



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MOBILITY AND TRANSPORT

Directorate C - European mobility network
The Director

Brussels,

Subject: Information on the possibility to submit a proposal for a grant ‘Support to improving rail interoperability with a view to achieve rail breakthroughs supporting TEN-T infrastructure policy: Technical Operational Issues Logbook’ - Reference Number MOVE/C4/2020-103

Dear Sir, Madame,

The Multi Annual Work Programme 2014 under the Connecting Europe Facility-CEF¹ gives the Commission the opportunity to launch a Programme Support Action in the field of "Technical Operational Issues Log Book". This would be implemented by means of a grant to support pilot projects aiming at finding solution to the issues of the Log Book by cooperation between rail stakeholders (Annex II § 4.2.2.1).

The objective of this Programme Support Action is to assist Ministries, National Safety Authorities, European rail infrastructure managers and European railway undertakings in finding solutions to the issues of the Log Book.

This second call of the action continues the good results obtained by the work performed so far under voluntary basis of the three priorities defined by the sector in 2018 and the three actions already awarded in the first call. The support is open to all issues currently listed in the Log Book and available on MOVE website at https://ec.europa.eu/transport/modes/rail/interoperability/interoperability/ope-tsi_en, or new issues, provided that they comply with “technical operational barrier hindering international rail freight”.

The coordinator will support the application for funding and organise the pilot projects as appropriate. A consortium must consist at least of two of the following entities: one Railway Undertaking, one Ministry or National safety Authority and one Infrastructure

¹ Commission implementing Decision C(2015) 7358 of 30.10.2015 amending the EC Implementing Decision C(2014) 1921 (Multi Annual Work Programme 2014 under the Connecting Europe Facility-CEF)

manager; they shall have a geographical coverage of at least two member states. The pilot projects can be launched at the latest 31 December 2020.

The pilot projects on Issues Log Book should result in a structured approach to solve the current issues by finding concrete solutions that are deployable at regional, corridor or European level.

Annex 1 to this letter contains a detailed description of the activities eligible for funding under this action.

With this letter, I have the pleasure to invite you to submit a grant application. This letter has also been sent to the following organisations and networks:

- Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies ([CER](#))
- European Rail Infrastructure Managers ([EIM](#))
- National Safety Authorities network
- Rail Interoperability and Safety Committee
- Rail Freight Corridors

The coordinator should submit the request on behalf of the consortium using the enclosed application form (Annex 2) and its Annexes 2.1-2.5 (Budgetary Annex, Legal Entity Form, Bank Account Form, Declaration of Honour and Agreement of the Member State). The conditions for awarding grants (Annex 1) include the eligible activities, eligible costs, award criteria, etc. A model of the Grant Agreement and its Annexes I-V is also available in Annex 3². All documents will also be provided in electronic form upon request at MOVE-C4-IssuesLogBook-PSA@ec.europa.eu

The application form for requesting the grant should be submitted by November 1st, 2020 at the latest.

Please note that this letter does not prejudge the Commission's final decision on the award of the grant.

Your application will be evaluated by the Commission on the basis of the criteria established in Annex 1 to this letter (conditions for awarding grants). Should the Commission decide to offer you a grant such grant would be given on the basis of the model enclosed in Annex 3.

EFTA member states are eligible to participate in the action but they cannot receive any funding.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact MOVE-C4-IssuesLogBook-PSA@ec.europa.eu

Yours sincerely,

Elisabeth Werner

² Please be aware that documents in Annex 3 (i.e. the Grant Agreement and its Annexes) are only models which might be further refined by the Commission and not subject to negotiation with the beneficiaries.

- **Annex 1:** Conditions for awarding grants
- **Annex 2:** Application form and checklist for applicants
 - **Annex 2.1:** Budgetary Annex
 - **Annex 2.2:** Legal Entity Form
 - **Annex 2.3:** Bank Account Form
 - **Annex 2.4:** Declaration of Honour
 - **Annex 2.5:** Agreement of the Member State
- **Annex 3:** Grant Agreement and Annexes I-V