



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Resource management and better regulation
Finance, budget and controls

Updated at 07/05/2018

Questions and Answers

Pilot Project

Below you will find answers to the questions raised about the current calls for proposals relating to the two Pilot Projects, which were launched on 31 January 2017. The document contains a general section with Q&A applicable to the two calls, as well as separate sections for Q&A specific to each individual Pilot Project.

User questions and answers — General questions

1. What does it mean pilot project?

A Pilot project is defined in the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the Union (Regulation (EU, EURATOM) No 966/2012 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 25 October 2012) and relates to projects of an experimental nature designed to test the feasibility of an action and its usefulness.

This action has its own financing decision and annex, which are to be found at: https://ec.europa.eu/food/funding/grants-beneficiaries_en

Pilot project 1-1-2018 — Call for proposals on Environmental monitoring of pesticide use through honeybees.

1. The following wording and reference to "the annual work programme" appears in the Part B (technical content):

"4. *Political Relevance*

4.1. *Contribution to meeting the objectives and priorities defined in the annual work programme"*

Can you please clarify which specific annual work programme is meant by the reference?

In fact, the subtitle 4.1 " Contribution....annual work programme " is part of the standard template to fill in when submitting a proposal through the Participant Portal, and is also described as such in the Guide for Applicants.

However in the current case, when referring to the annual work program, it should be read as "Contribution ... to the financing decision".

In this respect, please have a look at Point 9. of the Call for Proposals document relating to "Award Criteria".

The information that is requested is linked to the first award criterion as described in the Call document "(a) Project's contribution to meeting the objectives and priorities defined in the financing decision" and will be read in that perspective.

For your information, as also mentioned in the preface to the Guide for Applicants, please note that the provisions of the Call for Proposals document supersede the Guide for Applicants document.

- 2. With reference to the call PP-1-1-2018: ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING OF PESTICIDE USE THROUGH HONEYBEES. In particular, in the 'Call document' there is reported (at point 9): "Following the evaluation, a list is drawn up containing proposals reaching all the thresholds and ranked according to the total number of points awarded. Only the highest ranked proposal will be awarded co-financing". Does it mean that only 1 project will be funded?**

Your understanding is correct, indeed only 1 proposal will be funded.

- 3. It is foreseen a co-funding of 60%. The remaining 40% can be contributed by a third party, from own resources or through remunerated activities carried out under the project. The partners are well aware of these co-financing needs and think of co-financing through different projects. Would you please give us an idea on how to complete those remaining 40%? Is it possible to charge the costs of permanent staff?**

We need also some assistance in writing some parts of the project, including structuring objectives and evaluating project progress. Do you have any examples or tips?

As regards the co-financing of the remaining 40%, this can indeed be done, amongst other, by self-financing the remaining staff cost of the people charged to the project.

One could also envisage to attract funding through other sources (third party contributions). If this third party funding exceeds 40%, the Commission might consider the excess in the calculation of the no-profit rule.

As regards the writing of the project proposal, in order to ensure objectivity, I cannot at this stage provide you with any tips.

- 4. It is mentioned on the work program that highly-importance projects could be granted an 80% co-funding. On which criteria can we justify such**

importance? Can we propose in our proposal an 80% co-funding-based budget or is it negotiated at the time of grant preparation?

I am not sure to which work program that you are referring, but in the current call for proposals for this Pilot Project, there is no possibility to have 80% co-financing. As defined in the Financing Decision and its annex, and as mentioned in the Call document, point 4 (page 3), the maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible total costs is 60%. On page 1 and 2 of the Call document, it is reminded that the scope of this pilot project and its call are defined by the following Financing decision and its annex:

Financing decision:

https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/animals/docs/la_bees_proj_financing-dec-2017-8510.pdf

Annex:

https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/animals/docs/la_bees_proj_financing-dec-2017-8510_annex.pdf

Pilot project 1-2-2018 — Call for proposals on Rare 2030 - a participatory foresight study for policy-making rare diseases

- 1. It is written: "Rare 2030 is a two-year project, led by a research team, but using inclusive methods to promote a focus on EU added value." Can a non-research NGO be the coordinator of the project (for instance a patient organisation)? Will the external evaluators be aware of your response?**

I would like to inform you that a non-research organisation can be the coordinator of the project. In this respect, see point 6 of the Call document on the Eligibility Criteria.

The answers provided to the questions raised will be available to the evaluators of the proposals received to this call.

- 2. It is written: "The maximum rate for EU co-financing is 60 %". Is it possible that a beneficiary receives more than 60%?**

An individual beneficiary being part of a consortium may receive more than 60% co-financing, but the consortium as a whole cannot receive more than 60% co-financing.

However, we are not in favour of big discrepancies between partners of a consortium as the co-financing rate is based on the total eligible costs and under-implementation of the budget may have detrimental effect on the individual beneficiaries receiving the higher co-financing rate.

- 3. I have a question concerning the call Rare 2030 - a participatory foresight study for policy-making rare diseases. How many projects are expected to be financed?**

For this pilot project only 1 proposal will be funded.

