

## Explanation European Union Anti-Fraud Programme (EUAF)

*This document aims to explain how apply to funds from the EUAF through answering their calls for proposals. As internal auditors organisation you are eligible to receive 70% to 100% of the costs of trainings, conferences, and other knowledge-sharing events.*

### **EUAF Calls for Proposals**

The European Union Anti-Fraud Office (EUAF) yearly publishes calls for proposals, inviting organisations to submit project proposals that align with its objectives to prevent and combat fraud, corruption, and other illegal activities affecting the EU's financial interests. It furthermore aims to improve collaboration, knowledge sharing, and best practices among stakeholders, ultimately leading to more effective prevention and detection of fraud and corruption. For internal auditors organisations, it can be very useful to understand these calls for proposals, their purpose, and the potential benefits for your organisation.

#### What is a call for proposals by the EUAF?

An EUAF call for proposals is a formal invitation for organisations to submit anti-fraud project proposals. The EUAF calls for proposals cover a wide range of topics related to the prevention of and fight against fraud, corruption, and other illegal activities. The yearly calls usually share overarching topics, but they vary in the types of projects they cover. For projects involving technical assistance ('TA calls'), only organisations active in protecting the EU financial interests are eligible. However, internal auditors organisations can be deemed to assist in protecting the EU's financial interest, and are therefore eligible for 'TRAI (Training) Calls'. In this category you can get funding for the following four project types:

- Specialised training sessions: Fund projects that develop and deliver specialised training sessions for stakeholders involved in combating fraud and corruption.
- Conferences, workshops, and seminars: Support projects organising and conducting conferences, workshops, and seminars to facilitate knowledge exchange and best practice sharing in fraud prevention and detection.
- Staff exchanges: Target projects organising and implementing staff exchanges among relevant organisations to foster collaboration and enhance skills in fighting fraud and corruption.
- Comparative law studies and periodical publications: Fund projects conducting comparative law studies and producing periodical publications to advance knowledge and understanding in fraud prevention and detection.

#### Why is it useful for internal auditors organisations?

Participating in the EUAF calls for proposals can be beneficial for internal auditors organisations in several ways. For one, successful proposals receive financial support, allowing your organisation to undertake projects that may otherwise have been unaffordable. It also stimulates knowledge sharing and networking, enhances the reputation and legitimacy of your organisation, and lastly contributes to anti-fraud practices.

### **Funding Details for EUAF Calls for Proposals**

#### What is the average budget of a call for proposals? What parts is it made of?

The average budget for an EUAF call for proposals can differ depending on the specific objectives, priorities, and available funds. For the TRAI category, the budget in 2023 is €900,000, in 2022

€1,100,000, and in 2021 €1,600,000. It is important to closely examine the call documentation to understand the exact budgetary allocations and requirements for each call.

#### What amount of funding can be expected for which types of projects?

The amount of funding that can be expected depends on the specific call for proposals, the project's scope, and the type of activities proposed. Generally, the EUAF provides different funding rates based on the nature of the project and the organisation's eligibility. Under the TRAI category, funding rates usually are:

- Research and innovation projects: These projects can receive funding from 70% to 100% of the eligible direct costs.<sup>1</sup>
- Communication and awareness-raising activities: Funding rates for these projects can vary, but they typically cover up to 80% of the eligible direct costs.

It is very important to consult the specific call documentation to determine the exact funding rates and conditions applicable to your project proposal.

### **Proposal Requirements and Submission Process**

#### What are the requirements for a funding proposal?

A funding proposal should generally include the following components:

- Project concept: A clear and concise description of the project's objectives, expected outcomes, and relevance to the specific call for proposals.
- Work plan: A detailed outline of the project's activities, timeline, and deliverables, demonstrating how the project will achieve its objectives.
- Consortium composition: A list of all participating organisations, their roles, and their expertise in relation to the project.
- Budget: A comprehensive and transparent financial plan that outlines the estimated costs for the project, including direct costs, indirect costs, and subcontracting costs.
- Impact and sustainability: A description of the expected long-term impact of the project and how its outcomes will be sustained beyond the funding period.

#### What are the requirements for organisations to be eligible for funding?

The eligibility criteria for organisations can vary depending on the specific call for proposals. However, some general requirements include:

- Legal status: The organisation should be a legally established public or private entity, such as a non-profit organisation, research institution, or public authority.
- Country of establishment: The organisation should be established in an EU Member State or an eligible non-EU country, as specified in the call documentation (this is usually the EU26 + Switzerland).
- Consortium composition: For certain calls, organisations may be required to form a consortium with partners from different countries or sectors. The minimum number of partners and their eligibility may be specified in the call documentation.
- Financial and operational capacity: Organisations should demonstrate their financial and operational capacity to carry out the proposed project, including relevant experience and resources.

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- Direct costs: Costs directly related to the implementation of the project, such as personnel costs, equipment, travel, and other expenses incurred during the project.
- Indirect costs: Costs not directly linked to the project but necessary for its proper execution, such as overheads, administrative costs, and general expenses.
- Subcontracting costs: Costs related to specific tasks or activities subcontracted to third parties, such as external experts or service providers.

### What is the exact process when submitting a proposal?

To apply for funding, organisations have to take the following steps:

- Register on the Funding & Tenders Portal: All organisations participating in the project must be registered on the portal, and each organisation should obtain a Participant Identification Code (PIC).
- Download and complete the Application Form: The form is available on the call's specific topic page on the Funding & Tenders Portal. It should be completed with all required information and supporting documents.
- Submit the proposal electronically: The completed Application Form must be submitted electronically through the Funding & Tenders Portal before the specified deadline. Late submissions will not be accepted.

### What is a general timeline for the funding?

The funding timeline for EUAF calls for proposals typically follows several stages:

- Call publication (usually in March): The call for proposals is published, and organisations are invited to submit their project proposals before the specified deadline.
- Evaluation process: Following the submission deadline (usually in May), an evaluation process takes place, which can take several months. During this time, proposals are assessed based on their quality, relevance, and alignment with the call's objectives and priorities.
- Grant award decision: After the evaluation process, successful applicants are informed of the grant award decision, and the grant agreement negotiation process begins.
- Project implementation: Once the grant agreement is signed, the project implementation phase starts, usually lasting between 12 and 36 months.
- Reporting and monitoring: Throughout the project implementation, organisations are required to submit periodic progress reports and financial statements, as well as participate in monitoring and evaluation activities conducted by the EUAF.

### Further links

- [Link to EUAF call for proposals portal](#)
- [Assistance with funding](#)