

Annex IV



Regional Youth Cooperation Office

Call for Project Proposals 2018

“A Better Region Starts with Youth”

General Information on the Call for Project Proposals

The Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO) is an intergovernmental organisation that stewards and promotes regional, cross-border and intercultural cooperation within and among its six Western Balkan Contracting Parties – Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia. RYCO's unique governance system brings together government and civil society representatives to ensure young people are represented at all levels within the organisation. Its Local Branch Offices ensure RYCO is represented in all the six Contracting Parties, while its Head Office is the organisational hub.

Under the present Call for Proposals, **RYCO intends to support and empower civil society organizations and secondary schools to implement activities in the areas of regional youth cooperation, mobility and exchange; and enabling environment for regional youth cooperation.**

RYCO strongly believes that the young people should be creating a culture of mobility, intercultural exchange and reconciliation. They should also be active contributors to democratic development, social and economic prosperity, and European integration in an increasingly open Western Balkans region. Contracting Parties in the Western Balkans should be providing proactive support to youth exchange and youth engagement within the Contracting Parties, and across the region.

Young people in the Western Balkans live with the pressures and influences of a social and political narrative that is distorted by prejudice, denial, revisionism and nationalism. Inherited, negative narratives form the basis for young people's future life choices about career, residence, friendships and even the possibility of dialogue with other people; thus compounding negative narratives about 'the other'. In this volatile context, there is a notable lack of opportunity for young people to move within the region for volunteering, formal and non-formal education and training, or simply to meet and share experiences of being peaceably together. This lack of opportunity is also compounded by legal obstacles.

The **General Objective of this Call for Proposals** is to contribute to the process of reconciliation in the region of the Western Balkans by increasing youth mobility and intercultural dialogue, as well as creating an enabling environment for regional youth cooperation. RYCO wants to empower young people for setting the course to a better society in the Western Balkans.

The call will be focused on 2 priority areas which contain the following specific objectives, as below:

Priority area 1: Regional youth cooperation, mobility and exchange

- **Specific Objective 1: Intercultural Learning and Dialogue**
Young people engage in intercultural learning and dialogue with their peers from the diverse communities within their Contracting Parties and across the Western Balkan region.
- **Specific Objective 2: Dealing with the Past**
Young people address their differences concerning the region's past and challenge inherited narratives through guided processes in a safe environment.

Priority area 2: Enabling environment for regional youth cooperation

- **Specific Objective 3: Policy Influencing**
The legislative and political environment is increasingly supportive of reconciliation and intercultural learning, and of the implementation of youth mobility and exchange both within and among Contracting Parties in the Western Balkan region.
- **Specific Objective 4: Youth Participation**
Young people participate in decision-making processes that shape their local communities as well as social and political development of their respective society and the Western Balkan region.
- **Specific Objective 5: Strengthening Capacities**
Individuals and institutions are better equipped to play key roles in accompanying and guiding young people towards abovementioned specific objectives 1-4.

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

RYCO will support projects built upon a partnership, with at least one partner from WB 6 (please check the Guidelines).

The overall financial envelope for this call is EUR 1.000.000.

Indicative allocation of funds by lots:

Priority Area 1: EUR 550.000

- a) LOT 1: EUR 200.000 for secondary schools² projects from EUR 10.000 to EUR 20.000
- b) LOT 2: EUR 150.000 for CSOs³ projects from EUR 10.000 to EUR 15.000
- c) LOT 3: EUR 200.000 for CSOs projects from EUR 15.000 to EUR 35.000

Priority Area 2 - EUR 450.000

- a) LOT 1 EUR 100.000 for secondary schools⁴ projects from EUR 10.000 to EUR 20.000
- b) LOT 2 EUR 100.000 for CSOs⁵ projects from EUR 10.000 to EUR 15.000
- c) LOT 3 EUR 250.000 for CSOs projects from EUR 15.000 to EUR 35.000

THE FULL GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS AND RELATED DOCUMENTS, AS WELL AS THE SCHEDULE OF THE INFO SESSIONS ARE PUBLISHED ON THE RYCO WEBSITE, UNDER OPEN CALLS:

www.rycowb.org

Indicative timetable of the Call

Activity	Deadline	Time
Launching of the Call for Project Proposals	03 December 2018	13.00
Deadline for requesting any clarifications from RYCO	18 January 2019	23.59
Deadline for submission of the applications	25 January 2019	23.59
Preliminary List published on the RYCO website	by the end of April 2019	
Contracting, Final List published on the RYCO website	by the end of June 2019	

This indicative timetable may be updated by RYCO during the procedure, in which case the updated timetable will be posted on the RYCO website: www.rycowb.org.

² Also applicable for CSOs applying on behalf of secondary schools. Please consult section 2.2.1. of the Guidelines for more information.

³ CSOs applying for LOT2 should not have the total budget of the last three years higher than 50,000 EUR

⁴ Also applicable for CSOs applying on behalf of secondary schools. Please consult section 2.2.1. of the Guidelines for more information.

⁵ CSOs applying for LOT2 should not have the total budget of the last three years higher than 50,000 EUR