Call for inter-city grants

Within the framework of the Intercultural Cities programme

2021

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| **Title** | Grants for the piloting/implementation/development of ICC tools and methodologies through bilateral/multilateral international cooperation |
| **Programme** | Intercultural Cities |
| **Type of contract** | Grant agreement |
| **Deadline for submission of tenders/offers** | 03 April 2021 |
| **Email for submission of tenders/offers** | ivana.dalessandro@coe.int; evgeni.radev@coe.int ; Yann.privat@coe.int  |
| **Expected starting date of execution** | May to November 2021 |

1. **Background**

Intercultural Cities is a capacity building programme that supports cities across Europe and beyond to design, implement and evaluate intercultural integration and diversity management strategies.

In particular, the programme helps cities in:

* Setting up a governance model empowering all members of the community, regardless of their origin or status, to develop their potential and contribute to local prosperity;
* Managing diversity as an advantage for the whole society;
* Creating opportunities for deep interaction between people of different origins and backgrounds;
* Making the public space and services accessible to all, ending the vicious circle of exclusion which goes hand in hand with ethnic segregation;
* Breaking the walls between diverse groups, building trust, and ensuring community cohesion;
* Empowering intercultural innovators in public institutions and civil society;
* Building positive political discourse and narratives to accompany public policies, celebrating the cosmopolitan fabric of today’s societies, and encouraging a balanced approach to diversity in media for a positive perception of migrant and minority groups;
* Minimising tensions and conflicts associated with diversity.

The programme uses a combination of evaluation tools, innovative methodologies, peer learning, and guidance to accompany local authorities in implementing their diversity management and migrant integration strategies, as well as enabling the transfer of good practices and innovation.

1. **Objective of this call**

This call for grants is launched to co-fund local projects implemented by municipalities that are members of the Intercultural Cities (ICC) programme (including both the international and the national networks) aimed at promoting equality, diversity advantage, and positive interaction in diverse societies. The projects shall further aim at devising, testing, evaluating or implementing policies, strategies, tools and/or methodologies:

* are aligned with the ICC priority areas for the purpose of these grants (listed under item 5 below); and produce an added value to the ICC efforts in these fields;
* are transferable to other cities that are members of the Intercultural Cities programme;
* and are implemented jointly by two or more cities.
1. **Budget available**

The ICC programme aims at awarding at least 7 (seven) grants, of an indicative amount of a maximum amount of **fourteen thousand nine hundred (EUR 14 900) each**.

The Council of Europe reserves the right not to award all available funds, and/or to redistribute the available funds in a different manner depending on the project proposals received and on the outcome of the call for proposals.

1. **Requirements**
2. **General objective**

The grants will fund projects implemented jointly by two or more local authorities which are part of the Intercultural Cities programme, and designed to devise, test, evaluate or implement policies, strategies, tools and/or methodologies in line with the Intercultural Cities policy model. Implementation of the project must be done in at least two cities which are member of the Intercultural Cities network.

1. **Further to the general objective, preference will be given to the following priority areas:**
* Interculturalism as a factor for sustainable development
* Training including training materials on intercultural competence
* Awareness raising campaigns on the value of interculturality for diverse societies
* Intercultural communication
* Capacity and competence building on identifying and preventing systemic discrimination in local administrations and public service delivery (including data collection on discrimination)
* Diversity and the economic recovery post Covid-19
* Embedding the intercultural integration model into larger institutions
* Creative bureaucracy and innovation for positive diversity management
* Intercultural inclusion through sport policies
* Urban planning and regeneration as tools for de-segregation (including gentrification management) and positive interaction.
* Measuring intercultural interaction and social trust.
1. **Means of action**

Projects may include, but are not limited to evaluation, development of guidance/guidelines/training modules, capacity building for city officials, tools for the evaluation of the intercultural component of projects/practices/measures/policies, awareness raising (including apps for citizens’ awareness, campaigns, etc.), the production, dissemination and impact evaluation of communication material, city-to-city visits for learning and sharing purposes, involving young people, etc.

1. **Implementation period**

The implementation period of the projects should start in May 2021 and shall not extend beyond 30 November 2021**.** Reporting requirements shall be completed on **18 December 2021** **at the latest**.

Projects completed prior to the date of submission of the applications will be automatically excluded. With regard to on-going projects at the time of submission which shall be found successful under this call, it shall be noted **that only costs incurred after the signature of the grant agreement by the Council of Europe shall be eligible** for reimbursement.

1. **Target stakeholders**

Projects should target in particular the following key stakeholders:

* City officials
* Citizens at large

The above list is not exhaustive, and projects may propose to target other relevant stakeholders, while keeping in mind the general objectives of the Project.

1. **Budgetary requirements**

Project proposals shall be accompanied by a draft budget (See Template Budget, in Appendix II) amounting to a maximum of fourteen thousand and nine hundred euros (EUR 14 900). The estimated budget must be consistent, accurate, clear, complete and cost-effective, in the light of the activities proposed. **The grant will be concluded with the project’s leading city which will be requested to manage the grant for the purpose of the joint project, and report about the use made of the grant (narrative and financial reports)**.

Each Grantee shall also be required to contribute to the project either by way of its own resources or by contribution from third parties. Co-financing may take the form of financial or human resources, in-kind contributions or income generated by the action or project.

1. **The following types of action will not be considered:**
* Projects/actions providing financial support to third parties (re-granting schemes);
* Projects/actions concerning only or mainly individual scholarships for studies or individual training courses;
* Projects/actions supporting political parties.
1. **Criteria for selection**

The criteria for selection of projects include (in order of importance):

* the relevance and added value of the project with regard to the objectives of the call, its priority areas and the level of cooperation between partner cities;
* the potential transferability of the outcomes;
* the potential for policy innovation or consolidation;
* the impact of the project at local level (for both implementing cities and the ICC membership at large).

**In light of the uncertainty linked to travel possibilities during 2021, the ICC programme will not finance costs related to travel and subsistence expenses, unless exceptional circumstances and sound justification.**

The procedure shall be based on the underlying principles of grant award procedures, which are transparency, non-retroactivity, non-cumulative awards, not-for-profit, co-financing and non-discrimination, in accordance with [Rule 1374 of 16 December 2015 on the grant award procedures of the Council of Europe](https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?Ref=SG/Rule(2015)1374&Language=lanEnglish&Ver=original&BackColorInternet=99CCFF&BackColorIntranet=99CCFF&BackColorLogged=99CCCC).

1. **Financial and reporting conditions of the grant**

Payment conditions and reporting requirements are specified in draft (non-binding) Document G17.2A.

1. **How to apply?**
2. **Eligibility criteria:**

In order to be eligible for a grant, an applicant must:

* be legally constituted as a local authority;
* be entitled to carry out activities described in its project proposal during year 2021;
* be a member of the Intercultural cities programme (international network or national networks);
* have sufficient financial capacity (stable and sufficient sources of funding) to maintain its activity throughout the period for which the grant is awarded and to participate by way of its own resources (including human resources or in-kind contributions);
* have sufficient operational and professional capacity, including staff, to carry out activities described in its project proposal **(this condition applies to all of the project participants)**;
* have a bank account.

**Multiple applications are not allowed and shall lead to the exclusion of all applications concerned.**

1. **Documents to be submitted:**

Each application shall contain:

* the completed **Application Form** (See **Appendix I**);
* the completed draft grant agreement (using the template attached as **Document G17.2A)**. **N.B.:** The draft grant agreement is only binding if and as from the date of the countersignature by the Council of Europe following a positive assessment of the submission, budget availability, and the obtainment of all necessary authorisations as per the Council of Europe financial rules;
* a provisional budget (using the template attached as **Appendix II, Document G17.2D**);
* other supporting documents as needed to accurately assess the project.
1. Deadline for submissions

Applications shall be sent Ivana d’Alessandro (ivana.Dalessandro@coe.int), copying Evgeni Radev (Evgeni.radev@coe.int ) and Yann Privat (Yann.Privat@coe.int ) by 3 April 2021, 6 pm Strasbourg time.