ANNEX C9: Standard Twinning - Publication of the Call for Proposals on the Internet

TWINNING CALL FOR PROPOSALS
issued by the European Commission

1. Publication reference

EuropeAid/165694/DD/ACT/GE

2. Programme and Financing source

Project title: Strengthening Blood Safety System in Georgia, GE 18 ENI HE 01 19

Programme title: EU support for the Implementation of the EU-Georgia Association Agreement, ENI/2018/041-415 - direct management

3. Nature of activities, geographical area and project duration

(a) Short description (5 lines) of planned objectives:

The overall objective of the project is to support public health policies and programmes to prevent the spread of communicable diseases, through promoting the safety of substances of human origin and ensuring the highest possible quality level of blood transfusion service in Georgia.

The specific objective of the project is to upgrade national blood safety legislation and to strengthen national institutional capacities in accordance with European regulations and the Association Agreement with the aim to provide equal safety standards of blood components across the nation, assure safety of blood related services and prevent the spread of blood borne infections by blood transfusion.

The following mandatory results are to be achieved by this Twinning project:

Component 1/Mandatory Result 1: Approximation of Georgian primary and secondary legislation with the Union acquis on blood safety (Annex XXXI) performed

Sub-Result 1.1: National regulatory framework in blood safety revised and upgraded in accordance with Union acquis on blood safety

Component 2/Mandatory Result 2: A well-organized, nationally coordinated blood transfusion system established and functioning in accordance with the provisions of the Association Agreement

Sub-Result 2.1: National Competent Authority established and fully functional to take the role, tasks
Sub-Result 2.2: Assessment of blood banks performed
Sub-Result 2.3: reorganization of blood transfusion service (BTS) carried out
Sub-Result 2.4: Transition to the mandatory non-profit organizational form for blood establishments initiated
Sub-Result 2.5: Centralized TTI testing laboratory(s) established
Sub-Result 2.6: National reference laboratory established
Sub-Result 2.7: Nucleic Acid Testing for screening of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis B virus (HBV) and HCV introduced at centralized testing laboratory(s)
Sub-Result 2.8: Requirements for a quality systems to maintain the highest possible standards in all aspects of blood transfusion developed and implemented
Sub-Result 2.9: Unified Electronic Donor Database upgraded
Sub-Result 2.10: National Haemovigilance Network established
Sub-Result 2.11: Unnecessary blood transfusion at clinical settings reduced

Component 3/Mandatory Result 3: Blood transfusion services based on voluntary blood donation are able to ensure safe, adequate and sustainable blood supplies

Sub-result 3.1: Awareness of the general population and specific target groups on blood transfusion increased
Sub-result 3.2: Donor recruitment services strengthened at blood centres

Component 4/Mandatory Result 4: Capacity of relevant state authorities and other key stakeholders strengthened to ensure safety and quality of blood transfusion service

Sub-result 4.1: Capacities of the National Competent Authority and Beneficiary Administration strengthened
Sub-result 4.2: Capacities of the centralized laboratory and healthcare institutions (blood establishments, hospitals) strengthened

(b) Geographical area: Georgia

(c) Maximum project duration: 24 months

4. Overall amount available for this Call for Proposals

EUR 1,300,000.

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ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

5. Eligibility: Who may apply?

Only Public Administrations and Mandated bodies as per Twinning Manual of European Union Member State may apply through European Union Member States’ National Contact Points.

For applicants from the United Kingdom: Please be aware that eligibility criteria must be complied with for the entire duration of the grant. If the United Kingdom withdraws from the EU during the grant period without concluding an agreement with the EU ensuring in particular that applicants from the United Kingdom continue to be eligible, the beneficiaries from the United Kingdom will cease to receive EU funding (while continuing, where possible, to participate) or be required to leave the project on the basis of Article 12.2 of the General Conditions1 to the grant agreement.

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1 Twinning Manual Annex A2
PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

6. Provisional notification date of results of the award process
   End-October 2019

SELECTION AND AWARD CRITERIA

7. Selection and Award criteria

   Selection criteria consider the operational capacity of the Member State Project Leader, Resident Twinning Adviser and Component Leaders mentioned in the proposal: the assessment is expressed on a Yes/No basis and a single negative evaluation of one criterion disqualifies the proposal.

   Award criteria consider the merit of the main qualifying aspects of the proposal and are evaluated applying a scoring system (1 to 5):
   Selection and award of the Member State will be based on an evaluation of several qualitative aspects including but not limited to the proposed methodology, the experience of the proposed Project Leader and Resident Twinning Adviser, the institutional setting and the capacity of the administration and the Member State presentation, etc.


APPLICATION FORMALITIES

8. Twinning proposal and details to be provided

   Twinning proposals must be submitted by the Lead Member State Administration to the EU Member States National Contact Points for Twinning following the instructions of the Twinning Manual which must be strictly observed (including the use of the template).

   Only one Twinning proposal for Member State can be submitted by the Member State National Contact Points for Twinning to the Contracting Authority within the deadline for applications.

   The MS application should be submitted to the Contracting Authority via the email address of Member State National Contact Points for Twinning

9. Deadline for applications

   2 “The Contracting Authority communicates the choice of the selected Twinning partner at the latest within two weeks after the date of the selection meetings”, as per section 2.4.3.of the Twinning Manual.
Deadline for submission of Twinning proposals by the National Contact Points to the Contracting Authority: **24 September 2019, 14:00 Brussels time**

The deadline for submission of Twinning proposals by the EU Member State Public Administrations to the corresponding National Contact Point is decided by the latter. Any application received by the Contracting Authority after this deadline will not be considered.

10. **Detailed information**

Detailed information on this Call for Proposals is contained in the Twinning Manual and in the specific project Twinning Fiche, which is available at the European Union Member States **National Contact Points for Twinning**.

The tentative date(s) envisaged for starting the evaluation committee meetings is: **8 October 2019**.

For the selection meeting the Member State delegation should always include at least the proposed PL and RTA(s).