Brussels 08/09/2021

### Questions and answers related to EU4Health-PJ-2021 Call for proposals 2<sup>nd</sup> wave of questions

1. Regarding Part B of the application form for call EU4H-2021-PJ. In Annex 4 is a table for a list of previous projects. Several participants have asked if the table should be filled out according to the institution's or individual lead researcher's history; that is to say, if participating institutions or individuals should be listed in the Participant column.

The list of previous projects in Annex 4 referred to in this question should be completed with the information related to the institutions/organisations participating in the call.

2. If available, where can I download the Guide for Applicant?

There is no guide for applicant so please refer to the online manual: <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/om\_en.pdf">https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/om\_en.pdf</a>

3. Is the role of the collaborating stakeholder still an option for the call EU4H-2021-PJ-05? Indeed, they are not mentioned anywhere (call for proposal, model grant agreement, proposal template) but HaDEA officer's listed as possible participants in the webinar dated July 2021.

Collaborative stakeholders can be part of the actions provided that you include them in Annex B of the proposal. There is no official definition.

4. Are coordination, dissemination and evaluation three mandatory work packages for this grant? HaDEA officers mentioned it during the webinar. However, such information is not written anywhere, and in the Q&A are mentioned only coordination and dissemination. Which is the final decision on this?

Projects must have a minimum of 2 work packages: WP1 should cover the management and coordination activities, which might include project monitoring and evaluation. The second Work package has to focus on the key topic of the action.

Concerning, the dissemination, it is required to describe these activities in the proposal. In the Grant Agreement preparation phase, it is strongly recommended to introduce a dedicated Work package, which usually also includes communication activities, as well as relevant indicators for monitoring and evaluation.

5. The table of content does not include chapters for Exceptional Utility and Collaborative Stakeholder, can we add them?

Yes, you are allowed to do so.

6. Action grant for the EU Network of Youth Cancer Survivors - EU4H-2021-PJ-04: One of the funded activities is the Launch of the EU Network (February 2022). From the timetable and timelines in the call fiche, signature of the GA is expected March 2022. Can you confirm that the February date for the launch of the network is in error and should be in Q4 2022 ( after 6-months preparatory work after grant start date in April (ish)?

Indeed, we expect applicants to take into consideration the 6-months preparatory period mentioned in the call document, hence a launch event of for the EU Network of Youth Cancer Survivors can be considered for Q4/2022.

#### 7. UK participation

At the information event held on the 13th July on EU4Health, HADEA informed the audience that UK entities could participate once there was an association agreement in place. They highlighted at the meeting that there were no association agreements in preparation with the UK (or any other country either). Can you please confirm this statement in writing? Also, have there been any developments to suggest that the UK intend to apply for Associated Country status?

Entities established in the UK are not eligible for funding under this call for proposals.

7.1 Would it be possible to clarify if North Macedonia is an eligible country for EU4Health funds? Our potential partner from North Macedonia has expressed interest to join our EU4H-2021-PJ-05 project proposal. Looking at the call document, for eligible countries it says: "eligible non-EU countries: - EEA countries and countries associated to the EU4Health Programme (third countries, candidate countries and potential candidate countries, neighbourhood countries)". To our knowledge, North Macedonia is a candidate member, but could you confirm this?

Entities established North Macedonia are not eligible for funding under this call for proposals.

7.2 Is Switzerland entitled to participate as beneficiary in the EU4health programme? If not, can we list a Swiss organization as collaborating stakeholder in the project and reimburse their costs (travel and accommodation during project meeting)?

Entities established in Switzerland are not eligible for funding under this call for proposal. Concerning the possibility to participate as an 'Associated partners (AP)', i.e. as an entity which participates in the action, but without the right to charge costs or claim contributions, this is possible. In line with Art. 9.1 of the EU4H Model Grant Agreement, the tasks must be set out in Annex 1.

7.3 Is there a list of EEA countries and countries associated to the EU4Health Programme (third countries, candidate countries and potential candidate countries, neighbourhood countries) or those that are in ongoing negotiations for an association agreement?

The list of countries associated to the EU4Health Programme will be published and regularly updated on the dedicated <u>webpage</u>, once there are such countries. For confidentiality reasons, upcoming and ongoing negotiations are not a publicly available information.

### 8. Timeline of the open calls 1st and 2nd wave

In the first wave, the first five action grant topics were published on 25 June, with the submission opening on 29 July, and submission deadline on 15 September 2021.

The second wave with the remaining action grant topics is scheduled to be published in mid-October 2021, and the expected submission deadline will be on end of January 2022.

#### 9. Are profit entities eligible for funding within the EU4Health calls?

Any existing legal entity, including business companies, established in a Members state or countries specified in Art. 13 (1) and (2) of the <u>EU4H Regulation</u> (EU 2021/522), is eligible for funding.

9.1 Secondly, could the actions involve creation of new medical centres and purchasing medical equipment? In other words, could the funds be allocated to establishing new or developing existing medical entities/units and equipping them with equipment with higher quality identified as more effective?

If the tasks/equipment mentioned are identified as action tasks or equipment necessary for the work in the respective project, the corresponding costs will be eligible for co-funding under the grant agreement. Please refer to Article 6 of the EU4H Model Grant Agreement for eligibility of costs.

10. In addition I have some questions related to the budget: Would you be able to elaborate a bit more on contract negotiations at EU4Health? Is there an option to negotiate on the project budget or will EU4Health make a final decision, e.g. to approve the project but with a reduction of €200K as opposed to the submitted budget?

In the evaluation stage, the independent experts evaluate inter alia the estimated costs of the proposal. Grant applications must ensure a balanced project budget and sufficient other resources to implement the project successfully (e.g. own contributions, income generated by the action, financial contributions from third parties, etc.). You may be requested to lower your estimated costs, if they are ineligible (including excessive).

At the grant implementation stage, there is no negotiation of the budgetary matters, since the costs claimed for reimbursement under the grant must fulfil the eligibility conditions of <u>Art.</u> <u>6 of EU4H Model Grant Agreement (MGA)</u>.

# 10.1 Given the overall budget in this call, we were wondering if EU4Health is expecting a website within the communication and dissemination WP?

Please refer to section 10 of the call document, specifying the mandatory deliverables for all grant agreements signed under this call, which include also a project website, delivered under the obligatory communication and dissemination activities.

#### 11. Can more than one organisation lead a work package?

When submitting the proposal, the system does not allow more than one organisation as a work package leader. However, if duly justified, you may have also two organisations coleading a work package.

# 11.1 Can a co-financing partner co-finance "in-kind" a specific WP or should it apply to the project as a whole, and is there a maximum limit to this co-financing?

According to Art. 2 of <u>EU4H Model Grant Agreement</u> in-kind contributions within the meaning of Article 2(36) of EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046, are non-financial resources made available free of charge by third parties. Third parties giving in-kind contributions do not implement any action tasks, only provide a specific contribution, as described in Annex I.

Details on such contributions in-kind by third parties are given in Article 9.2 of the EU4H Model Grant Agreement The costs of in-kind contribution are not eligible for reimbursement under the EU4H call, there is no co-funding, hence no co-funding limit applies.

11.2 Co-Financing: In Article 190 in the financial regulation from 2018, it states that co-financing may be provided in the form of the beneficiary's own resources, income generated by the action or work programme or financial or in-kind contributions from third parties. And also, that Volunteers' work may comprise up to 50 % of the co-financing. Can you please confirm that this still applies under the current EU4Health programme regulations. There is no reference to in kind contribution in the updated regulations (March 2021). Many applicants are enquiring about this.

In line with Article 190 of the financial regulation, grants shall involve co-financing. As a result, the resources necessary to carry out the action shall not be provided entirely by the grant. The corresponding information on in-kind contributions can be found in the EU4H Model Grant Agreement are, for example, the reimbursement rate of the action's eligible costs in Art. 5.3, no-profit rule in Art. 22.3.4 or third parties giving in-kind contributions to the action for free, in line with Art. 9.2 MGA.

12. Our team is working hard on the preparation of Part B of the Application Form and the Detailed Budget Table of the SoHO-QSA4H proposal (EU4H Programme Call; ID: SEP-210779291), and we would like to kindly ask you for a clarification of the meaning of the Budget Table items: "Total Costs Participant (Proposal Step)" and "Total Costs Participant (Grant Preparation Step)".

The applicants should fill out the budget at "proposal step". After the evaluation the beneficiary might receive comments on the budget and the revision / update would be presented at the "grant preparation" step.

### 13. How will the co-fund scheme work for the grants? What will be eligible in the co-fund part?

The EU4Health programme co-funds the eligible costs of the selected actions at the level of 60% (normal co-funding rate) or 80%, in case of exceptional utility.

The criteria for exceptional utility are fulfilled if:

a. At least 30 % of the budget of the proposed action is allocated to Member States whose gross national income (GNI) per inhabitant is less than 90 % of the Union average; and

b. Bodies from at least 14 participating Member States participate in the action, of which at least four are Member States whose GNI per inhabitant is less than 90 % of the Union average.

# 14. Should the experts be considered as the former collaborating stakeholders? Can the travel expenses for their participation in project meeting be eligible for EC reimbursement?

Yes, experts can also be introduced as collaborative stakeholders or under another status. Expenses related to travelling necessary for the project execution can be considered eligible, if fulfilling art 6 of the grant agreement. However, please note that these costs need to be budgeted when submitting the proposal.

# 15. Shall the CV attached to the proposal be long cv or short bio-sketch would be enough?

For core team members, it is requested to attach the full CV.

#### 16. Is the evaluation a mandatory WP?

Please refer to Q4 in this document.