



Fund for Bilateral Cooperation at Programme Level

Travel support scheme for “Environment protection and climate change” Programme (BG ENVIRONMENT)

BG ENVIRONMENT programme provides travel support to potential beneficiaries to find project partners, share experience and prepare project proposals. Travel support will be provided after preliminary approved request, through costs reimbursement, to applicants interested in submitting application and beneficiaries/partners already implementing a project under the programme.

BG ENVIRONMENT is designed to support underfinanced sectors such as biodiversity and ecosystem services, circular economy and resource efficiency, policies on marine environment, mitigation and adaptation to climate change. Priority areas for project funding are as follows:

1. “Monetary valuation system for all Bulgarian ecosystems developed”
2. “Assessment, monitoring and management system of marine waters developed”
3. “Improved municipal resource management (Circular Economy)”
4. “Increased ability of local communities to reduce emissions and to adapt to the changing climate”

CALL FOR BILATERAL INITIATIVES AND TRAVEL SUPPORT SCHEME

The overall goal of the Call is to support activities that aim to enhance the collaboration between relevant entities from the beneficiary and donor states, and therefore project partnerships are highly encouraged.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

	Eligible applicants (Project Promoters)	Eligible partners
PDP no. 1 Outcome 1 - Monetary valuation system for all Bulgarian ecosystems developed	Predefined	Predefined
PDP no. 2 Outcome 2 “Assessment, monitoring and management system of marine waters developed”	Predefined	Predefined
Call no. 1	Research organisations as defined in the EU	In accordance with Article 7.2.2 of the Regulation



<p>Outcome 2 “Assessment, monitoring and management system of marine waters developed”</p>	<p>Framework for state aid for research and development and innovation (2014/C 198/01)</p>	
<p>Call no. 2 Outcome 3 “Improved municipal resource management (Circular Economy)”</p>	<p>Municipalities</p>	<p>In accordance with Article 7.2.2 of the Regulation</p>
<p>PDP no. 3 Outcome 4 “Increased ability of local communities to reduce emissions and to adapt to the changing climate”</p>	<p>Predefined</p>	<p>Predefined</p>
<p>Call no. 3 Outcome 4 “Increased ability of local communities to reduce emissions and to adapt to the changing climate”</p>	<p>Municipalities</p>	<p>In accordance with Article 7.2.2 of the Regulation</p>
<p>SGS no. 1: SGS for pilot models for marine water purification Outcome 2 “Assessment, monitoring and management system of marine waters developed”</p>	<p>In accordance with Article 7.2.1 of the Regulation</p>	<p>In accordance with Article 7.2.2 of the Regulation</p>
<p>SGS no. 2: SGS for measures to reduce marine litter Outcome 2 “Assessment, monitoring and management system of marine waters developed”</p>	<p>Municipalities</p>	<p>In accordance with Article 7.2.2 of the Regulation</p>
<p>SGS no. 3 Outcome 3 “Improved municipal resource management (Circular Economy)”</p>	<p>Any non-commercial public or private entity, as well as non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person in</p>	<p>In accordance with Article 7.2.2 of the Regulation</p>



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	Bulgaria whose principal activity is in the educational sector as defined in the Bulgarian law for the preschool and school education	
SGS no. 4 Outcome 4 “Increased ability of local communities to reduce emissions and to adapt to the changing climate”	Any non-commercial public or private entity, as well as non-governmental organisations established as a legal person in Bulgaria whose principal activity is in the educational sector as defined in the Bulgarian law for the preschool and school education	In accordance with Article 7.2.2 of the Regulation

Project beneficiaries/partners with ongoing projects are also eligible candidates, should a need for further strengthening of the bilateral cooperation to achieve the aim of the project be identified. These applications must not overlap with already granted project travel activities nor with ongoing project measures in order to avoid double funding.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

The Call is open for all Outcomes and for eligible applicants/partners/beneficiaries for the purposes of:

- Sharing experience between potential partners in view of their future collaboration under the programme. **Concerning ongoing projects, the requirement for avoiding double financing should be observed.**
- Establishing contact with new / potential partner organizations from the donor countries
- Networking, know-how and good practice exchange between entities in the beneficiary and donor states respectively
- Networking, know-how and good practice exchange between the Programme Operator and similar organisations in the beneficiary and donor states, whereas at least one participant must be a representative of the donor states.

The activities must be implemented only on the territory of Bulgaria, Iceland, Liechtenstein and/or Norway.

Travel period is confined to **5 (five) calendar days**, including arrival and departure dates.

ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURESⁱ

The maximum amount per event is € **5 000** (based on justifying expenses documentation - invoices, boarding cards, tickets etc.). The following expenses and the respective limits to them are considered eligible:



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- Daily allowance for maximum two persons per applicant organization – 35 euros (thirty five) per day, per person in all countries (the limitation for two persons is not applicable for beneficiaries and partners of predefined projects)
- Accommodation for maximum two persons per applicant organization from Bulgaria in Iceland and Liechtenstein – 130 euros per night per person (the limitation for two persons is not applicable for beneficiaries and partners of predefined projects.)
- Accommodation for maximum two persons per applicant organization from Bulgaria in Norway – 145 euros per night per person (the limitation for two persons is not applicable for beneficiaries and partners of predefined projects.)
- Accommodation for maximum of two persons per applicant organization from Iceland and Liechtenstein in Bulgaria – 130 euros per night per person and from applicant organization from Norway - 145 euros per night per person (the limitation for two persons is not applicable for beneficiaries and partners of predefined projects.)
- Airplane tickets - economic class, both directions (from Bulgaria to the Donor States and from the Donor States to Bulgaria). Scanned copies of boarding pass, e-ticket (with the total amount) and bank statement for payment or document with equivalent value will be required as proof of expenditures
- Expenses for internal transport in Bulgaria between cities. Expenditures for taxi or car rental will not be reimbursed
- Expenses for internal transport in the Donor States between cities. Expenditures for taxi or car rental will not be reimbursed
- Expenses for international public transport. Expenditures for taxi or car rental will not be reimbursed
- Medical insurance

SUBMISSION & REVIEW OF APPLICATION

- **The application form (Annex 1) should be submitted electronically at eea@moew.government.bg in editable format (docx), and as a signed and scanned document (in pdf).** Detailed description of activities is required, as well as an invitation from the receiving organization
- Deadline for submission - two weeks before the trip/ event
- For matchmaking events organized by the PO, the assessment is performed by the Ministry of Environment and Water on the first come, first served basis
- All applicants will receive feedback via e-mail within 5 working days
- The documentation for applying is available at <https://www.eeagrants.bg/en/programs/environment-protection/documents>

VERIFICATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS

- For reimbursement of costs, please fill in Annex 2 and give details on your bank account.
- Only eligible costs are reimbursable



- Duly filled in documents should be send in to the PO at eea@moew.government.bg up to 30 (thirty) working days after completion of the trip/event. The Ministry of Environment and Water will reimburse the approved amount within two weeks after the documents have been received. Rejected expenditures will not be reimbursed

DEADLINE OF THE CALL

The current Call will stay open for the whole period of operation of “Environment protection and climate change” Programme or until the budget has been exhausted.

ⁱ *The expenses for travel and per diem in the country and abroad are in accordance with the Bulgarian Ordinance on missions in the country and the Ordinance on official missions and specializations.*