

**Questions and answers in relation to the Call for Proposal regarding the Programme Support Action under the CEF Transport for the implementation of a Coordination mechanism to federate the National Access Points established under the ITS Directive (2010/40/EU).**

*Date: 03 February 2021*

**Question 1**

**Eligibility of non-Member State countries to participate and receive funding**

In the call text, the eligibility of non-Member State countries is given when "necessary" and "duly justified".

Are there any (other) requirements that are used to determine eligibility both to participate without funding and to participate with funding of non-Member State countries like Switzerland, Norway and the UK?

***Reply***

*According to Article 9(4) of the CEF Regulation, third countries might participate to this call in necessary and duly justified cases. For their participation, it will be the role of the evaluation committee to assess the pertinence of the information provided by the applicant. With reference to the possible funding to third countries, the CEF Regulation clearly states that these countries should not receive financial assistance, except where it is indispensable to the achievement of the objectives of a given project of common interest.*

*Here again it will be the role of the evaluation committee to assess whether funding to third countries will be needed and is indispensable.*

**Question 2**

In chapter 6.2 example of eligible activities are listed. The second bullet point reads: "Expenditure linked to IT tools and networks focusing on exchanges of information and guidance to users". On page 26 it says regarding the scope and expectations: "It will in particular address the harmonisation of the development and evolution of the NAPs, in order to improve the compatibility and in order to improve the compatibility and interoperability of the features, the design and development of common tools related to data accessibility and exchange,...".

In light of this, would upgrades or pilots of individual or multiple NAPs with the goal to implement interoperability improvements (e.g. implementing a metadata interface or upgrading the metadata catalogue of a NAP to allow for EU-wide harmonised data discovery) be eligible activities/cost?

***Reply***

*Activities related to the implementation of compatibility and interoperability enhancement of the NAPs, based on common harmonised requirements defined within the coordination mechanism, are eligible. As such activities are only part of the tasks to be performed as*

*described in the Annex to this call for proposals, the level of funding of these activities should however not be detrimental to the other activities of the action.*

**Question 3**

In the Standard Grant Application Form that was published with the call there are some sections where some options "to be decided by the Authorising Officer" are given.

Are we right to assume that in those cases, where options are given, which have not been addressed in the Call for Proposal text, the Coordinator/Applicant may decide as appropriate which option to consider for the proposal?

**Reply**

*The Grant Application Form has been updated to clarify this issue (see Corrigendum 2).*

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