

**3<sup>rd</sup> Update of the Open Call for Submission of Grant Applications for Initiatives financed from the Fund for Bilateral Relations at Programme Level – measure „B“ under the Programme CZ11 funded from Norway Grants 2009 – 2014**

The Ministry of Finance, the Operator of the Fund for Bilateral Relations at Programme Level – measure „B“

updates the 1<sup>st</sup> Open Call (announced on 17 February 2015) for submission of Grant Applications for Initiatives financed from the Fund for Bilateral Relations at Programme Level – measure “B” under the programme CZ11 funded from Norway Grants 2009 – 2014.

Applications can be submitted continuously from the date of the announcement of the Call for proposals until **July 31, 2017** or until the total allocation is used<sup>1</sup>.

**The allocated amount under the 1st Open Call is 5 580 963 CZK, that means 210 602 EUR.**

The minimum and maximum grant amount per initiative: **53 000 – 1 060 000 CZK, that means 2 000 – 40 000 EUR**

I. Scope of the Fund

The objective of the Fund is to enhance the development and strengthening cooperation between **Czech entities** and entities in the donor states **and** international organizations. The cooperation shall be based on the exchange, sharing and transfer of knowledge, technology, know-how, experience and best practices **within CZ11 programme areas (the areas of the programme CZ11 and relating proposed eligible initiatives are defines in par. III).**

II. Eligible applicants

Applicants eligible to draw on the Fund are **entities<sup>2</sup>** which are active within the programme CZ11 and within its programme areas for at least 1 year. **Bilateral initiatives should be aimed at establishing or deepening co-operation within relevant programme area:**

- a) **in cooperation with other donor states entities active in given programme area (i.e. actively involved in the programme area for at least 1 year)<sup>3</sup>;**

<sup>1</sup> Grant Application must be submitted in accordance with the Guidelines for Applicants and Final Beneficiaries from the Fund for Bilateral Relations at Programme Level – measure “B”, available at [www.norwaygrants.cz](http://www.norwaygrants.cz).

<sup>2</sup> Natural persons, legal entities, public institutions, municipalities, regions, NGOs and other entities.

<sup>3</sup> In exceptional cases, the Fund Operator can approve an initiative which is planned in cooperation with the institutions out of donor countries assuming that the institution participates in the initiative in a role of an

- b) in cooperation with other **donor states entities** active in given programme area (i.e. actively involved in the programme area for at least 1 year) **and international organization.**<sup>4</sup>

### III. CZ11 programme areas

Programme CZ11	<i>Bilateral initiatives can be realized in following areas/activities</i>
<p>Programme Area: Public Health Initiatives</p> <p>Aim: improve public health and decrease inequalities in the area of health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen health systems to face the challenges of the financial crisis and social inequalities in health</li> <li>• National initiatives for the improvement of health systems, with a focus on marginalised groups</li> <li>• National health registries and health information systems, monitoring and evaluation as a basis for improved governmental management with a focus on inequalities</li> <li>• Review of and support for health financing systems to make them sustainable and equal</li> <li>• Capacity-building and technical cooperation through staff development and infrastructure</li> <li>• Refine health surveillance and complaint mechanisms</li> <li>• Strengthen primary health care in terms of quantity and quality</li> <li>• Document and develop strategies on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ life-style-related and preventable diseases</li> <li>○ mental health suffering, in particular the reduction of suicides</li> <li>○ sexual and reproductive health</li> <li>○ communicable diseases</li> <li>○ ill-health among children</li> <li>○ foster inter-sectoral cooperation</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Training in management of decentralised health services</li> <li>• Activities on food safety and increased access to information about food safety and health for consumers, public authorities and industry (formal and informal</li> </ul>

expert or consultant. The applicant must justify that the partner of similar quality and professional knowledge is not available in donor state or is not interested in such cooperation. Terms of financing expenditures related to the participation of institutions from other than the donor states are included in Guideline, Chapter V – Eligible expenditures.

<sup>4</sup> International organizations are organizations with an international membership, international scale or scope. These are intergovernmental organizations and international non-governmental organizations.

<b>Programme CZ11</b>	<i>Bilateral initiatives can be realized in following areas/activities</i>
	markets): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ development of formal control labelling</li> <li>○ surveillance and support for ensuring food safety in informal markets</li> </ul>

#### IV. Eligible initiatives

The Fund is designed to finance targeted **short-term supplementary initiatives**.

Eligible initiatives that may be financed from the Fund are activities leading to stronger bilateral relations realized in cooperation with bilateral partner of the initiative and are beneficial for the programme or the programme area defined in par. III.

Following initiatives will be financed from the Fund:

- study trips, study/exchange/working/research stays, work visits and bilateral working meetings aiming at sharing experience and know-how, transferring best practices;
- bilateral/multilateral meetings, workshops, seminars;
- conferences aimed at bi-/multilateral meetings, presentations and building on contacts and working relations;
- the production of studies, analyses and documentation, data collection, their sharing and exchange to strengthen the cooperation between the Final Beneficiaries and entities in Donor States and international organizations;
- information and promotional initiatives to strengthen bilateral partnerships;
- other bilateral type actions.

**Supported initiatives must be realized till 15 September 2017 at the latest.**

#### V. Eligible expenditures and their reimbursement

According to Article 7.7 of the Regulation on the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009-2014 adopted by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, following categories of expenditure are eligible for funds:

- fees and travel costs for participation in conferences, seminars, study/exchange stays, courses, work meetings and workshops;
- travel costs for study trips abroad;
- travel costs, per diems and salary costs for visits by experts;
- taxi costs - taxi may be used only in exceptional and justified cases, if transportation cannot be assured by other means of transport;
- expert fees;
- costs related to studies, including feasibility studies, and preparation of financial, economic and technical analyses;

- costs of conferences, seminars, working meetings and workshops, interpreting and translations of working materials;
- costs for promotional and information activities aimed at strengthening bilateral relations;
- external consultancy fees;
- travel insurance, ticket cancellation insurance;
- other costs related to the bilateral initiative (justified within the application).

Dates of the eligibility of expenditures to be covered by the Fund are given in the Grant Award Approval Letter and subsequently in the Grant Award legal act. The final date for the eligibility of expenditures is 1 month after the completion of all initiatives financed from the Fund. Expenditures will be eligible no later than till **October 15, 2017**.

The applicant may ask for an advance payment up to maximum 60% of the grant under the condition that the planned grant amount will be equal or higher than CZK 530.000 (EUR 20.000). The advance payment will be disbursed in 10 working days after the receipt of the request for advance payment.

The mechanism of eligible expenditures reimbursement (in CZK) is based on **ex-post** payments of incurred costs after the Final Report on the initiative implementation has been approved by the Fund Operator.

#### VI. Submission of the grant application

Grant applications will be submitted on a continuous basis, starting from the date of the call launch.

Evaluation of formal requirements and eligibility will be followed by the evaluation of the application relevance to initiatives and objectives implemented within the approved project, the scope of strengthening bilateral relations and the compliance with the Bilateral Fund objectives. Applications will be evaluated in the order according to the application submission date in the IS CEDR.

The application shall be submitted in the Czech language in given format and the requested grant amount shall be given in CZK.

The form of Grant Application for Initiatives financed from the Fund for Bilateral Relations at Programme Level is included in the Guidelines for Applicants and Final Beneficiaries from the Fund for Bilateral Relations at Programme Level – Measure “B”.

Submitting an application does not constitute a legal grant award claim.

Method of application submission in the IS CEDR, system of the ex-post reimbursement of expenditures, **submission of request for advance payment** and Final Report submission procedure **and other information related to the compulsory attachments to the application**, are described in the Guidelines for Applicants and Final Beneficiaries from the Fund for Bilateral Relations at Programme Level – Measure “B”. The document is also available online at [www.norwaygrants.cz](http://www.norwaygrants.cz).

## VII. Further information

Questions may be sent electronically to: [fmrealizace@mfcz.cz](mailto:fmrealizace@mfcz.cz). Replies will be sent by e-mail within 10 calendar days.

Based on the assessment of the implementation of the Fund and after mutual agreement with the donors, conditions of the Call for Proposals may be revised.

Information on each revision will be always published at [www.norwaygrants.cz](http://www.norwaygrants.cz).