

Frequently Asked Questions

Question 1: Can a foreign organization apply in this call for proposals as an Applicant or as a Co-applicant?

Answer 1: Referring to the Guidelines for Applicants, section 2.1.1. Eligibility of Applicants, in order to be eligible to apply for a grant under this call, the applicant must:

- (1) Be legal person;
- (2) Be a civil society organisation, registered as an NPO, according to the Albanian legislation;
- (3) Be established and acting in the territory of Albania;

The same criteria apply to the co-applicant, if any.

Question 2: Regarding co-financing; can a foreign organization contribute partially or fully the amount of 5%?

Answer 2: Yes, co-financing of 5% (partly or fully) can also be provided by a foreign organization. Payments within the project, as part of this 5%, should be carried out by the account of the implementing or co-implementing organization.

Question 3: Is there a property guarantee in terms of administration? Is the risk of using property from an organization assessed for the next five years?

Answer 3: The three available properties of the project CAUSE – “Use of Confiscated Property for Social Experiments” are under the administration of the Agency for the Administration of Sequestered and Confiscated Properties (AAPSK). By order of the Minister of Finance, the decision-making authority for the confiscated property of organized crime, Order no. 4, dated 8.5.2017, and Order No. 306, date 12.11.2018 "For the transfer of confiscated assets available to CAUSE Project - Use of Confiscated Property for Social Experiments", these properties are made available to the project, to be used free of charge by NPOs for a period of 5 years.

C.A.U.S.E.- Confiscated Assets used for Social Experimentation Project

Question 4: Will the organization be able to invest in property premises during project implementation?

Answer 4: Referring to the Guidelines for Applicants, **section 2.2. Eligibility Costs, Section: Eligible Costs**, *“They are necessary for the implementation of the Project (including reconstruction costs for the infrastructure rehabilitation of the confiscated assets and purchase of equipment)”*, the organization may invest in confiscated property during the project.

All three confiscated properties subject to this call for applications need infrastructure interventions, so applicants are encouraged to include project activities and costs that aim at infrastructural renovation that will serve the project implementation based on their real estimations.

Question 5: What happens to the property after the completion of the project? Can it continue to be in use by the organization?

Answer 5: If the project will guarantee sustainability, implementing organizations have the opportunity to submit to the AAPSK, in accordance to the procedures of the Agency, a request to extend the contract for another period.

Question 6: Will the audit costs be included in the project?

Answer 6: Yes, audit costs by an external auditor **should be** included in the project. **Budget Line 5.3. Expenditure verification/Audit**, in the Call Budget format for Applications.

Question 7: What should be the maximum amount for administrative and human resources expenditures in the budget?

Answer 7: The amount foreseen for administrative expenditure in the budget should not exceed 5% of the total eligible direct costs. **Budget Line 8. Administrative costs (up to 5% of the total direct eligible costs of the Action)** in the **Budget Form for Applications**.

Human Resources Expenditures should be consistent with the number of staff provided for project implementation, engagement and timing for each of the staff members in accordance with project activities, and staff remuneration. The forecasts should be realistic, in line with the experience and level of previous staff salaries proposed for the same or similar positions.

C.A.U.S.E.- Confiscated Assets used for Social Experimentation Project

Question 8: Will traineeship grants be considered as "Financial support to third parties", so an ineligible cost?

Answer 8: Referring to the Guidelines for Applicants, **section 2.1.2. Eligibility of Operations, Financial Support to Third Parties**, "*...Applicants may not provide financial support / sub-granting to third parties...*" in any form whatsoever.

Question 9: Where do I find information of the confiscated properties?

Answer 9: More detailed information on the confiscated assets from the organized crime that will be used for the purposes of this Call for Proposals is attached as **Annex F "Information on confiscated assets"**.