**Short Summary of the Youth Cultural Fund Guidelines (Second Open Call)**

* *Project’s aim and general objective*

The Western Balkans Youth Cultural Fund (WB YCF) is a Project implemented by the Regional Youth Cooperation Office, funded by the German Federal Foreign Office and also co-financed by the Ministries of Culture of each Contracting Party.

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The project aims to bring together the cultural scenes from across the region by supporting grass-roots cultural initiatives which will serve as a valuable contribution to foster regional cooperation and mutual understanding of intercultural dialogue, peacebuilding and reconciliation process.

The general objective of the WB YCF Open Call for Proposals is to support individuals (cultural practitioners, artists, etc.) and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in the Western Balkans to foster reconciliation, peacebuilding, regional cooperation, and intercultural learning by providing young people with opportunities that create space for increased understanding, dialogue and mutual learning, across communities of the RYCO Contracting Parties.

* *Project’s target group*

Operating through a targeted approach that encompasses cultural practitioners and civil society organizations active in the cultural realm, the WB Youth Cultural Fund project aims to achieve two primary objectives:

1. elevate the scope of opportunities available to young individuals within the cultural and creative sector of the Western Balkans; and
2. reinforce cultural cooperation within the region, particularly among youth-oriented CSOs in the cultural field and cultural practitioners

All the project activities must take place in the Western Balkans 6 Contracting Parties (WB6): Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo\*, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia. The ultimate beneficiaries of this endeavor will be **young people** and **cultural practitioners** who live and work in the Western Balkans.

* *Financial allocation*

Any grant requested under this call for proposals must fall under two LOTs:

* LOT 1: EUR 3.000 for individuals (cultural practitioners).
* LOT 2: EUR 6.000 for CSOs.

The duration of the project for Lot 1 must be a minimum of 2 months and a maximum of 4 months and the duration of the project for Lot 2 must be a minimum of 3 months and a maximum of 6 months.

* *2nd Open Call deadlines*

The deadline for submission of applications is **11 April 2024.** The submission of your applications will not be possible after the deadline for this open call.

All the information related to the application process of WB Youth Cultural Second Open Call can be accessed in the following link: <https://shorturl.at/jkTY8>.

* Indicative Timeline of Second Open Call

| **Activity** | **Date** | **Time** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Launching of the Call for Project Proposals | 11 March 2024 | 17:00 |
| Online Info sessions  | 18-23 March 2024 | 14:00 |
| Deadline for requesting any clarifications from RYCO | 05 April 2024 | 23:59 |
| **Deadline for submission of the applications** | **11 April 2024** | **15:00** |
| Step 1: Administrative and Eligibility Check | 18 Apr 2024  | 23:59 |
| Step 2: Assessment and Selection Process | 26 Apr -17 May 2024  | 23:59 |
| Budget Clearance & Contracting | 27 May 2024 | 23:59 |
| Step 3: Publishing Final List on RYCO website | 03 June 2024  | 23:59 |