



SELECTION CRITERIA FOR PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY **“GIVE EUR-HOPE” A.S.B.L.**

INTRODUCTION

« GIVE EUR-HOPE » a.s.b.l. (a not for profit organisation), hereinafter “the Association“, has set itself the goal, by means of real and tangible actions, of promoting solidarity between the staff of the European Institutions and individuals, families and groups who are living in poverty and experiencing social exclusion in EU countries. With this purpose in mind, it will endeavour:

- to raise awareness among the staff of the EU institutions of the problems and causes of poverty and social and cultural exclusion
- to encourage reflection on these issues by organising various activities, such as conferences, seminars and other events
- to provide real support to associations and NGOs which combat poverty and social exclusion in the EU Member States

In the light of its own human and financial resources, the Association is obliged, however, to limit the scope of its interventions and the terms of its action. It has therefore defined a series of conditions which each project must meet before any funding for it can be envisaged.

When granting financial support to a project, the Association has particular regard to how compatible the project is with the comprehensive safeguarding of human rights, which is the cornerstone of the fight against poverty and social exclusion.

Poverty is a denial of all human rights (civil, political, social, economic, cultural and other) whereas the fundamental right of every human being to have his or her dignity respected is at the core of what the European Union represents. The fight against poverty is therefore the fight to ensure that all people can exercise their citizens’ rights, in the interest of society as a whole and the credibility of the European Social Model.

TYPE OF AID

GIVE EUR-HOPE may

- contribute to the development of projects to combat poverty and social exclusion, by providing financial support for concrete and clearly defined projects;
- support the launch of a new activity of a non-profit body, provided that the activity in question is defined as a project conforming with the criteria set out below;



- help organisations which undertake to support the poorest people in the territory of the EU - by making available to them - on a voluntary, limited and occasional basis - its own skills in those areas of activity in which they experience problems in the day-to-day management of their work and/or in their attempts to better orientate their work to achieve their objective;
- intervene, on an exceptional basis, to demonstrate solidarity between the staff of the European Institutions and the victims of natural disasters in the territory of the European Union.

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA OF INTERVENTION

The Association supports projects operating in the territory of the European Union, without discriminating between beneficiaries, other than by favouring projects which benefit the most particularly deprived people or groups.

SCALE OF INVOLVEMENT

Although the Association does not normally co-finance projects supported by large donors it can intervene to help an NGO to collect the funds necessary to obtain co-financing from a large donor if its involvement is clearly defined in terms of the purpose and the amount, if it corresponds to the criteria below and if it contributes in a real way to the development of this project.

AREAS OF INTERVENTION

GIVE EUR-HOPE will intervene exclusively for the benefit of people and families who are in a precarious situation in the following areas:

1. Constructing or renovating dwellings and social and care centres or facilities;
2. Setting up basic health facilities (dispensaries in underprivileged areas, nurses/street nurses) ;
3. Training people for citizenship, by informing them about their rights as citizens, as well as imparting the skills necessary to exercise those rights (literacy support, language classes);
4. Initiatives in the socio-cultural field, intended to favour the sharing of knowledge, including doing so by artistic expression;
5. Setting up or supporting professional development networks and tutorial networks;

APPLICANTS FOR AND BENEFICIARIES OF AID



The Association shall endeavour to stimulate or respond to initiatives coming from grass roots organisations which aim to respond to the needs and realities of the poorest and most socially excluded people. In practice, this means that the projects must be of direct and tangible benefit to the people or groups concerned and that the people or groups must be involved, in so far as possible, at all stages of the cycle of the projects (conception, development and management).

The association can give consideration to proposals submitted by individual promoters or by organisations providing services, at their request, or with their agreement, on condition that the proposals in question are of benefit to the most impoverished groups or people,. In this latter case, the project promoter and the applicant for financial aid should each be a charitable organisation or body officially registered with local or national authorities and having legal status. Where these conditions are not met, equivalent guarantees will be required.

Every request for support, whether financial or otherwise, should be accompanied by references from reliable organisations regarding previous collaboration and experiences, ideally from several organisations which are independent of each other, and which are known to the Association. However, in the case of NGOs which are in their start-up phase, GIVE EUR-HOPE, may accept statements of support or references regarding the experience and reliability of the persons who manage the association or NGO in question.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROJECTS

GIVE EUR-HOPE gives priority to small and medium-sized associations and NGOs which are active on the ground and are less likely to receive public or private institutional support.

It prefers to support projects which require one single injection of funds for the initial stage of a sustainable process fostering social integration. Projects should have a lasting effect, at least in the medium term, providing real benefits for the beneficiaries, improving their lot and contributing to their integration - beyond the point of initial funding by the Association. This presupposes that these projects:

- a) contribute to the fight against poverty and social exclusion, by developing and empowering people;
- b) respond to needs and requests for aid which are based on the beneficiaries' life experiences and come from the beneficiaries themselves;
- c) are technically feasible (can be brought to completion)
- d) guarantee the competence and reliability of the personnel responsible for the project on the ground throughout the time required for the development of the project;
- e) are economically viable, and capable of eventually becoming self-financing, in the case of revenue-generating projects.



FINANCING

Whether it is alone in supporting a project or whether it co-finances with other fund providers, the Association confines its financial contribution to a few thousand euros per project. A higher contribution may be envisaged, especially if it can be demonstrated that this will lead to a higher contribution from other fund providers.

Wherever the structure of a project allows it, the Association staggers payment of its contributions, especially where these are relatively significant, by making payments by stages on completion of the various phases and the submission of proof of satisfactory completion of the work done. In this way, it is possible to verify that a project is progressing in accordance with the stated aims.

Where the beneficiaries are actively involved in a project, the chances of such a project being a success are increased greatly. This is why the Association wishes, as far as possible, that the beneficiaries make their own contribution to a project, whether they make it in monetary form or through their own personal involvement.

The Association doesn't usually cover salary costs, except in cases where the intervention of a professional is indispensable to the completion of a project and where that cost cannot be covered by other means.

Neither does it usually contribute to professional fees and charges or to the operating costs of existing organisations, despite their relevance.

All grants of funding given by the Association must be the subject of a follow-up report from the beneficiary.

RENEWAL OF SUPPORT

The association can support several projects submitted consecutively by the same group of beneficiaries or by the same promoter, in so far as follow-up reports have been submitted.

However, the Association doesn't simultaneously support more than one project per group of beneficiaries or per promoter, unless there are compelling reasons for doing so.

Equally, following the successful conclusion of a project which has been supported by the Association, the Association may allow a period of more than one year to elapse before providing further support to the same promoter, in order to avoid favoring it over others. However, this principle does not apply in relation to projects which make up the constituent stages of a whole.

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