

FAQ – 2nd edition of THE:PLACE PROGRAMME

Türkiye Hand in Hand with Europe: Programme for Local Authorities and Civil Society Exchange

ELIGIBILITY OF APPLICANTS

1. Can an European umbrella organization apply?

Yes, provided that it is registered as a non-for-profit organisation or foundation in an eligible country (EU or enlargement countries) as established in the call guidelines.

2. My association was established in April, 2026. Are we eligible for this program?

Yes, it is eligible, however the evaluation jury will consider the applicant organisation's previous experience, institutional capacity, and relevant expertise. We therefore recommend including any activities or community work carried out before the official registration, as well as the team's relevant expertise and professional background, in the appropriate sections of the application form.

3. Is the participation of a partner from Turkey mandatory?

Yes, the participation of a Turkish organisation in the partnership is one of the key objectives of the programme. Every partnership will be composed by a Turkish and a European partner. As a European CSO you do not, however, need to have a previously established partnership with a Turkish organisation as the partnership will be formed within the programme itself.

ACTIVITIES

4. What type of activities are eligible?

A non-exhaustive list of eligible activities is present in the call guidelines: local activities, capacity building activities, meetings, events, job-shadowing among staff, in-presence studies... Any kind of activities that have purely individual benefit are not considered eligible.

5. Will the municipality personnel be involved in the training program?

The Local Authority representatives will be involved in the programme at all stages, and will be welcome to participate in the capacity building phase as well.

6. How does the programme prioritize micromobility projects that focus on behavioral change and cultural transformation—like promoting a cycling culture—rather than hard infrastructure, when jointly implemented by a local government entity and an NGO?

We consider this as an example of an initiative that could be supported by THE:PLACE, provided that the established partnership shares the same interest. As climate adaptation is one of the two thematic priorities of this edition, we specifically welcome proposed initiatives within this aim.

7. Is an exchange of experiences concerning a city adaptation plan for small/medium cities eligible?

Also in this case, we confirm that this type of activity would be eligible in the program, provided that the established partnership shares the same interest.

BUDGET

8. The 16000 EUR also includes travel costs and meeting participation (accommodation, per diems) or are these covered separately?

The 16.000€ per partner (32.000€ per partnership) grant will cover every expense related to the project implementation. Other travel costs, such as travel and accommodation to attend the kick-off meeting, the mid-term meeting and the final event will be covered by the program.

9. For the provided funds, what are the categories of eligible expenses - e.g. is the cost of personnel and/or subcontractor eligible? Also is there any requirement of co-financing?

Yes, human resources costs and sub-contractors are eligible as project costs. There is no requirement of co-financing, but scaling up the project with other funds is possible and encouraged.

10. How is the budget managed? Is the total budget transferred to one of the CSO partners in TR or EU?

The budget reserved to the European (including enlargement countries) CSOs will be transferred by ALDA, and the budget reserved to the Turkish CSOs will be transferred by MAD. The two partner CSO will co-develop the budget plan and agree on the division of expenses to manage their joint project.

11. Is procurement of some equipment eligible within the programme?

Yes, it is eligible, however it should not represent the majority of the project expenses.