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QUESTIONS & ANSWERS – Info Session & 1st Round of Publication

Call for Proposals Reference: 06/RSSDLIBYA/T05.437/2019

Programme “Recovery, Stability and Socio-economic Development in Libya”

Italian Cooperation¹ Component

[T05-EUTF-NOA-LY-05-01-01 (T05.437)]

An information session open to all interested applicants was held on Wednesday 18 September at 15:00 hours at AICS Regional Office in Tunis. Below follow the questions and requests for clarifications collected during this session, as well as those received via e-mail up to September 20. Answers are provided for the benefit of all interested applicants, as indicated in the Guidelines for grant applicants of this Call for Proposals and in line with PRAG stipulations.

Question	Answer
Q1: Is co-financing allowed?	A1: Co-financing is not allowed. As indicated in the Guidelines for grant applicants under point 1.3 <i>“Any grant requested under this call for proposals must cover 100% of the total eligible costs of the action”</i> .
Q2: Which grant management and procurement rules are applicable? PRAG and/or AICS?	A2: The practical guide on contract procedures for European Union external action (PRAG) will apply throughout the grant processes. The only exception relates to the pre-financing guarantee. This is foreseen under PRAG rules but generally not compulsory for no profit grantees. AICS requires all grantees to present a pre-financing guarantee (bank guarantee) covering 30% of the total amount of the first instalment. AICS will release the bank guarantee at the grant contract completion. Instalments are defined according to the

¹ The term “Italian Cooperation” refers to the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS).

	<p>duration of the action – be it up to 12 months or beyond 12 months - as set in the General Conditions to the contract. The amount of instalments will be further specified in the Special Conditions to the contract as a result of the contracting negotiations between AICS and each selected beneficiary. Both documents have been published as annexes to this Call for Proposal. Please note that bank charges incurred to obtain the pre-financing guarantee are eligible direct costs that need to be considered when developing budget proposals.</p> <p>Selected grantees will also need to follow PRAG rules with regards to all procurement processes carried out for the implementation of their action (available online).</p>
<p>Q3: Can non-EU-based INGOs apply?</p>	<p>A3: As stated under paragraph 2.1.1 the Guidelines for grant applicants, lead applicants and co-applicants must “<i>be established in a Member State of the European Union or in countries eligible under EDF- ENI- and DCI- funded programmes</i>” (which are the main EU external action funding instruments contributing to the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa). Further details can be found in PRAG Annex a2a, published as annex to this Call for Proposals.</p> <p>In fact, eligibility criteria as regards rules of nationality and origin depend on the EU External Action funding instruments financing the programme. The funding window under which this programme is implemented is the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa, which receives funding from different EU external action instruments, as well as other funding from members states an the European Commission.</p>
<p>Q4: We understand a technical reconnaissance was performed on the health facilities to facilitate the work of potential applicant and narrow down the list of medical equipment to be provided. Was a needs assessment performed on capacity building activities as well? Which is the scope of capacity building activities?</p>	<p>A4: The AICS-led technical reconnaissance and consultations focused on the health service facilities in terms of infrastructure and equipment needs. The aim of this exercise has been to narrow down the list of interventions – with regards to equipment provision – to facilitate the work of INGO partners in terms of: (i) determining feasible, time-bound, and technically sustainable interventions; (ii) reducing the workload of INGO partners in carrying out complex technical needs assessments; (iii) accelerate the speed of delivery, reducing the time frame for INGO-led interventions in the field.</p>

	<p>Further needs assessments in terms of capacity building are needed from the INGO side. These activities shall complement the provision of equipment, which remain at the core of interventions, and shall be aimed at building capacity on: (i) the use of improved medical equipment; (ii) an improved management of processes and the facility overall. In doing so, particular attention should be paid to what the Ministry of Health and other international actors are doing, particularly UNICEF – that will be delivering both equipment and training to medical facilities in the framework of this programme, according to a standardized package on Maternal and Child Health, nutrition and fist aid/life saving support.</p>
<p>Q5: Which local authorities we need to contact in order to obtain the list of medical equipment required by the call</p>	<p>Based on the contacts already established at Municipality level, the applicants are expected to first contact the Municipality Department of Project Management.</p>