**GRANT CONTRACT**

**- EXTERNAL ACTIONS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION -**

**<**Grant contract identification number*>*

(the ‘contract’)

Government of the Republic of Serbia, Ministry of Finance, Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes, Balkanska St, 53, 11000 Belgrade, (the ‘contracting authority’)

of the one part,

and

<Full official name as mentioned in the LEF>

[<Legal status (organisation)>] [<title (individual)>]

[<Organisation official registration number>] [<Passport or ID number >]

<Full official address>

**[**VAT number, for VAT registered beneficiaries**]**,

If a multi-beneficiary grant: [hereinafter the ‘coordinator’

]

[and

<Full official name as mentioned in the LEF of any co-beneficiary(ies)>

[<Legal status (organisation)>] [<title (individual)>]

[<Organisation official registration number>] [<Passport or ID number >]

<Full official address>

[VAT number, for VAT registered beneficiaries]

who have conferred powers of attorney for the purposes of the signature of the agreement to the coordinator[[1]](#footnote-1), collectively referred to as ‘beneficiary(ies)’ where a provision applies without distinction to the coordinator and the co-beneficiary(ies) ]

of the other part,

(the ‘parties’)

have agreed as follows:

**Special conditions**

**Article 1 — Purpose**

1.1 The purpose of this contract is the award of a grant by the contracting authority to finance the implementation of the action entitled: <title of the action> (the ‘action’) described in Annex I.

1.2 The beneficiary(ies) shall be awarded the grant on the terms and conditions set out in this contract, which consists of these special conditions (the ‘special conditions’) and the annexes, which the beneficiary(ies) hereby declares it has noted and accepted.

1.3 The beneficiary(ies) accepts the grant and undertakes to be responsible for carrying out the action.

**Article 2 — Implementation period of the action**

2.1 This contract shall enter into force on the date when the second of the two parties signs.

2.2 Implementation of the action shall begin on:

choose one of the following:

*-* [the day following that on which the second of the two parties signs]

- [the first day of the month following the date on which the first instalment of pre-financing is paid by the contracting authority]

- [<a later date (specify the date)>]

2.3 The implementation period of the action, as laid down in Annex I, is <number of months>.

2.4 The execution period of this contract shall end when the payment of the balance is made by the contracting authority and, in any event, at the latest 18 months after the end of the implementation period as stipulated in Article 2.3 unless postponed in accordance with Article 12.5 of Annex II.

**Article 3 — Financing the action[[2]](#footnote-2)**

3.1 The total eligible costs are estimated at EUR <amount, for action grants, enter the amount in heading 11 of Annex III >, as set out in Annex III.

3.2 The contracting authority undertakes to finance a maximum amount of EUR <amount>.

The grant is further limited to <enter applicable percentage > of the total eligible cost of the action specified in paragraph 1.

The final amount of the contracting authority’s contribution shall be determined in accordance with Articles 14 and 17 of Annex II.

3.3 Pursuant to Article 14.8 of Annex II, <enter percentage, maximum 7 % …>% of the final amount of direct eligible costs of the action established in accordance with Articles 14 and 17 of Annex II, may be claimed as indirect costs.

**Article 4 — Reporting and payment arrangements**

4.1 Payments shall be made in accordance with Article 15 of Annex II option no. <choose 1 ,2 or 3> as set out in Article 15.1

**[Option 1 and 2]**

Initial pre-financing payment EUR<amount>.

**[Option 2 only.]**

Note that the forecast instalments should be indicated as one global amount and not broken down per payment. The actual instalments will be based on the updated forecast for the next reporting period. The total sum of pre-financing payments may not exceed 90 % of the amount referred to in Article 3.2 of the special conditions, excluding not authorised contingencies.

Further pre-financing payments(s): EUR <amount> (subject to the provisions of Annex II).

**[Option 1-2-3]**

Balance of the final amount of the grant:

(subject to the provisions of Annex II): EUR <amount>

4.1.1 if a financial guarantee is requested:The first instalment of pre-financing shall be accompanied by a financial guarantee amounting to EUR <amount, usually the amount of the first prefinancing payment> and complying with the requirements of Article 15.8 of Annex II.

4.1.2 In relation to Article 2 of Annex II, the Beneficiaries shall submit reports on the achievement of indicators according to the following schedule:

* 31 March
* 30 June
* 30 September
* 31 December

all along the period of implementation of their contract, as well as upon the submission of the final narrative report of the contract. These reports will be submitted through an information system. The Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS) of the programme will be available for technical support while using this information system and will carry out a sort of validation of the submitted data.

Contact details of the corresponding JTS of the programme: [office@rs-mk.org](mailto:office@rs-mk.org).

In relation to Article 2 of Annex II, the Beneficiaries shall also submit progress report to CA according to the following schedule:

* 31 March
* 30 June
* 30 September
* 31 December

The JTS shall perform monitoring visits minimum twice during the implementantion of the Contract. The monitoring visits will revolve around elements of result-oriented monitoring with the purpose to assess the quality of implementation of the project in terms of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, impact & cross-border effect, coherence & complementarity and community added value, as well as to validate the data submitted by the beneficiaries in relation to the achievement of indicators.

4.2 An electronic system will be used by the contracting authority and the beneficiary(ies) for all stages of implementation including, inter alia, management of the contract (amendments and notifications), reporting (including reporting on results) and payments. The beneficiary(ies) will be required to register in and use the appropriate electronic exchange system to allow for the e-management of the contract. With regard to interim and final reports, the beneficiary(ies) will be expected to use the forms in the electronic system for encoding and submitting the reports.

The electronic management of the contract through the aforementioned system may commence on the date on which implementation of the contract starts, as described in Article 2 above, or at a later date. In the latter case, the contracting authority will inform the beneficiary(ies) in writing that he/they will be required to use the electronic system for all communications within a maximum period of 3 months.

**Article 5 — Contact addresses**

5.1 Any communication relating to this contract shall be in writing, state the number and title of the action and be sent to the following addresses:

For the contracting authority

Ministry of Finance, Government of the Republic of Serbia

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

Balkanska St, 53, Belgrade, 11000

Republic of Serbia

A copy of the reports referred to in Article 4.1 shall be sent to the concerned service of the European Commission, at the following address:

**Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia**

Vladimira Popovića 40, GTC Avenue block 19a

11070 Belgrade, Republic of Serbia

For the coordinator

<address of the coordinator for correspondence>

5.2 The expenditure verification(s) referred to in Article 15.7 of Annex II will be carried out < name, address, telephone and fax numbers*>*.

**Article 6 — Annexes**

6.1 The following documents are annexed to these special conditions and form an integral part of the contract:

Annex I: Description of the action (including the logical framework of the project,  
and the concept note)

Annex II: General conditions applicable to European Union-financed grant contracts for external actions

Annex III: Budget for the action (worksheets 1, 2 and 3)

Annex IV: Procurement rules for beneficiary(ies)

Annex V: Standard request for payment and financial identification form

Annex VI: Model narrative and financial report

Annex VII: Terms of reference for an expenditure verification of a European Union financed grant contract for external actions and model report of factual findings

Annex VIII: Model financial guarantee

Annex IX: Standard template for transfer of asset ownership

6.2 In the event of a conflict between the provisions of the present special conditions and any annex thereto, the special conditions shall take precedence. In the event of a conflict between the provisions of Annex II and those of the other annexes, those of Annex II shall take precedence.

**Article 7 — Other specific conditions applying to the action**

7.1 The general conditions in Annex II are supplemented by the following:

If any affiliated entity in line with the guidelines for applicants:

7.1.x For the purpose of this agreement, the following legal entities are considered as affiliated entities:

- <name of the legal entity>, affiliated to <name of the beneficiary>;

- <name of the legal entity>, affiliated to <name of the beneficiary>;

Costs incurred by these affiliated entities may be accepted as eligible, provided the entities concerned abide by all the relevant rules applicable to the beneficiary(ies) under this contract.

7.1.2 VAT/ taxes, duties and charges are not eligible.

7.1.3 Where the implementation of the action requires the setting up or the use of a project office, the beneficiary(ies) may declare as direct eligible costs the portion of the operating costs of the project office described in the proposal which corresponds to the duration of the Action either based on costs actually incurred by the project office for the action or on the cost apportionment approach presented as part of the proposal.

7.2 The following derogations from Annex II shall apply:

7.2.1 By way of derogation from Article 15.6 of Annex II, once the deadline laid down in Article 15.4 has expired, the coordinator shall be entitled to late payment interest in accordance with Article 15.6. In such case, a demand must be submitted within two months of receiving late payment.

7.2.x By derogation to Article 15.9 of Annex II, and for the purpose of reporting, conversion into the currency set in the special conditions shall be made using the INFOREURO exchange rate of the month when implementation of the Action begins, as defined in Article 2.2 in Special Conditions.. < insert here the exchange rate to be used for reporting according to Article 15.9 of Annex II >

7.2.3 By way of derogation from Article 14.11 of Annex II, the following costs shall not be considered eligible:

1. debts and debt service charges (interest);
2. provisions for losses, debts or potential future liabilities;
3. costs declared by the Beneficiary(ies) and financed by another action or work programme receiving a European Union grant (including through European Development Fund);
4. purchase of land and existing buildings, except where justified by the nature of the programme in the financing decision, in which case ownership must be transferred in accordance with Article 7.5 of the general conditions of the standard grant contract, at the latest at the end of the action;
5. currency exchange losses;
6. credit to third parties;
7. in kind contributions (except for volunteers' work);
8. performance-based bonuses included in costs of staff.
9. fines, financial penalties and expenses of litigation
10. negative interest charged by banks or other financial institutions.

7.2.4 By way of derogation from Article 15.4 of Annex II, the following shall apply:

The initial pre-financing payment shall be made within 30 days of receipt of the payment request by the contracting authority.

In cases when Coordinator specifies a later date for the start of implementation of the Action stipulated in article 2.2 of special conditions, initial pre-financing payment shall be made within 30 days of the implementation start date specified in article 2.2 of special conditions, where the signed contract serves as payment request.

Further pre-financing payments and payments of the balance shall be made within 60 days of receipt of the payment request by the contracting authority.

However, further pre-financing payments and payments of the balance shall be made within 90 days of receipt of the payment request by the contracting authority in any of the following cases:

a) one beneficiary with affiliated entity(ies);

b) if more than one beneficiary is party to this contract;

c) if the Commission is not the contracting authority;

d) for grants exceeding EUR 5 000 000.

The payment request is deemed accepted if there is no written reply by the contracting authority within the deadlines set above.

7.3 For the purpose of Article 1.3 and 1.4 of the general conditions, for the part of the data transferred by the contracting authority to the European Commission the controller for the processing of personal data carried out within the Commission is the head of Contract and finance unit R4 of DG Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations.

7.3.1 Articles 1.3 and 1.4 of Annex II shall be replaced by the following:

1. Processing of personal data related to the implementation of the grant contract by the contracting authority takes place in accordance with the national legislation of the state of the contracting authority and with the provisions of the respective financing agreement.

2. To the extent that the grant contract covers an action financed by the European Union, the Contracting Authority may share communications related to the implementation of the grant contract, with the European Commission. These exchanges shall be made to the Commission, solely for the purpose of allowing the latter to exercise its rights and obligations under the applicable legislative framework and under the financing agreement with the Partner country – contracting authority. The exchanges may involve transfers of personal data (such as names, contact details, signatures and CVs) of natural persons involved in the implementation of the grant contract (such as contractors, staff, experts, trainees, subcontractors, insurers, guarantors, auditors and legal counsel). In cases where the contractor is processing personal data in the context of the implementation of the grant contract, he/she shall accordingly inform the data subjects of the possible transmission of their data to the Commission. When personal data is transmitted to the Commission, the latter processes them in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC[[3]](#footnote-3) and as detailed in the specific privacy statement published at ePRAG.

Done in English in three originals, one original being for the contracting authority, one original being for the European Commission, and one original being for the beneficiary(ies).

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **For the beneficiary(ies) [[4]](#footnote-4)** | | **For the contracting authority** | |
| Name |  | Name |  |
| Title |  | Title |  |
| Signature |  | Signature |  |
| Date |  | Date |  |

1. Model mandate provided in Annex A to the guidelines for applicants. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. In case of action grants, note that the amount awarded and percentages stated in this article shall also be updated in Annex III Budget of the action, in the worksheet ‘Expected sources of funding and summary of estimated costs’. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. OJ L 205 of 21.11.2018, p. 39 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. In accordance with the mandate conferred on the coordinator, (see application form), the coordinator signs this contract also on behalf of the other beneficiaries, who, therefore, do not need to individually sign this contract to become parties to it. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)