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CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Grants to support the development and implementation of Global Education national strategies
and/or policy reforms
in Balkan, Baltic, Visegrad and South-East Europe & Mediterranean countries
(sub-granting Lot 2)

CSO-LA/2019/410-187

Project	Joint Programme between the European Union and the Council of Europe. Project 2482 “ILEGEND II: Intercultural Learning Exchange through Global Education, Networking and Dialogue” COUNCIL OF EUROPE
Awarding entity	North-South Centre of the Council of Europe
Funding	EUR 60 000 EUR
Duration	Actions shall be implemented by 31 March 2022 Reporting requirements shall be completed by 30 April 2022
Estimated preparatory phase of activity	Upon signature of the grant agreement
Estimated starting date of activity	30 August 2021
Issuance date	09 June 2021
Deadline for applications	19 July 2021



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APPENDICES:

- Appendix I - Application Form
- Appendix II - Provisional budget (Template)
- Appendix III - Template Grant Agreement (for information only)

WHO CAN APPLY? HOW TO APPLY?

- Complete and sign the **Application Form** (See **Appendix I**)
- Attach a provisional budget (using the template reproduced in **Appendix II**)
- Attach the other supporting documents:
 - Scanned copy of organisational statute
 - Latest narrative and financial report
 - List of team members involved in the activity with profile description
 - Communication plan
- Send these documents in electronic form (Word and/or PDF – **All pages should be signed with a short signature and page 7 of Appendix I should be signed in full**) to the following e-mail address: nscinfo@coe.int. Emails should contain the following reference in subject: Call for proposals: iLegend II - Lot 2 Grant.
- Applications must be received **before 19 July 2021** (at midnight CET).

I. INTRODUCTION

In the framework of the joint programme between the European Union and the Council of Europe: [Intercultural Learning Exchange through Global Education, Networking and Dialogue \(iLEGEND II\)](#) the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe is coordinating a grant scheme to support the development and implementation of Global Education/Global Development Education (GE/GDE) national strategies and/or policy reforms in European countries where it is least established, with particular attention to Balkan, Baltic, Visegrad and South-East Europe & Mediterranean countries.

The grants aim at promoting spaces of dialogue and collaborative work between different stakeholders from institutional and pedagogical levels and guarantee a continued multistakeholder approach to sustain current education reforms undertaken in targeted geographical clusters¹ to consolidate the competences of educators from the formal and non-formal sectors in the field of GE/GDE.

The interdependent nature of today's global challenges (from climate change, non-sustainable economic patterns leading to economic and social inequities, population displacements or political tensions, to the current pandemic situation) require the coordinated, systematic and structured cooperation between countries and the active engagement and understanding of its peoples and governments to ensure the sustainability of contemporary societies and their productive and political systems.

While the current pandemic showed the vulnerability of contemporary economic systems and made visible the social cost of such options and its intersectional prejudice, it also offered the opportunity to consider GE/GDE as a way to build people's capacity to deal with global and local interdependencies and challenges, become more aware of the importance of empathy and solidarity, and engage for a more sustainable and fair economic and political patterns conducing to a positive social change.

Global Education contributes to enhance citizens' understanding, sense of responsibility, skills and critical engagement regarding world challenges.

The North-South Centre definition of [Global Education](#)

Global Education is understood to encompass Development Education, Human Rights Education, Education for Sustainability, Education for Peace and Conflict Prevention and Intercultural Education; all being the global dimension of Education for Citizenship. Global Education addresses the growing interconnectedness between local and global realities. It enables citizens, learners and educators to understand world issues while providing the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes desirable to face and deal with global problems.

One of the core competencies of Global Education is the ability to understand facts holistically, fostering multi-perspectivity and the deconstruction of stereotypes. It helps learners to understand the intricacy of the world, be aware of contradictions and uncertainties and understand that there is no one-dimensional solution for complex problems. It also equips them to deal with a cultural variety of languages and codes so that intercultural understanding can be achieved.

The [Global Education programme of the North-South Centre](#)

Since its creation, the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe addresses the need to promote Global Education as an interdisciplinary approach that gives learners the opportunity and competences to reflect and share their own point of view and role within a global, interconnected society, as well as to understand and discuss complex relationships of common social, ecological, political, economic and ethical issues; where human rights, democratic citizenship and intercultural dialogue represent its main elements.

¹ Balkan, Baltic, Visegrad, South-East Europe and Mediterranean countries

The effective implementation of this approach relies on a sound multi-stakeholder cooperation among a wide range of stakeholders (from governments to education practitioners) where civil society plays a central role, being the connector stakeholder between duty-bearers and right-holders, as advocated by the North-South Centre.

The Global Education programme promotes policy recommendations through multistakeholder advocacy events such as congresses, national and regional seminars, and experts' meetings. It offers competences development for formal and non-formal educators through pedagogical tools and through on-line and on-site trainings. Across its capacity-building and awareness-raising activities, and its GE practices database, it promotes a peer and intercultural learning approach.

The activities of the Global Education programme are relayed by the national coordinators of the [Global Education Network](#) (GEN) and through its specific [webpage](#). The network encompasses key national level stakeholders, who, throughout Europe, share global education strategies and practices.

II. BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE PROJECT

The European Union (EU) has been co-operating with the North-South Centre to promote GE/GDE in European countries where it is least established, relying on its know-how and supporting its work in this area through consecutive joint programmes.

In line with the results of the previous projects and grounded on the recommendations from preceding iLegend evaluation, the grant allocation aims at enhancing the development and implementation of national GE/GDE education strategies or project plans, as well as ongoing policy reforms, in countries targeted under iLegend II programme – Balkan, Baltic, Visegrad, and South-East Europe and Mediterranean countries – in support of the North-South Centre GE/GDE advocacy actions in these regions.

The call for grants builds on the first phase of the project and position itself as a follow-up of a series of regional expert meetings that highlighted, taking in consideration the recent challenges brought by the pandemic situation, the following needs and priorities for GE strategies:

i) continued development of educators and practitioners' competences; *ii)* reinforcement of national strategies with a focus on formal education; *iii)* promote at national level an intersectoral (and interministerial) coordination bringing together formal and non-formal educators, CSO and youth workers, as well as academia and training institutes, with decision makers through a continued multistakeholder approach in policy development or reform processes, in the production of pedagogical resources and on-line learning platforms, and in research processes; *iv)* assessment and mitigation of the disruptive impacts of Covid 19 pandemic in the formal and non-formal educational processes, at a logistical, pedagogical and mental health levels, in particular among more vulnerable groups.

III. BUDGET AVAILABLE

The indicative available budget under this call for proposals is 60 000 EUR (sixty thousand Euros). The Council of Europe intends to award four grants of a maximum amount of 15 000 EUR (fifteen thousand Euros) each.

The Council of Europe reserves the right not to award all available funds, and/or to redistribute the available funds in a different manner.

IV. REQUIREMENTS

1. General objective

The grants general objective is to support pilot projects at the national level encouraging governments and/or CSOs to develop initiatives and put in place the necessary mechanisms to further develop educators' competences on global development education.

2. Entities eligible

Public authorities and/or civil society organisations responsible for/active in the GE/GDE and in the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development from countries targeted under iLegend II programme – Balkan, Baltic, Visegrad, and South-East Europe and Mediterranean countries. Consortiums between governmental and non-governmental organisations, but also with academia and training institutes, will be positively assessed.

3. Means of action

Types of eligible activities:

- Campaigns
- Handbooks, pedagogical tools, resources platforms, on-line learning platforms
- Trainings (online or onsite trainings, general or competences oriented, peer-to-peer, trainers, multipliers)
- Researches
- Roundtables
- Seminars
- Workshops
- Working groups / task forces

4. Implementation period

The implementation period of the actions should start on 30 August 2021 and their preparatory phase upon signature of the grant agreement (see indicative timetable under VIII. below) and shall not extend beyond 30 March 2022.

Reporting requirements shall be completed on 30 April 2022 at the **latest**.

Activities cannot start prior to the date of signature of the grant agreement.

5. Targeted beneficiaries

Activities should target the following beneficiaries:

Formal and/or non-formal educators, responsible for/active in GE/GDE and in the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development from one of the target countries of the Project:

- Balkan regional grouping: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, and Turkey;
- Baltic regional grouping: Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania;
- South-east Europe & Mediterranean regional grouping: Bulgaria, Cyprus, Malta, Romania, Slovenia;

- Visegrad regional grouping: Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and the Slovak Republic.

6. Budgetary requirements

Activity proposals shall be accompanied by a draft budget (See **Template Budget, in Appendix II**) amounting to a maximum of 15 000 EUR (fifteen thousand Euros). The estimated budget must be consistent, accurate, clear, complete and cost-effective, in the light of the activities proposed.

7. Further to the general objective, preference will be given to:

Actions which target a wider spectrum of beneficiaries:

- learning communities/multipliers
- local/national political representatives or decision makers
- local/national media
- local/national entrepreneurs
- influencers/digital activists
- social communities

Actions that Link formal and non-formal approaches

Actions tackling gender mainstreaming

Initiatives which are replicable and sustainable

8. The following types of action will not be considered:

- Actions providing financial support to third parties (re-granting schemes);
- Actions concerning only or mainly individual scholarships for studies or training courses;
- Actions supporting political parties.

9. Funding conditions:

The funds for each grant should in principle be distributed as follows:

- 70 % will be paid when the Grant Agreement between the two parties is signed;
- the balance (30 %) will be paid based on actual expenditures incurred, and after the presentation and acceptance by the Council of Europe of the final narrative and financial reports for the Grant implementation.

10. Reporting requirements²:

- **narrative reporting** requires a full narrative report on the use made of the grant and a copy of the register of the persons present during each of the activities, including names and signatures of participants;
- **financial reporting** requires in particular a statement in the currency in which the Grant Agreement will be concluded (Euros or local currency), in English, stating the payments made for the implementation of the activities, certified by the responsible financial officer of the Grantee, accompanied by “appropriate original supporting documents”³.

² Templates provided as Appendix.

* All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

³ “Appropriate original supporting documents” refers to signed contracts, invoices and acceptances of work (for all transactions), payment authorisation for all transactions should also be provided in case the Grantee uses such practice, and reliable evidence of payment (authorised payment order and bank statement);

As regards round tables / conferences, presenting “appropriate original supporting documents” requires presentation of a programme indicating the title, dates, venue, and agenda of the event; the names of persons facilitating the event, a signed list of participants, the contracts with the owner of venue of the event (e.g. hotel) for the rent of premises, food and beverages of participants, invoices from the owner of the venue of the event for the above services, and a report on the results of the event (see narrative reporting above);

he Council of Europe reserves the right to ask for summary translations of invoices into English. If for legal reasons the original documents must be retained by the Grantee, certified copies must be submitted with the financial statement.

V. HOW TO APPLY?

1. Documents to be submitted:

Each application shall contain:

- the completed and signed **Application Form** (See **Appendix I**);
- a provisional budget (using the template reproduced in **Appendix II**);
- the other supporting documents:
 - Scanned copy of organisational statute
 - Latest narrative and financial report of the applying organisation
 - List of team members involved in the action with profile description
 - Communication plan

Applications that are incomplete will not be considered.

2. Questions

General information can be found on the website of the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/north-south-centre/home>.

And iLegend II project: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/north-south-centre/ilegend>

Other questions regarding this specific call for proposals must be sent at the latest one week before the deadline for the submission of proposals, in English or French and shall be exclusively sent to the following address: nscinfo@coe.int, with the following reference in subject: Call for proposals: iLegend II - Lot 2 Grant.

3. Deadline for submission

All pages of the application form must be **completed and signed**, and with the supporting documents, submitted in electronic form (Word and/or PDF) to the following e-mail address: nscinfo@coe.int. Emails should contain the following reference in subject: Call for proposals: iLegend II – Lot 2 Grant.

Applications must be received **before 19 July 2021**(at midnight CET). Applications received after the above-mentioned date will not be considered.

4. Change, alteration and modification of the application file

Any change in the format, or any alteration or modification of the original application file, will cause the immediate rejection of the application concerned.

As regards consultancy services, presenting “appropriate original supporting documents” requires presentation of evidence of the outputs produced, contracts with experts and consultants containing a specific description of services to be carried out, invoices produced after the works have been performed and delivered (the specialities of the consultants shall correspond to the nature of activities for which they are contracted);

As regards travel fees / lodging of experts and participants, presenting “appropriate original supporting documents” requires presentation, where relevant, of contracts with a travel agency for travel fees and lodging, invoices of the travel agency indicating destinations, dates, ticket costs, and names of the travelling persons, a programme of the event indicating the names of the experts and signed lists of participants;

The above description is not comprehensive. Any doubt regarding the interpretation of the notion of “appropriate original supporting documents” should lead the Grantee to consult the Council of Europe.

VI. EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

The Actions presented will be assessed by an Evaluation Committee composed of three members of the North-South Centre.

The procedure shall be based on the underlying principles of grant award procedures, which are transparency, non-retroactivity, non-cumulative awards, not-for-profit, co-financing and non-discrimination, in accordance with [Rule 1374 of 16 December 2015 on the grant award procedures of the Council of Europe](#).

The applicants, and their Actions, shall fulfil all of the following criteria:

1. Exclusion criteria:

Applicants shall be excluded from the grant award procedure where they:

- a. have been sentenced by final judgment on one or more of the following charges: participation in a criminal organisation, corruption, fraud, money laundering;
- b. are in a situation of bankruptcy, liquidation, termination of activity, insolvency or arrangement with creditors or any like situation arising from a procedure of the same kind, or are subject to a procedure of the same kind;
- c. have received a judgement with res judicata force, finding an offence that affects their professional integrity or constitutes a serious professional misconduct;
- d. do not comply with their obligations as regards payment of social security contributions, taxes and dues, according to the statutory provisions of the country where they are established;
- e. are or if their owner(s) or executive officer(s), in the case of legal persons, are included in the lists of persons or entities subject to restrictive measures applied by the European Union (available at www.sanctionsmap.eu).

By signing the Application Form, applicants shall declare on their honour that they are not in any of the above-mentioned situations.

Applications submitting a budget proposal beyond 15 000 Euros will be excluded

The Council of Europe reserves the right to ask applicants at a later stage to supply the following supporting documents:

- for the items set out in paragraphs a), b) and c), an extract from the record of convictions or failing that an equivalent document issued by the competent judicial or administrative authority of the country where the applicant is established, indicating that these requirements are met;
 - for the items set out in paragraph d), a certificate issued by the competent authority of the country of establishment;
1. for the items set out in paragraph e);
 1. for natural persons, a scanned copy of a valid photographic proof of identity (e.g. passport)

2. for legal persons, an extract from the companies register or other official document proving ownership and control of the applicant.

2. Eligibility criteria:

In order to be eligible for a grant, an applicant must:

- be a public authority and/or civil society organisation responsible for/active in GE/GDE and in the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- be from one of the target countries of the Project:
 - Balkan regional grouping: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, and Turkey;
 - Baltic regional grouping: Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania;
 - South-east Europe & Mediterranean regional grouping: Bulgaria, Cyprus, Malta, Romania, Slovenia;
 - Visegrad regional grouping: Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and the Slovak Republic;
- assure that the action is implemented in one of the countries mentioned above;
- ensure that target beneficiaries are from the above-mentioned countries;
- have enough capacities (funding, operational and professional) to carry out the proposal throughout the stipulated period;
- have a bank account in the name of the organisation or its representative in one of the above-mentioned countries.

If multiple applications are received only ONE will be awarded by applicant.

3. Award criteria

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

- relevance and sustainability of their activity proposal with regard to the objective of the call (40%);
- the action has a clear follow-up after its implementation or is part of a long-term sustainable plan (20%);
- the relevance of the experience of the applying organisation(s) and staff (20%);
- the quality, accuracy, clarity, completeness and cost-effectiveness of the application and the estimated budget (20%).

Additional criteria/extra-score:

- consortiums between governmental and non-governmental organisations will be positively assessed (20%)
- complementarity and/or cooperation with other initiatives and/or organisations in the target countries (10%) and NSC Member States, in particular DEAR projects
- gender mainstreaming in initiatives (10%)

VII. NOTIFICATION OF THE DECISION AND SIGNATURE OF GRANT AGREEMENTS

On successful completion of the selection process, all applicants will be notified in writing of the final decision concerning their respective applications as well as on the next steps to be undertaken.

The selected Grantees will be invited to sign a Grant Agreement (See Appendix III, for information only), formalising their legal commitments. **Potential applicants are strongly advised to read the draft contract, in particular its requirements in terms of payment and reporting.**

VIII. INDICATIVE TIMETABLE

Phases	Indicative timing
Publication of the call	9 June 2021
Deadline for submitting applications	19 July 2021
Information to applicants on the results of the award procedure	9 August 2021
Signature of the grant agreements	27 August 2021
Preparatory phase	Upon signature of the grant agreement
Implementation period	30 August 2021 – 30 March 2022
Final narrative and financial report	30 April 2022

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