

CALL FOR THE AWARD OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EXISTING PROJECTS UNDER THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT AND INCLUSION PROGRAMME

CALL SHORTCUT: LDIDP2

I. OBJECTIVE OF THE CALL

The aim of the call is to allow Project Promoters to carry out additional activities, including expansions or continuation of existing activities; that contribute to the objective of their project (hereinafter referred to as 'additional activities').

II. BASIC CONDITIONS

Call launched:	22 June 2023
Call deadline:	24 July 2023, 23:59 CEST
Total allocation:	EUR 71,129 Project Promoters are informed that the above amount is indicative and the Programme Operator is entitled to make adjustments to this amount.
Announcer:	Ministry of Investment, Regional Development and Informatization of the Slovak Republic
Funding sources:	Norway Grants and State Budget of the Slovak Republic
Eligible applicants:	Project Promoters implementing a project under calls LDI01 , LDI02 or LDI03
Eligible projects:	All projects supported under one of the above calls, provided that they foresee the use of at least 20% of the total eligible expenditure at the date of submission of the application. The assumption must be based on actual expenditure paid and recorded in the Project Promoter's accounts at that date. The Programme Operator reserves the right to adjust the proportion above during the evaluation process or to waive the application of this condition, e.g. if the allocated amount is not spent. Projects where serious cases of irregularities have been identified within the meaning of Article 12.5.1 of the Regulation are not eligible. This call does not set a limit on the share of cost on infrastructure (investment measures) ¹ in the total eligible costs of the project; this limit applied exclusively to call LDI01 and LDI02, under which the Project Promoters complied with it.

¹ For the purposes of the Programme the infrastructure (hard measures) are defined as any activities that require a building permit/a building announcement or purchase of buildings or estates.

The maximum amount of additional funding that can be applied for per project:	The amount of additional funding applied for on additional activities shall not exceed 50% of the amount of the project grant specified in the project contract.
The minimum amount of additional funding that can be requested per project:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EUR 80 000 for LDIO1 and LDIO2 call projects • EUR 40 000 for projects under call LDIO3
Co-financing:	The project grant rate is required to remain unchanged, i.e. in case of an increase in the project grant; the Project Promoter will be obliged to increase the co-financing by an equivalent amount.
Indicative timetable:	A decision on whether or not to allocate the additional funding will be taken within two months

III. ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Additional funding for additional activities can only be awarded if the following conditions are met:

1. That the additional funding will allow the project to complete its activities within the eligibility period;
2. The rate of the project grant must be set at a level that complies with Article 6.4.2 of [the Regulation](#) and other relevant programme rules, in particular the call under which the project has been supported.
3. That the award of increased funding complies with the relevant state-aid rules and that public procurement rules can be complied with, as applicable.

Examples of eligible additional activities can always be found in chapter 4 of the respective call under which your project has been supported. It is expected that you will apply for additional funds mainly for the extension or continuation of activities already implemented.

IV. ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE

Expenditure is eligible from the date of commencement of the Project implementation as specified in the Project Contract, regardless of whether its material and financial execution has been completed and/or is still ongoing at the time of submission of the request for additional funds (i.e. expenditure already incurred and paid from other sources of funding prior to the submission of the request for additional funds, as well as expenditure not yet incurred at the time of submission of the request for additional funds, is eligible). Expenditure must be invoiced and paid by 30 April 2024 in accordance with Article 8.13.3 [of the Regulation](#).

The Programme Operator allows project expenditure to be considered as incurred in the period of eligibility if the costs have been invoiced and paid by 30 April 2024 and the goods have been delivered (in the case of goods) or performed (in the case of services and works) within 3 months of the advance paid to the contractor, provided that the applicable legislation of the Slovak Republic is complied with².

² §19, para. 3 and para. 8 of Act 523/2004 Coll. on the Financial Rules of the Public Administration and on Amendments and Additions to Certain Acts

Further details of the eligibility of expenditure are determined by the relevant call under which the project has been supported.

Indirect costs calculated as a flat rate can be increased up to the limit of 15% of direct eligible staff costs, as laid down in Article 8.5.1, letter c) of the [Regulation](#).

V. SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION

The application for additional funding shall be made in Slovak with a summary in English on the prescribed form (Annex 1 of the Call). Mandatory or optional supporting documentation may be submitted in Slovak if this is apparent from the nature of the documents (e.g. original project documentation, works contract, bank statement, etc.).

The application for additional funding shall be submitted electronically signed by the applicant via the e-system of the Ministry of Investment, Regional Development and Informatization of the Slovak Republic No. E0006167914. Instructions on how to send the completed application can be found [here](#).

The date and time of receipt of the application and compliance with the date and time of the call deadline will be judged by the date and time of the delivery indicated on the delivery receipt.

VI. SELECTION PROCESS

The evaluation of applications for additional funding will be carried out in accordance with Article 7.4.8 of [the Regulation](#) as follows:

The Programme Operator will assess the compliance of applications for additional funding with the selection criteria set out in Annex 2 of the call for proposals. For the purposes of this call, the staff of the Programme Operator carrying out this assessment shall be considered as expert evaluators. The results of this assessment will be submitted by the Programme Operator to the Selection Committee set up under the [Statutes and Rules of Procedure of the Selection Committee](#).

Unless otherwise determined by the Programme Operator or the Selection Committee, while maintaining the principle of equal treatment, only those Project Promoters who meet all the elimination criteria set out in the selection criteria shall qualify for the allocation of additional funds.

At any stage of the selection process, the Programme Operator may request the Project Promoter to provide additional information within a reasonable period of time, normally 5 working days.

If the allocation of funds requested exceeds the available allocation of funds, the first deciding criterion shall be the cumulative amount of total eligible expenditure reported in the latest Project Interim Report submitted by the Project Promoter. This criterion will be used to determine the descending order of the applications, which will be grouped as follows:

- Very high spending (more than 60%)
- High spending (more than 40-60%)

- Average spending (more than 30-40 %)
- Low spending (20-30%)
- Very low spending (less than 20%)

If it is not possible to support all applications in a particular group, the Selection Committee will recommend the application according to the lowest risk level, taking into account the final date of eligibility of expenditure and the public procurement planned under the application.

The Selection Committee shall be entitled to recommend a change to the ranking so established, the change to be duly justified and communicated to the Project Promoter or Project Promoters concerned if the Programme Operator accepts the recommended change. The proposed change shall also be accompanied by a proper justification of the Selection Committee's recommendation not to support a particular application. The Selection Committee may also establish a reserve list (pipeline) of applications that may be supported if additional funding becomes available.

The final decision on the allocation of the additional funding will be taken by the Programme Operator.

VII. STATE AID

In accordance with Article 8.16 of the Regulation, the Programme Operator shall ensure that all state aid provided under the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 complies with the procedural and substantive State aid rules in force at the time the State aid is granted. Since the call is limited to additional activities compatible with the already existing projects, the evaluation of state aid done by the Programme Operator shall proceed in the same way as for the original project.

De minimis aid may be granted to foreign partners if the conditions for its granting are met.

VIII. FURTHER INFORMATION

The additional funding is explicitly linked to the terms and conditions relevant to calls LDI01, LDI02 and LDI03, including financing and reporting, and the project contract as amended, if applicable.

There is no legal entitlement to additional funding.

The Programme Operator is entitled to approve an amount of additional funds lower than requested, in particular in case of a discrepancy between the data in the submitted application for additional funds and the conditions of the call (maximum amount of additional funds that can be requested for the project, co-financing, eligibility of activities, eligibility of expenditure), lack of allocation under the call, etc.

If approved, the provision of funds will be formalised in the form of an amendment to the project contract.

The Programme Operator can be contacted for questions at:

- e-mail address: eeagrants@mirri.gov.sk (the request must be linked to the Call - call code 'LDIDP2'; questions received by e-mail will be answered within 10 days);
- by phone at +421-2-2092 8464.

VIII. ANNEXES

1. Additional Funding Request Form (docx format)
2. Selection criteria