

ANNEX III – FINANCIAL and CONTRACTUAL RULES

For multibeneficiary grant agreements of KA2- Small-scale Partnerships

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I. RULES APPLICABLE FOR ACTIONS BASED ON LUMP SUMS

The grant takes the form of the lump sum specified in Annex II.

The fixed contribution covers all costs directly related to the implementation of the project activities.

The supporting documentation required at final report stage is listed in section VII. a) of this Annex. Documentary proof of incurred expenses (e.g. invoices) is not required at final report stage. However, in accordance with section VII of this Annex and article II.27 of the General Conditions, upon request by the National Agency, by the Commission or an audit body, beneficiaries must be able to provide evidence that the activities for which the grant was requested have actually been carried out.

II. CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES

- a) The beneficiaries must ensure that the activities of the project for which grant support was awarded are eligible in accordance with the rules set out in the Erasmus+ Programme Guide for each Key Action and each field.
- b) Activities undertaken that are not compliant with the rules set out in the Erasmus+ Programme Guide as complemented by the rules set out in this Annex must be declared ineligible by the NA and the grant amounts corresponding to the activities concerned must be reimbursed in full. The reimbursement must cover all budget categories for which a grant was awarded in relation to the activity that is declared ineligible.

III. FINAL REPORT

The final report will be evaluated on the basis of quality criteria and scored on a total of maximum 100 points. If the final report scores below 60 points in total, the NA may reduce the final grant amount on the basis of poor, partial or late implementation of the Project even if all activities reported were eligible and actually took place. The final report and project results will be assessed by the NA, using a common set of quality criteria focusing on:

- The extent to which the project was implemented in line with the approved grant application

- The quality of activities undertaken and their consistency with the project objectives
- The quality of the products and results produced
- The learning outcomes and impact on participants
- The extent to which the project proved to be innovative/complementary to other initiatives
- The extent to which the project proved to add value at EU level
- The extent to which the project implemented effective quality measures as well as measures for evaluating the project's outcomes
- The impact on the participating organisations
- The quality and scope of the dissemination activities undertaken
- The potential wider impact of the project on individuals and organisations beyond the beneficiaries

IV. GRANT REDUCTION FOR POOR, PARTIAL OR LATE IMPLEMENTATION

Poor, partial or late implementation of the Project may be established by the NA on the basis of the final report submitted by the coordinator (including reports from individual participants taking part in the mobility activities) and on the basis of the project results.

In addition, the NA may also consider information received from any other relevant source, proving that the Project is not implemented in accordance with the contractual provisions. Other sources of information may include monitoring visits, accreditation interim reports, desk checks or on the spot checks undertaken by the NA.

If the final report scores below 60 points in total, the NA may reduce the final grant amount on the basis of poor, partial or late implementation of the action even if all activities reported were eligible and actually took place. In that case, a grant reduction may correspond to:

- 10% if the final report scores at least 50 points and below 60 points;

- 25% if the final report scores at least 40 points and below 50 points;
- 50% if the final report scores at least 25 points and below 40 points;
- 75% if the final report scores below 25 points.

In case a planned project activity is not carried out and it is not replaced by another equivalent activity, the NA shall reduce the grant by the amount allocated to that activity as indicated in Annex II of the grant agreement.

V. CHECKS OF GRANT BENEFICIARIES AND PROVISION OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

In accordance with Article II.27 of Annex I of the Agreement, the beneficiaries may be subject to checks and audits in relation to the Agreement. Checks and audits aim at verifying whether the beneficiaries managed the grant in respect of the rules set out in the Agreement, in order to establish the final grant amount to which the beneficiaries are entitled.

A final report check must be performed for all projects. In addition, the project may be subject to a further desk check or on-the-spot check if the project Agreement is included in the NA sample required by the European Commission or if the NA selected the Agreement for a targeted check based on its risk assessment.

For final report check and desk check, the coordinator must supply to the NA copies of supporting documents specified in the section I.2 (including supporting documents from the other beneficiaries) to the NA, unless the NA makes a request for originals to be delivered. The NA must return original supporting documents to the beneficiary upon its analysis thereof. If the beneficiary is legally not authorised to send original documents for final report or desk checks, a physical or electronic copy of the supporting documents may be sent instead.

For any type of check the beneficiaries may be requested by the NA to provide additional supporting documents or evidence that are typically required for another type of check, as specified in article II.27 of the General Conditions.

The different checks must include the following:

a) Final report check

The final report check is undertaken at final report stage at the NA premises in order to establish the final grant amount to which the beneficiaries are entitled.

The beneficiary's final report must include the following information:

- Detailed description of each activity carried out.
- Quantitative and qualitative information showing the level of achievement of the project objectives stated in the application
- Project results, by uploading them in the Erasmus+ Project Results Platform.
- Self-assessment, indicating as a percentage the level of achievement of the project objectives.

b) Desk check

The desk check is an in-depth check of supporting documents as well as evidence of the underlying reality of the project implementation, carried out at the NA premises that may be conducted at or after the final report stage.

Upon request, the coordinator must submit to the National Agency the supporting documents, and evidence supporting the quality of the deliverables.

c) On-the-spot checks

On-the-spot checks are performed by the NA at the premises of the beneficiaries or at any other premise relevant for the execution of the Project. During on-the-spot checks, the beneficiaries must make original supporting documentation available for review by the National Agency and must enable the National Agency access to the recording of project expenses in the beneficiary's accounts.

On-the-spot checks can take the following forms:

- On-the-spot check during project implementation: this check is undertaken during the implementation of the Project in order for the National Agency to directly verify the quality, reality and eligibility of all project activities and participants;
- On-the-spot check after completion of the project: this check is undertaken after the end of the Project and usually after the final report check.