses incurred from the entry into force of the bilateral contract to its end date will be eligible.

9. Submission of applications

This call shall remain open **from 09/01/2023 until 17/03/2023 time 17:00 (Greek Local Time)**. The proposal shall be submitted both in English and Greek. Any other documentation written in any other language other than Greek shall be officially translated in English.

Submission of applications is made electronically, via a link provided in FO's website, under the Bilateral Cooperation Initiatives section. After verification of the applicants' email, the applicants shall upload all required documents. Applicants must fill in the Application and Budget Form as provided on FO's site and submit it together with all supporting documents.

Supporting official legal documentation should be sent along with the application. In addition, physical copies stamped by the relevant authorities should be submitted to the FO only by the successful applicants.

Please refer to the Guideline for more information and clarifications related to various topics such as eligibility criteria; eligibility of costs; excluded costs and selection and evaluation criteria.

Important: Only completed applications will be considered for evaluation and selection.



TEMPLATES OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PROJECTS:

Template No1 Application of the project

Template No2 Budget of the project

Template No3 Partnership declaration Template

10. Right to appeal

Candidates whose applications will be rejected for not complying with the administrative and eligibility criteria will be informed directly by email and they have the right to appeal within five (5) working days. The right of appeal may be exercised only once per applicant. The appeal must be fully justified and submitted electronically via email to the email address appeals@asylumandmigration-eeagrants.gr, no later than 20:00 Greek local time, of the 5th (fifth) day upon the receipt of the letter of rejection. The appeal will be considered by UDI, after having received a justification of the non-compliance decision from the Fund Operator. Applicants are informed of the result of their appeal within ten (10) working days, after the submission of the appeal. The decision on the appeal will be irrevocable.

11. Contact Information

Questions related to the present call, must be sent by email to the address below:

Fund Operator Email address: info@asylumandmigration-eeagrants.gr

Subject: Questions - Bilateral Initiatives

Questions and answers will be published on the Program website. It is therefore advisable to consult the website regularly. No individual replies will be given to questions.

For more information visit our website: www.asylumandmigration-eeagrants.gr, where you can find all information and documentation relating to this Call, including the Application Form, Budget Form, Partnership declaration Template, and the Guideline.