

Fact sheet 3: Applying for Atlantic Area projects

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3.1. Programme's support to generation and development of proposals

Projects generation refers to the process of creating project ideas, aiming to systematise common needs and challenges and start discussions about strategic responses. The generation and dissemination of projects ideas is the cornerstone to start exchanges between different regions and stakeholders facing common problems and challenges, to develop the most appropriate and effective responses.

Quality project ideas are one of the key elements of developing high quality projects. A second key factor is the mobilization of key players, with a full range of relevant stakeholders and a well-balanced involvement of regions and a good geographical spread. The participation of a wide and diversified range of organisations is a fundamental building block for an effective and successful programme delivery. The partnership should involve relevant organisations from the public, private and third sector (associations, charities, cooperatives etc.), from research institutions to the business sector.

Projects should be developed according to the type of actions that the programme wants to support and be focused on results, tangibility, territorial and economic impact in the Atlantic Area.

The programme provides a web platform for applicants to submit or search for project ideas and profiles of potential partners. If you wish you can request feedback on your project idea from the JS.

Workshops for project promoters

Throughout the lifetime of the programme workshops will be organized by JS and national authorities/contact points to inform potential applicants about the programme priorities, application process requirements, procedures and timeline.



3.2. Frequency of call for proposals

The programme intends to announce two or three call for proposals from 2016 to 2020. Potential applicants are encouraged to submit their project proposals following careful preparation and, at the appropriate time, to maximise project implementation.

3.3. Types of calls

Calls for proposals are foreseen to be managed through a two-stage application process; this will be delivered through the online programme Information System.

The programme does, however, reserve the right to implement a one-stage application process or other type of calls should this be needed.

In case of two stage application, for stage 1 applicants are asked to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) which outlines the project overall objectives and challenges, together with details of the partnership and a budget outline.

Successful applicants at stage 1 will be invited to progress to stage 2, and asked to complete a full application form, which if selected for approval by the PMC, will be awarded project funding. See Fact sheet call 2 Terms of Reference for details.

3.4. Call for proposals procedure

Opening a call for proposals is a decision taken by the PMC.

The application form or EOI will be the only documents on which the project will be assessed, for the eligibility and quality.

Once the project is selected for funding, the approved full application form, will be an Annex to the Subsidy Contract, and will be used as the tool for monitoring the project implementation.

The elements required for each section of the application form are presented in the sections in a separated fact sheet.

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Abbreviations used in the Programme Manual

AA	Audit Authority
AD&C	Agência para o Desenvolvimento e Coesão
CA	Certifying Authority
CCDR-N	Comissão de Coordenação e Desenvolvimento Regional do Norte
CPR	Common Provisions Regulation
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government
EOI	Expression of Interest
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
ESI	European Structural and Investment Funds
ETC	European Territorial Cooperation
EU	European Union
FLC	First Level Controller
GBER	General Block Exemption Regulation
GoA	Group of Auditors
IGF	Inspeção Geral de Finanças
IPR	Intellectual Property Rights
JS	Joint Secretariat
MA	Managing Authority
MS	Member State
NC	National Correspondents
NCP	National Contact Points
PAF	Project Approved Form
PMC	Programme Monitoring Committee
SIGI	Integrated management information system
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
WP	Work Package