

Promotion of agricultural products



National Info-Day in Finland

24 January 2024

European Research Executive Agency (REA)

Unit B.4

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- Eligibility rules (activities, applicants, products & schemes, competitive procedure)
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European Research Executive Agency (REA)

As from 1 April 2021 REA manages the implementation of promotion measures concerning agri-food products





Promotion programmes



EU promotion policy – types of action

Information and promotion programmes :

- √ 1 to 3 years
- ✓ Submitted by proposing organisations (PO)
- ✓ SIMPLE programmes: one or more PO from the same MS
- ✓ MULTI programmes : several POs from several MS + EU organisations

Commission initiatives :

- ✓ Information and promotion measures :
 - High-level missions
 - Participation in trade fairs
 - Own campaigns
- ✓ Technical support services

Eligibility and related aspects



Eligible activities (Section 6 of Call for proposals)

- 1. Management of the project
- 2. Public relations (PR activities, media events)
- 3. Website, social media
- 4. Advertising (print, TV, radio, online, outdoor, cinema, etc)
- 5. Communication tools (publications, media kits, promotional merchandise, promotional videos)
- 6. Events (stands at trade fairs, seminars, workshops, B2B meetings, trainings for trade/cooks, activities in schools, restaurant weeks, sponsorship of events, study trips to Europe)
- 7. Point-of-sale (POS) promotion (tasting days, other: promotion in retailers' publications, POS advertising)
- 78. Evaluation of results and impact

Eligible organisations (Reg. 1144/2014 Art. 7)

- Trade or inter-trade organisations representative of the sector(s) concerned at MS level
- 2. Trade or inter-trade organisations at EU level
- **3. Producer organisations** or associations of producer org. (PO APO)
- 4. Agri-food sector bodies with public service mission in charge of promotion of agricultural products (example: Chambers of Agriculture)



Eligible organisations

- Must be representative of the sector or product(s) promoted (Art 1 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/1829) — fill Annex on representativeness
- Trade or inter-trade organisations
 - Rule of 50 % of the volume or value of marketable production of the product/s or sector concerned in the MS or at EU level;
 - Recognised by the MS (Reg. 1308/2013)
- Groups Gls (Reg. 1151/2012):
 - Rule of 50 % of the volume or value of marketable production of the product(s) with registered denomination

Flexibility for lower thresholds <50%: if specific circumstances justify treating the organisation as being representative

Eligible organisations

• <u>Producer organisation(s)</u> recognised by the MS (Articles 152 and 156 of Reg. (EU) 1308/2013)

Agri-food sector bodies

Cumulative conditions need to be fulfilled:

- a. It is an agri-food sector body
- b. Its objective is to provide information on, and to promote, agricultural products
- It has been entrusted, by the Member State concerned, with a clearly defined public service mission in this area
- d. It has been legally established in the Member State in question at least two years prior to the date of the call for proposals
- e. It has representatives of the product(s) or sector concerned by the programme among its memberships Exception for programmes carried out in response to a loss of consumer confidence



Eligible products and schemes

- ✓ All agricultural products listed in Annex I to TFEU covered excluding tobacco
- ✓ Open to certain processed products (beer, chocolate, pasta, sweet corn, cotton...) in Annex I to Reg. 1144/2014
- ✓ Spirits with a Protected Geographical Indication
- ✓ Wine:
 - ✓ Simple programmes = Basket approach
 - ✓ Multi programmes = Wine alone possible
 - ✓ On the internal market = Information on quality schemes or responsible consumption
- ✓ Fishery and aquaculture products: Basket approach
- ✓ Schemes : EU quality schemes (PDO/PGI/TSG, organic, RUP) national quality schemes



Rules concerning campaign messages

✓ Union message



- ✓ In the internal market, for **schemes as referred to in Article 5(4)** of Regulation (EU) No 1144/2014 :
 - √ to focus on the(se) scheme(s) in its main Union message
 - ✓ one or several products can illustrate(s) the(se) scheme(s)
 - ✓ products shall appear as a secondary message in relation to the main Union Message





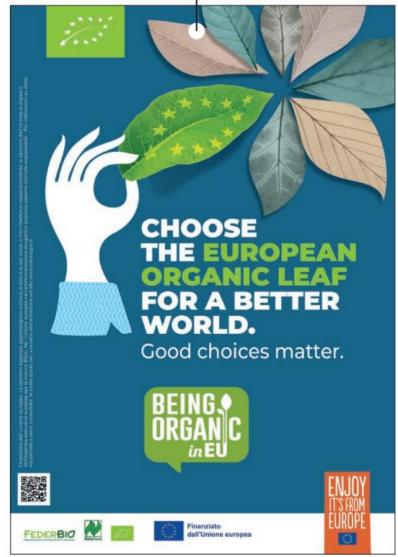






Examples of campaigns promoting EU quality schemes in the internal market







Rules on competitive procedure

Legal context

- ✓ Competitive procedure for the selection of implementing bodies
 - For the simple programmes (article 13 Reg. 1144/2014): selection before the signature of the GA
 - For simple programmes: Implementing regulation requires
 Member States to verify selection before signing the
 Grant Agreements
- Delegated act defines competitive procedure as ensuring
 - best value for money, or lowest price, and
 - absence of conflict of interest.
- When the contracting authority is a "body governed by public law": rules on public procurement according Directive 2014/24/EU



Guidance on competitive procedure

Member States are required to establish the competitive procedure for the selection of implementing bodies in case of simple programmes by taking account that

- the procedure is proportionate to the economic importance;
- while the fundamental principles of the EU Treaty are observed.

The **competitive procedure** should consist of at least:

- the contract notice is published and adequately advertised;
- sufficient time for the receipt of tenders is provided;
- an objective and non-discriminatory evaluation of the tenders;
- the assessment of any possible conflict of interests.

'Quality' criteria of the activity that is to be subcontracted must be clearly defined.

Guidance note:



Guidance on competitive procedure (MULTI)

Not required to select the implementing/evaluation body prior to the submission of the proposal or grant signature.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to apply the general rule: **best value for money** (or lowest price) **and absence of conflict of interest** (art. 6.2 of the Grant Agreement).

The description of the selection procedure should be a part of the proposal (SIMPLE & MULTI).

In addition, if the project is selected, a specific subcontracting report deliverable has to be provided at months 3 at the latest.



Sources of information

- Commission website: <u>policy-related information</u>, Annual work programme, EC selection decisions
- REA website: implementation rules, results of past calls, campaign map, market entry handbooks, webinars
- <u>Funding&Tenders (F&T) portal</u>: calls for proposals, guidance documents, model grant agreement, FAQ
- Info day held in Brussels on 31/01-1/02 2024, national info days
- Register for REA newsletter to stay informed



How to apply ?

- Corporate guidance and templates
- Preparing the application: guidance documents
- Where to find information
- Final recommendations



Funding & tender opportunities

Commission Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)

SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS ▼ HOW TO PARTICIPATE ▼ PROJECTS & RESULTS WORK AS AN EXPERT SUPPORT ▼

Find calls for proposals and tenders

Search calls for proposals and tenders by keywords, programmes...

Search

EU Programmes

Asylum, Migration and Border Management and Visa Customs Control Equipment Connecting Europe Facility Citizens, Equality, Rights and Creative Europe (CREA) Integration Fund (AMIF) Instrument (BMVI) Instrument (CCEI) (CEF) Values Programme (CERV) Customs Programme (CUST) Digital Europe Programme European Defence Fund (EDF) European Parliament (EP) **EU Anti-fraud Programme** Europe Direct (ED) (EUAF) (DIGITAL) Europe n Solidarity Corps Erasmus+ Programme European Social Fund + (ESF) European Maritime, Fisheries Euratom Research and Training Fiscalis Programme (FISC) (ESC) (ERASMUS) and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) Programme (EURATOM) Innovation Fund (INNOVFUND) Internal Security Fund (ISF) Horizon Europe (HORIZON) Single Market Programme Social Prerogative and Specific EU External Action (RELEX) (SMP) Competencies Lines (SOCPL) Interregion | Innovation Justice Programme (JUST) Protection of the Euro against Pilot Projects and Preparatory Programme for the Promotion of Agricultural Counterfeiting Programme Investment (I3) Actions (PPPA) **Environment and Climate** Products (AGRIP) (PERICLES) Action (LIFE)



AGRIP
Promotion of Agri Products

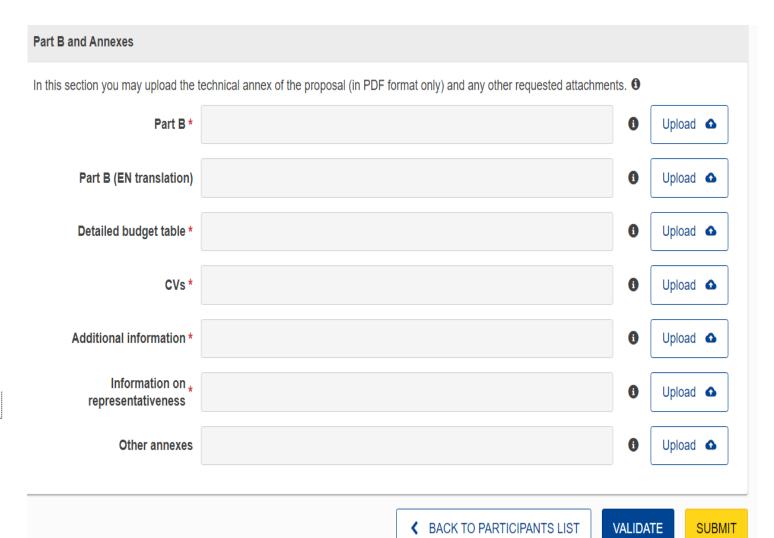
F& T Portal

Timetable and deadlines (indicative)	
Call opening:	18 January 2024
Deadline for submission:	14 May 2024 - 17:00:00 CET (Brussels)
Evaluation:	May-August 2024
Information on evaluation results:	November 2024
GA signature:	December 2024-February 2025

Tpl_Info on Representativeness (AGRIP MULTI and SIMPLE).rtf

Tpl_Detailed Budget Table (AGRIP MULTI and SIMPLE).xlsx

Tpl_Application Form (Part B) (AGRIP MULTI).rtf



Corporate guidance and templates

- Calls are published under the new MFF multiannual financial framework.
- Model Grant Agreement (MGA), call text, guidance documents and submission templates are available in the <u>F&T portal reference documents</u>.
 - MGA Multi
 - MGA Simple



Guidance documents (Preparing the application)

- Programme guide (specific to Promotion of agricultural products, translated, applicable to both simple and multi)
 Not anymore two distinct guides for applicants
- <u>Application form</u> incl. template for part B (available only in the submission tool, translated for simple programmes) and Detailed Budget table (DBT)
- Online manual (corporate document, constantly evolving, available in English, explaining all stages of grants lifecycle – only first steps are relevant for simple programmes) <u>PDF Version</u>



Guidance on Market analysis

« The proposal shall provide a relevant market analysis **per target country**. The market analysis shall be **product-** and **market-oriented**. It shall focus on each target country and serve as a basis for the definition of action objectives and strategy. It should include information and assessment of macroeconomic indicators, market conjuncture and forecast, including recent sources of data. »

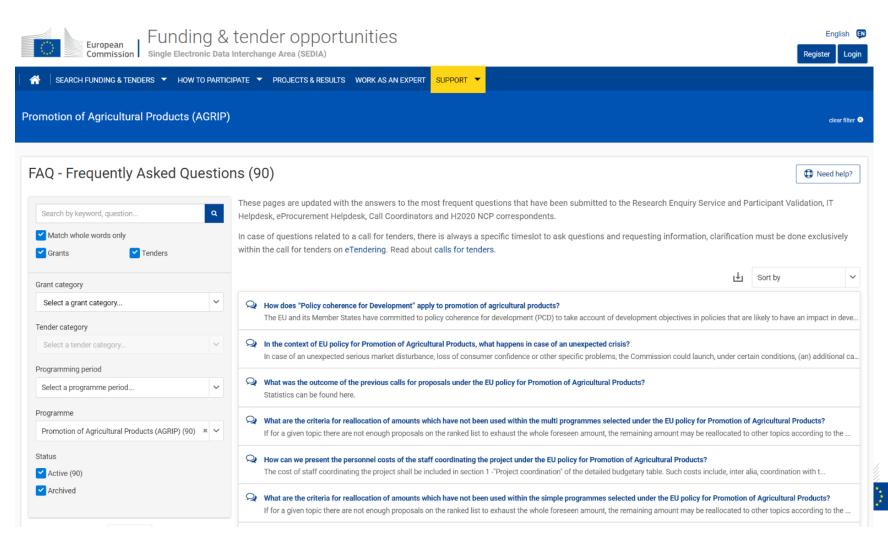
Example of questions to be addressed:

Supply: **Demand:** ☐ What are the production, sales and export figures ☐ Which are the characteristics, demography, socio-(volume and value, market share) for the applicant professional profiles, typology of the current organisation/s and its Member State for each of the consumers? Identify and describe the quantitative and target markets? qualitative market segments. ☐ What is the market structure in the targeted ☐ What is the per capita consumption and the country/ies and how is your organisation positioned in consumption trends on the medium? this market (i.e. competitive position of the applicant)? ☐ Who are their main competitors?Which challenges do If the action is about raising awareness: thev face? ☐ What is the current state of consumer awareness? ☐ What are their marketing strategies? ☐ What needs to be improved and what are the ☐ Which are the competitive advantages of the challenges? proposing organisation/s? ☐ Among which segments is the awareness Explain the key differences (price, quality, etc.) that stronger/weaker? will make your product more competitive than other already available products on the target market. Etc...



REA: other materials

Frequently asked questions (FAQ) updated regularly to be consulted!



Evaluation - some hints why proposals are rejected/ not selected for funding



Reasons for rejection: eligibility and admissibility

Inadmissible:

Mandatory annexes and supporting documents not submitted, proposal sent by email after the deadline

Out of scope:

E.g. project not promoting an eligible product or scheme

Ineligible applicants:

Applicant organisation not eligible or not representative of the product/sector promoted, private companies acting as co-applicants, non-EU applicants



Quality of proposals – weak points

- Market analysis is not precise or structured
- Programme objectives are not well defined
- Activities and deliverables are not well defined, communication mix not adapted to the strategy and programme objectives
- Union message is lacking
- Organisation and risk management are not described
- Evaluation methodology is absent
- Poor cost-effectiveness (budget analysis weak, unit costs missing or not always used, etc.)
- Impact of the campaign not well calculated



Q&A



Keep in touch #EUAgriPromo





Promotion of agricultural products - European Commission (europa.eu)



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EU food and Farming



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