Romanian Research Programme

EEA & Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021

Monica Cruceru

Programme Coordinator

15 October 2019 – Info-Day
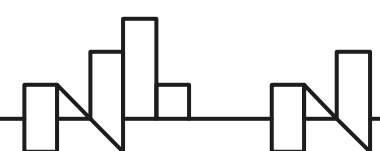
Oslo

1. Research Programme – Generalities

2. Open calls now!!!

✓ NO Grants Call for proposals 2019 –

Collaborative Research Projects

✓ Call for Mobility Grants 2019

3. Submission platform

4. Q&A

use the address: eeagrants@uefiscdi.ro

Romanian Research Programme

Generalities
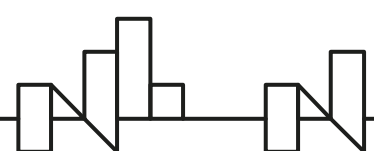
✓ Starting date: January 2018

Last date of eligibility: 31st of December 2024

! for projects, the last date for expenditures: 30th of April 2024

Budget: 47.058.824 Euro
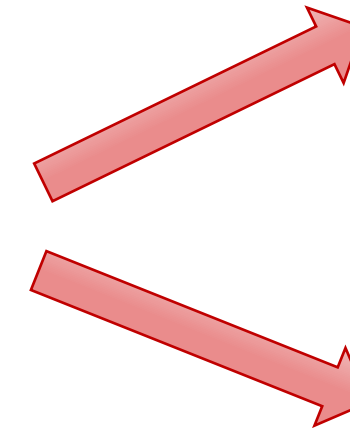
✓ DPPs: Research Council of Norway (RCN)

Icelandic Centre for Research (RANNIS)

✓ Scope: Enhance research-based knowledge development

2 Calls for proposals for

Collaborative Research Projects

Small Grant Scheme (SGS-ERC)

Enhanced performance of

Romanian research internationally

Outcomes

Enhanced collaboration between

Romanian and Donors States entities

involved in the programme
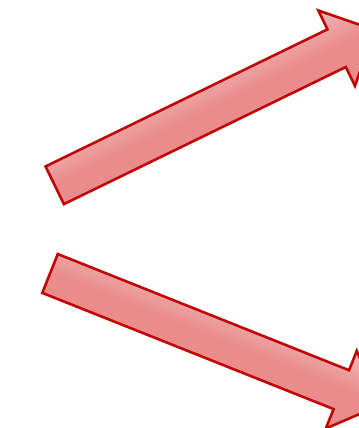
2 Calls for Mobility Grants

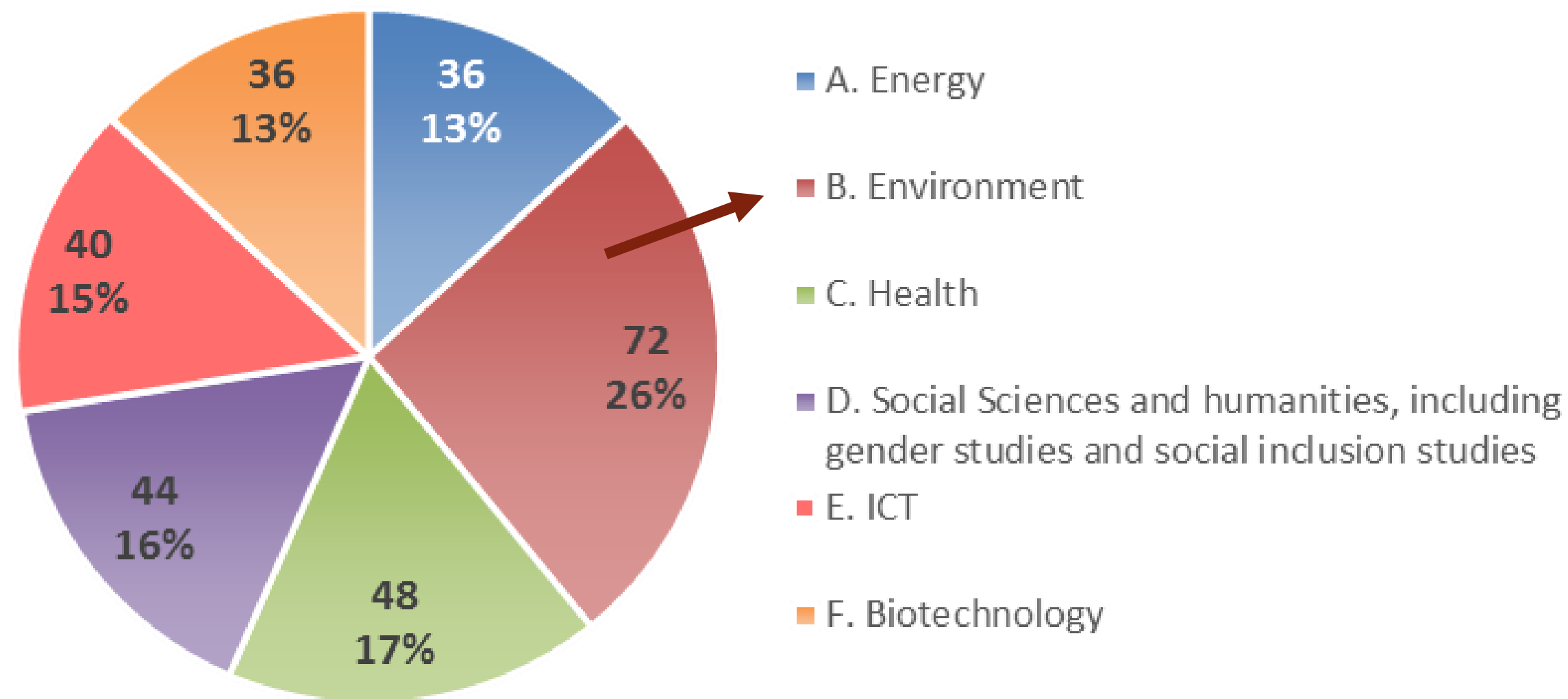Workshops of common interest

on thematic areas
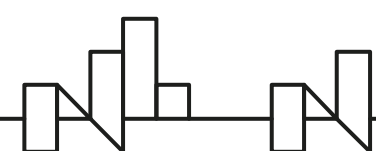
Call for proposals for CRP under EEA FM CALL CLOSED!

Call budget: 16.312.500 Euros

➤ 276 submitted project proposals

Submitted Projects Distribution by Main Thematic Area

- A. Energy — 36 13%
- B. Environment — 72 26%
- C. Health — 48 17%
- D. Social Sciences and humanities, including gender studies and social inclusion studies — 44 16%
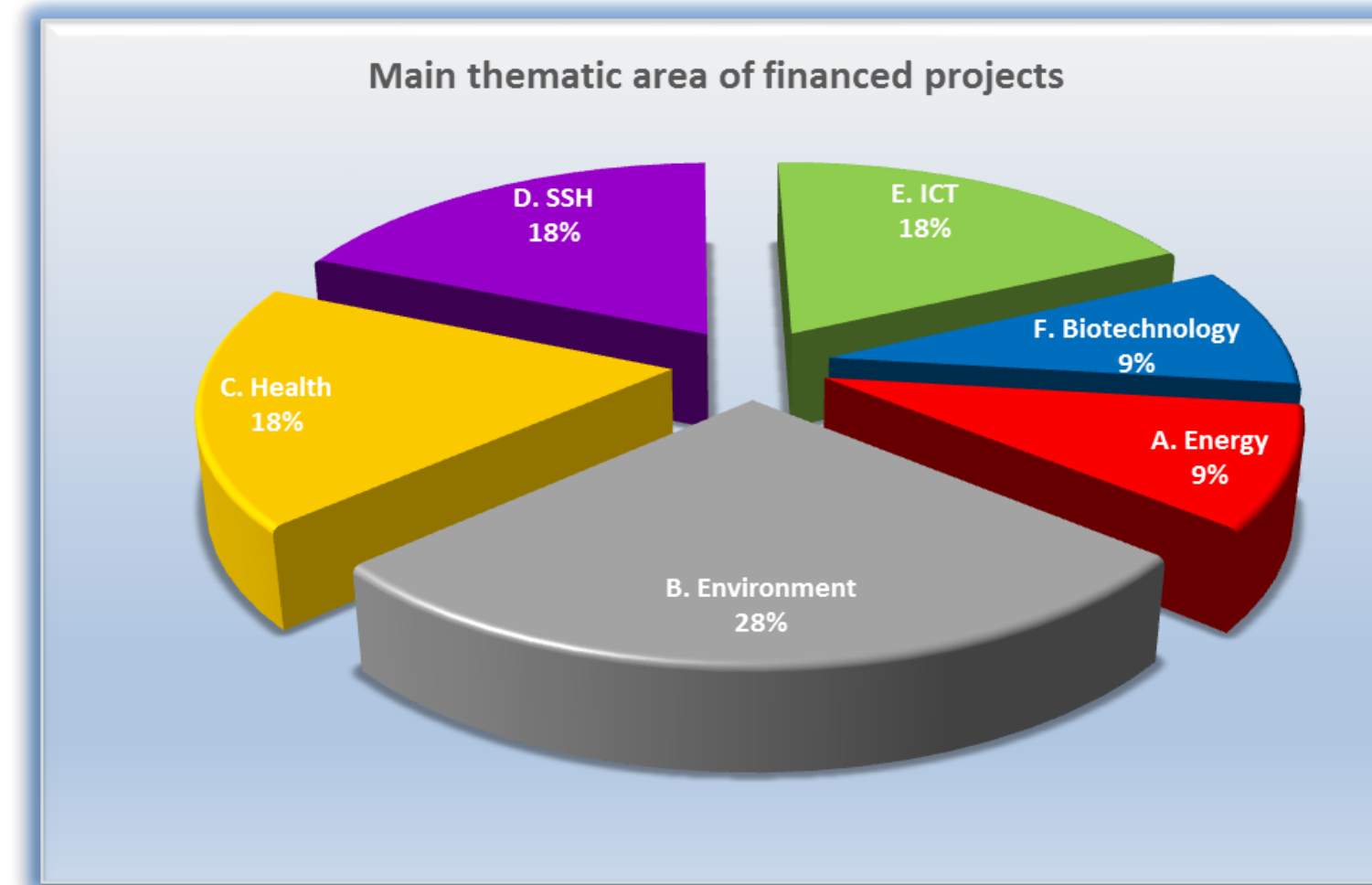- E. ICT — 40 15%
- F. Biotechnology — 36 13%

➤ 273 eligible project proposals
(one proposal withdrawn during the evaluation process)

Number of funded projects: **11**
Number of unique organizations* from Romania: **17**
Number of unique organizations* from Donor States: **8 (NO)**
Number of unique organizations* from other countries: **1**

Main thematic area of financed projects

- D. SSH 18%
- E. ICT 18%
- C. Health 18%
- F. Biotechnology 9%
- A. Energy 9%
- B. Environment 28%

1 Energy
3 Environment
2 Health
2 SSH *(1 Roma)*
2 ICT
1 Biotechnology

346 experts used in Individual evaluation phase

(317 UE, 21 USA-Canada-Australia, 8 other countries)

163 Rapporteurs used in Consensus Assessment phase, invited to panel meetings

➤ **6 panel meetings in Bucharest, 12-19 February (74 rapporteurs in place and 66 online)**
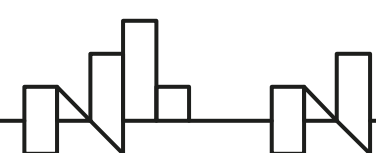
➤ **Panel meetings chaired by Romanian experts**
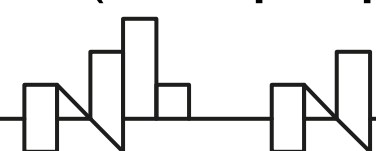
| *Outcome*	*Indicator*	*Target values*
Enhanced performance of Romanian research internationally	Number of peer-reviewed scientific publications submitted (disaggretated by type of scientific publications)*	60
	Number of joint peer-reviewed scientific publications submitted (disaggretated by type of scientific publications)*	30
	Number of jointly registered applications for intellectual property protection (IPP)	5
	Number of joint applications for further funding	5
	Number of jobs created	40

*Gold Open Access, peding Open Access, other

✓No of bilateral institutional partnerships between DS and RO entities

✓No of ERC applications sent by candidates supported by SGS

✓No of researchers supported (disaggregated by gender)
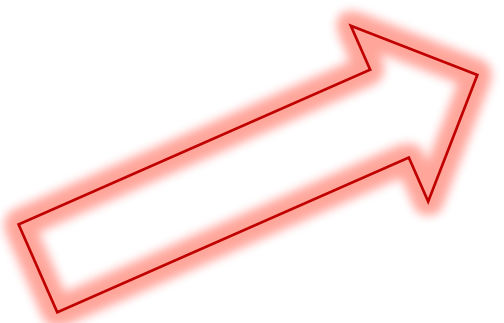
✓No of (pro) Roma organisations involved in projects
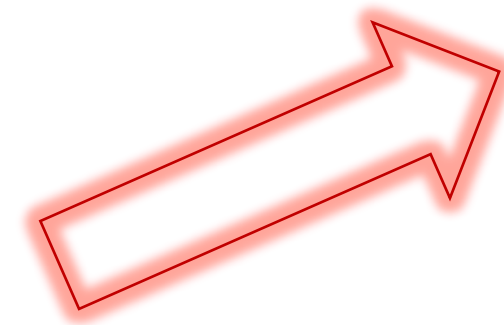
The key topic "Carbon capture and storage" (mandatory NO FM)
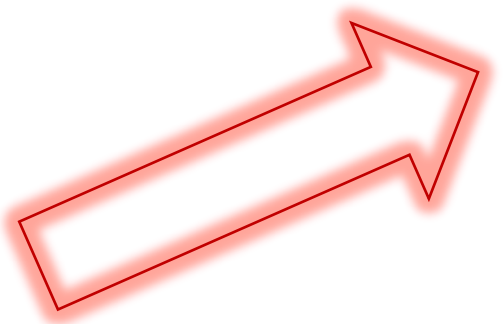
No less than 10% of the total eligible expenditures of the Programme is dedicated to projects falling primarily within key topic "Roma inclusion and empowerment"

Special concerns

The projects addressed gender studies and social inclusion studies should be reflected in the final list of projects receiving funding
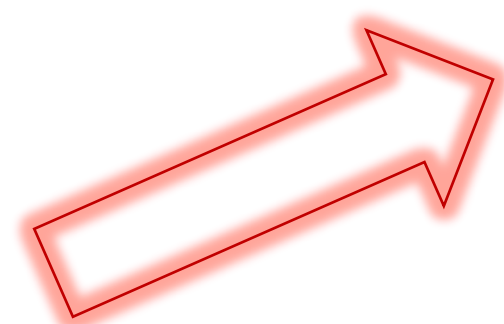
Synergies with the Programmes: "Education, Scholarships, Apprenticeships and Youth Entrepreneurship", "Business development, Innovation and SMEs Programme"…..

Call timing: 2019

Call budget:

24.687.500 Euros

Call for proposals for CRPs under NO FM - NOW OPEN!!!!

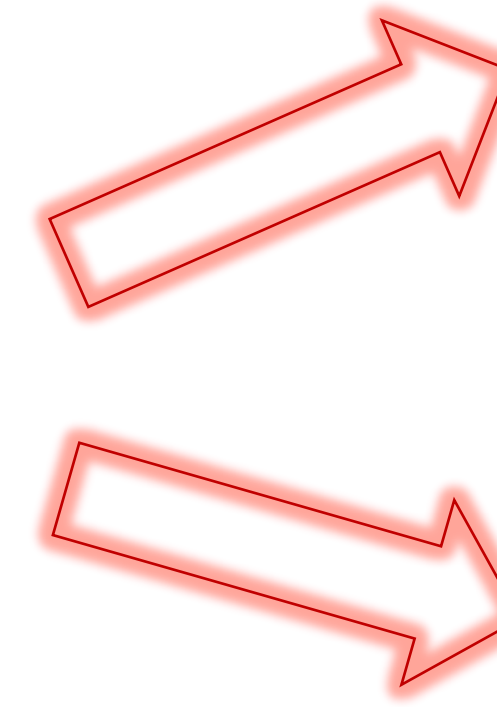https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/eea-grants-collaborative-research-projects

Call for Mobility Grants - **NOW OPEN!!!!**
(Fund for Bilateral Relations)

https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/eea-mobility-grants

Brokerage platform
https://eea.brokerage.uefiscdi-direct.ro
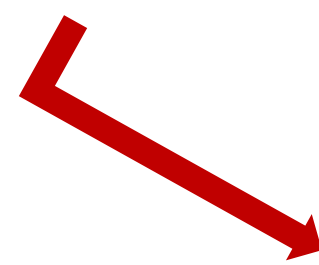
Partner Search Database for EEA and Norway Grants

SGS (ERC)
launched under NO FM

Call timing: 2019 and 2020

Call budget: 2.500.000 Euros

NO Grants
Call for proposals 2019 (CRPs)

Launching date: 10th of September 2019

Min/Max grant: 500.000 / 1.200.000 Euro

Max duration of a project: 36 months*

6-9 months extension

Deadline for submission

16th of December 2019
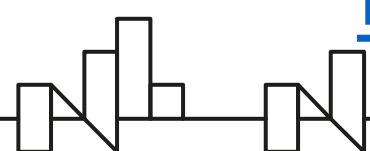
4:00 PM RO time

✓ basic and applied research activities

✓ 6 thematic areas + associated key topics: energy (5); environment (5);

   health (4); social sciences and humanities including gender studies and

   social inclusion studies (6); ICT (3); biotechnology (4)

Note: the project proposal could cover up to 3 key topics; the main key topic must be under the main thematic area and other possible 2 key topics could be from other thematic areas
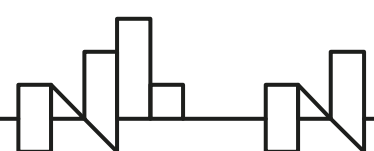
A. Energy:
1. Innovative materials and technologies for energy storage;
2. Energy efficiency within the process of generation, transmission, smart grids distribution and at the consumer/end user;
3. Eco-friendly-environmental technologies for energy production/generation;
4. Energy sources – diversification/balance;
5. Carbon capture and storage

B. Environment:
1. Management of emerging pollutants in aquatic systems (impact, remediation and recycling techniques) to improve ecosystem services of water resources and wetlands;
2. Ecosystems monitoring, affected by climate change, management of biodiversity, biosafety, protection and ecological restoration;
3. Environmental impact and risk assessment of the modern, new and emerging technologies and products (can include also climate change);
4. Resources, technologies and tools for circular economy;
5. Research on the climate changes and/or extreme natural phenomenon impact on natural and anthropogenic systems.

C. Health:
1. Developing patient-centred strategies to fight cancer;
2. Translational medicine in regenerative medicine, neurodegenerative and rare diseases;
3. Improving public health by implementing evidence-based preventive strategies;
4. Roma inclusion and empowerment.

D. Social Sciences and humanities, including gender studies and social inclusion studies:
1. Migration, mobility, diaspora;
2. Participative democracy, social and cultural innovation, economic growth;
3. Cosmopolitanism and nationalism;
4. Social and economic inclusion of disadvantages groups;
5. Digitization and accessibility of the cultural heritage;
6. Roma inclusion and empowerment.

E. ICT:
1. Cyber security, personal data protection, protection of critical infrastructures and services; 2. Technologies, instruments and methods for software development – artificial intelligence (AI) & cloud computing;
3. Advanced robotics, mechatronics and additive manufacturing technologies (3D printing, bio-printing);
4. Technologies and applications of Big Data and/or Internet of things (IoT) for public administration, education, agriculture, health, banking etc.

F. Biotechnology:
1. Biotechnology for agriculture, aquaculture, forestry and biomass production;
2. Industrial and food biotechnology;
3. Biotechnology for health, medicine and related industries;
4. Integrated environmental biotechnology.
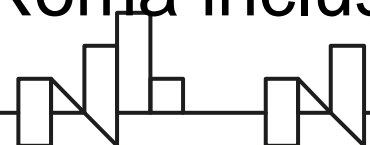
# Eligibility of PP, pp and PI

✓**Project Promoter (PP):**

Research organizations, as defined in the Community Framework for State Aid for RDI (2014/C 198/01), **established in RO**

✓**Project Partners (pp):**

Research organizations and companies (SMS and large enterprises) established in RO or NO **(at least one from NO)**

✓**Principal Investigator (PI):**

- Project coordinator
- PI (of any nationality) could be PI for one single submitted proposal
- A researcher who is PI of an ongoing project funded under EEA Grants Call 2018 cannot be in the same time a PI of a new project within the current call
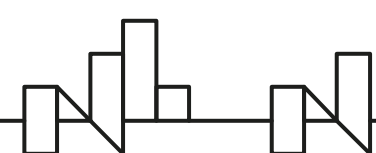
Documents

The Norway Grants CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2019 – Collaborative Research Projects

Call Document

The Call Document is based on the Guideline for Research Programmes – Rules for the establishment and implementation of programmes falling under the Programme Area "Research" and the "Regulation on the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021".

The Norway Grants CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2019 – Collaborative Research Projects

Guide for Applicants

The Romanian - EEA Research Programme 2014 – 2021 Guide for Evaluators

Annex

State aid scheme

For financing the RD projects within the Programme (RO 02) financed through EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 and Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021

1. Scope of application
2. Objectives
3. Legal framework
4. Administration
5. Definitions
6. Beneficiaries
7. Conditions and criteria
8. Duration of the State aid scheme
9. Budget of the State aid scheme
10. Eligibility
11. State aid intensity
12. Eligible costs (expenditures)
13. Cumulation
14. Incentive effect
15. Monitoring and reporting

Useful documents

https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/eea-grants-collaborative-research-projects
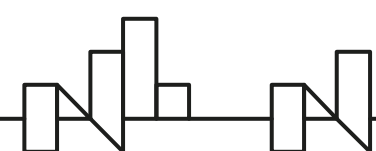
Submission of proposals

www.uefiscdi-direct.ro

✓ One single stage

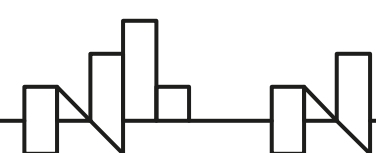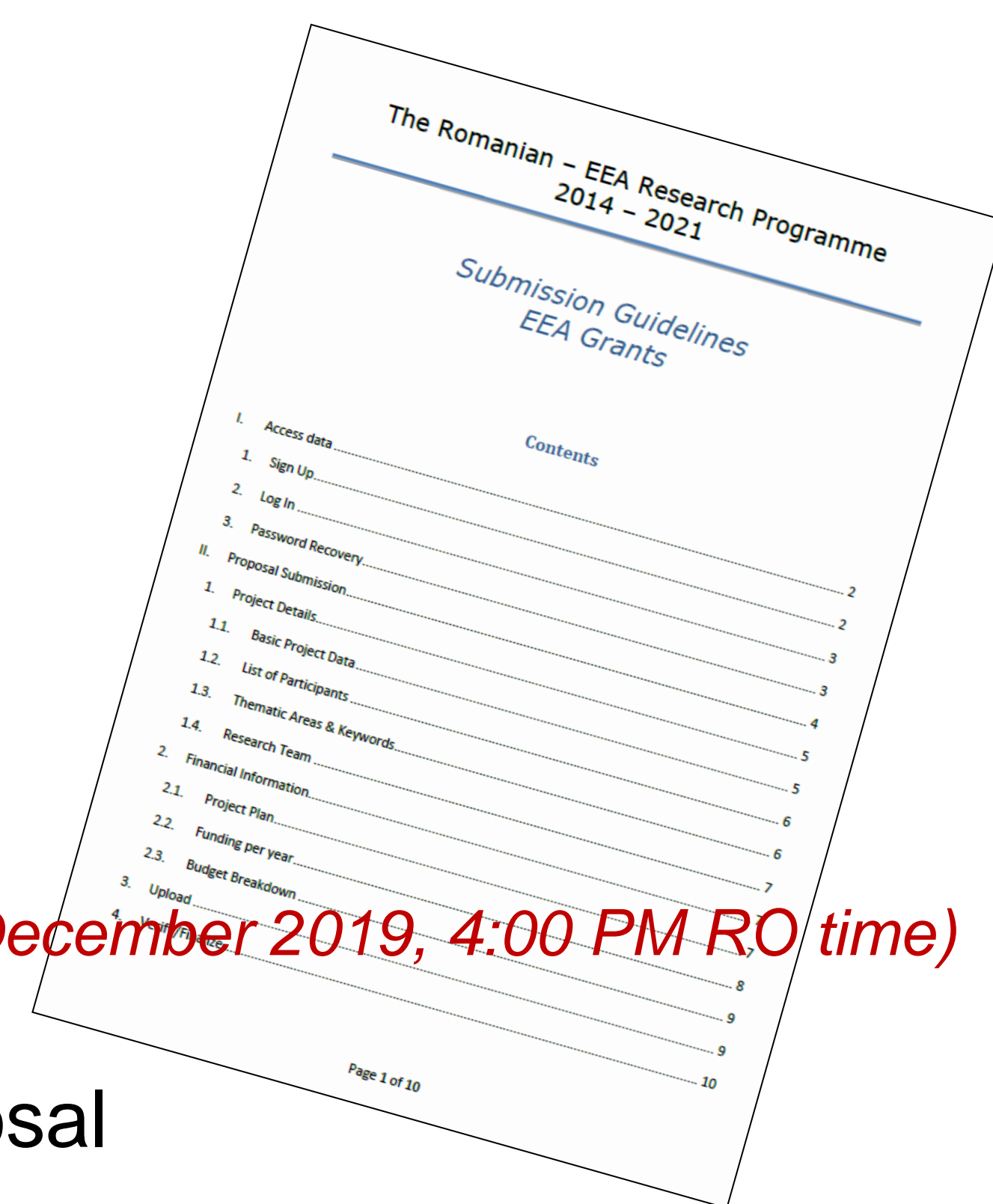✓ Proposals must be in English language

✓ Respect the deadline date and time *(16th of December 2019, 4:00 PM RO time)*

✓ Only the PP is authorised to submit a proposal

✓ Online submission system only: www.uefiscdi-direct.ro (no paper support, email/fax);
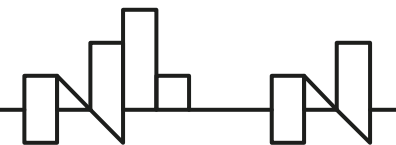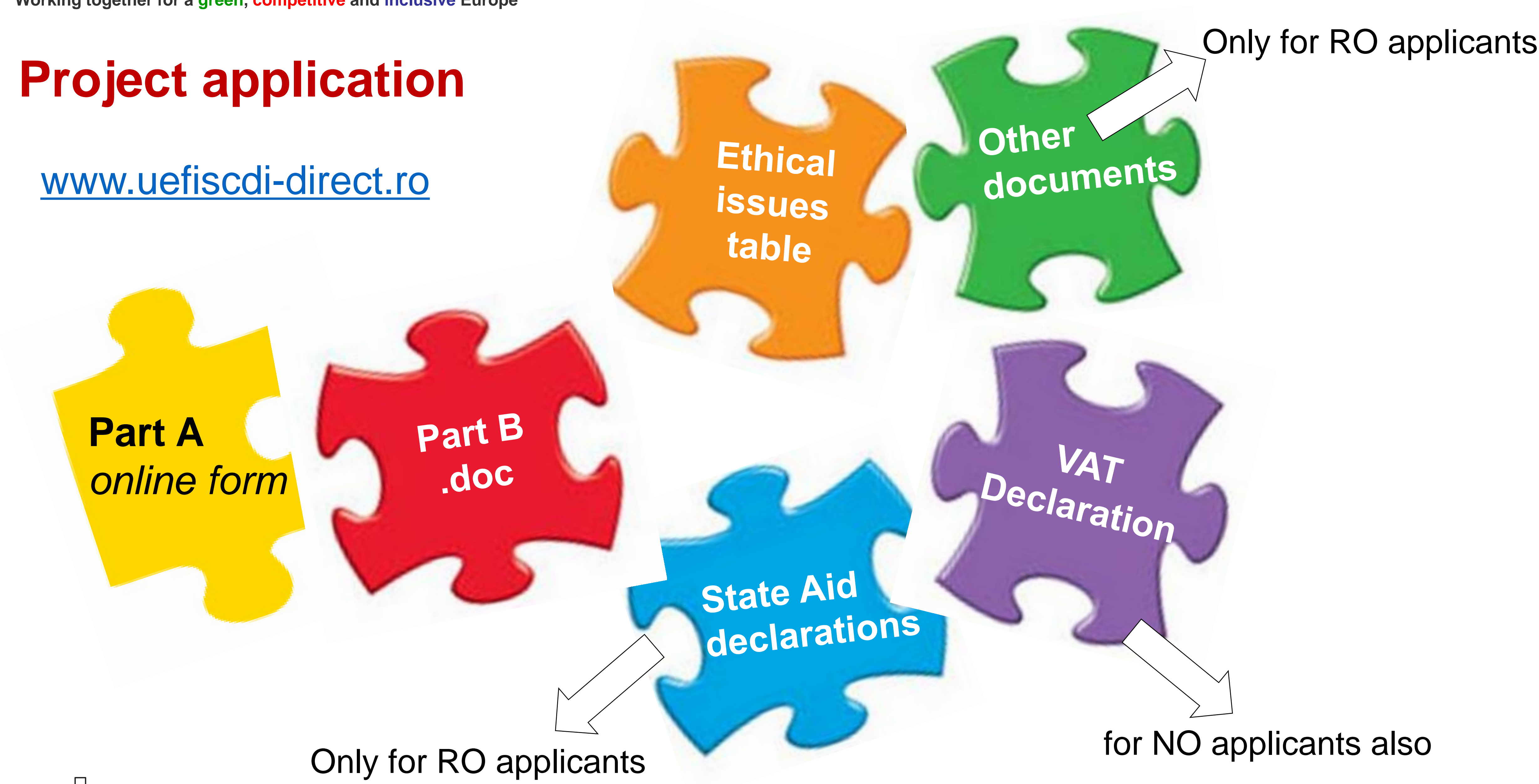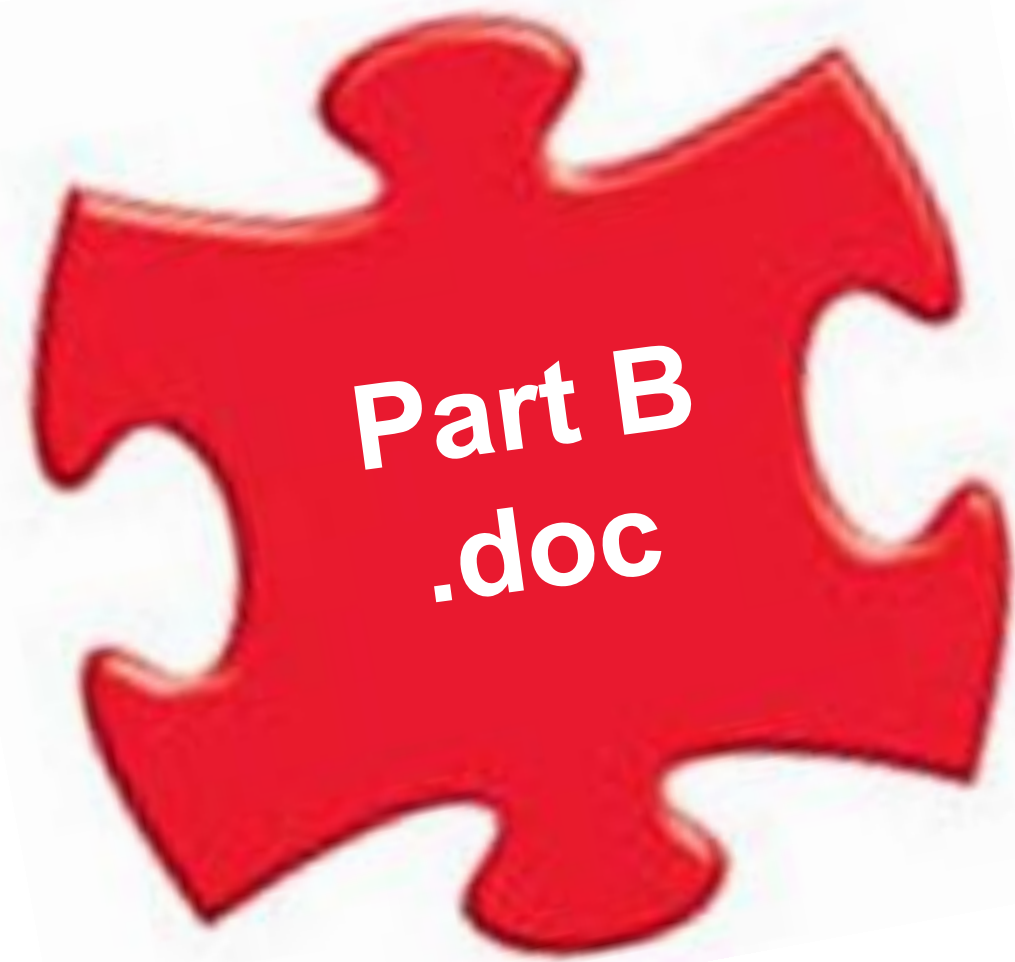
✓ Acknowledgement of receipt:

- proposal title, acronym and unique proposal identifier (proposal number)

- name of the Programme and/or thematic area and call identifier

- date and time of receipt

Project application

www.uefiscdi-direct.ro

Only for RO applicants

Ethical issues table

Other documents

Part A
online form

Part B
.doc

State Aid declarations

VAT Declaration

Only for RO applicants

for NO applicants also

Part B .doc

- *The format of the proposal structure must be respected;*

- *Do not add any additional attachments;*

- *All items (such as figures, tables) have to be included in the text.*

0. The project topic and its relevance in relation to the objectives and priorities of the call / research programme – max. 1 page

1. Scientific and technical description of the project
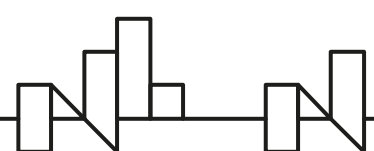
2. Implementation and management

3. Impact of the project results
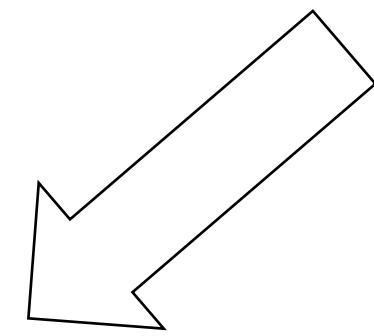
max. 30 pages

4. References – max. 2 pages

Pay attention to the max. no of pages!

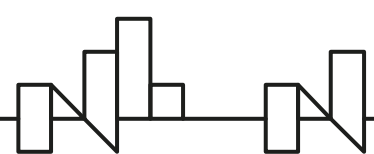*The excess pages will not be taken into consideration by experts.*

PO staff

Eligibility check

✓ Respect the deadline date and time

✓ Online submission system only: www.uefiscdi-direct.ro

✓ Minimum conditions: eligible partners, proposals in Eng language
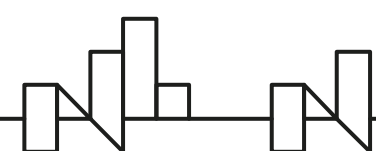
✓ Completeness of proposal

Pool of experts

EU Database

UEFISCDI data base

https://www.brainmap.ro/

! Outside RO, NO, IS and LI

Evaluation - criteria

Criterion 0: *Relevance in relation to the objectives and priorities of the call/research programme – Yes/No*

Criterion 1: *Scientific and/or technical excellence – weight of 50%; max. 5 points*

Criterion 2: *Quality and efficiency of the implementation and management, including quality and implementation capacity of the applicants and contribution to capacity and competence building – weight of 20%; max. 5 points*

Criterion 3: *Potential impact through the development, dissemination and use of project results – weight of 30%; max. 5 points*
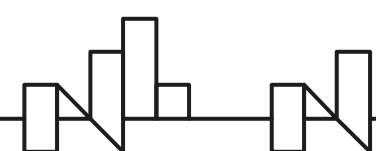
- Max. 15 points

- at least 9 points

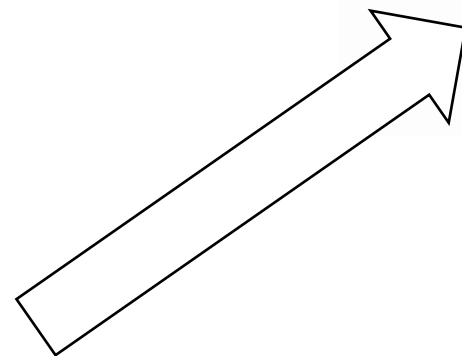Thresholds:

C 0: YES

C 1: 3/5

C 2: 3/5

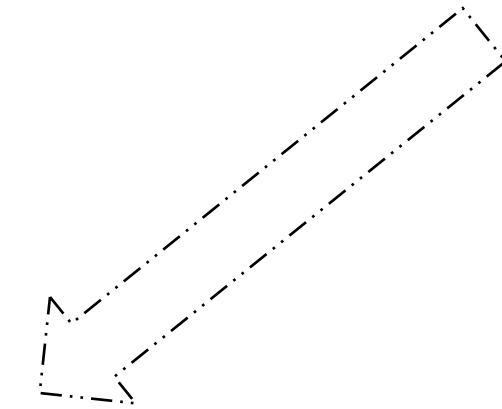C 3: 3/5

Individual Evaluation

Consensus Assessment

Additional expert

- forum on-line
- common point
- rapporteur
- **Consensus Report**
- vote: agree/disagree

- on-line
- at least
  3 individual experts
- scores/criterion
- arguments
- **Individual Evaluation Report**
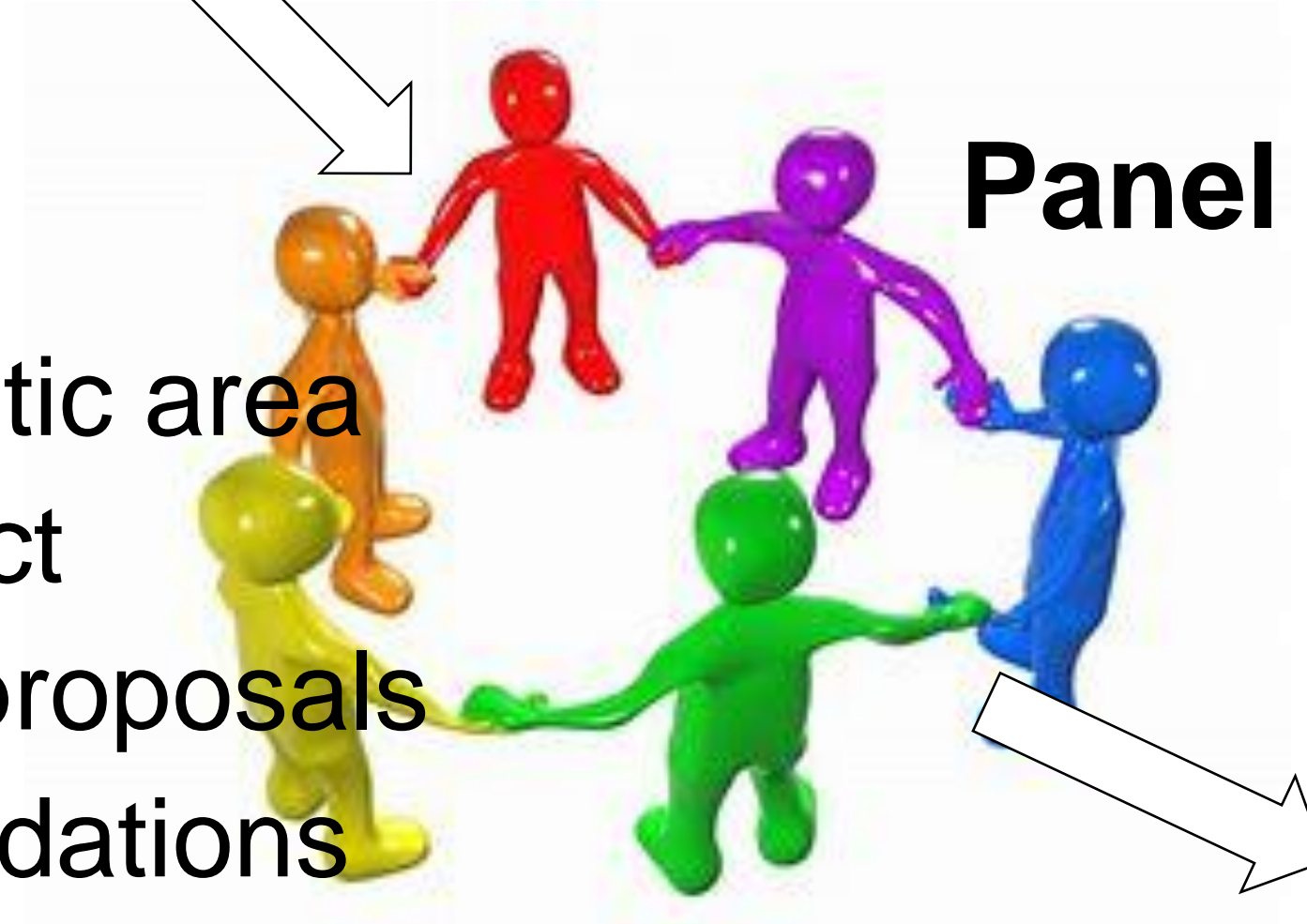
Panel review

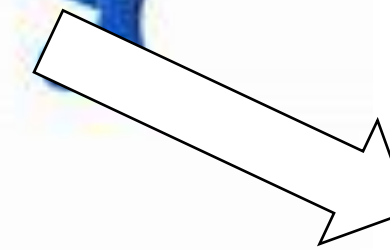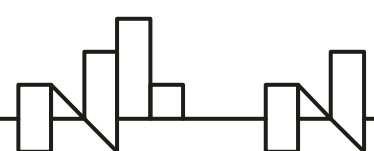- one panel/thematic area
- final report/project
- different lists of proposals
& panel recommendations
- **Panel Report**

**Programme Committee**

Award of project grants

PO:

- Prepares 7 preliminary ranking lists

(6 lists for each thematic areas and one for projects addressed Roma population issues)

- Provides access to documents for PC

- Suggests grant amount/proposal

(also PO may apply minor budget cuts across proposals but not exceeding 3% of the requested budget)

PC:

- Decides about the final ranking order

- *Criteria for ranking applied if case:*

  - ✓ *Bilateral cooperation*

  - ✓ *Young researchers*

  - ✓ *Gender balance in the project*

- Recommends for funding

- Prepares possible reserve list
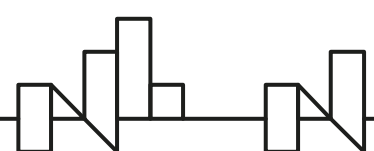
Negotiation *(see Guideline for applicants)*

- PP are invited at PO location for discussions; the applicants may receive requests for further administrative, legal, technical and financial information necessary for the preparation of the project contract;

Contracting *(see Guideline for applicants)*

- Contract (signed between PO and PP, in RO language)

  (EEA Call 2018 - form in Eng available at: https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/index.php)
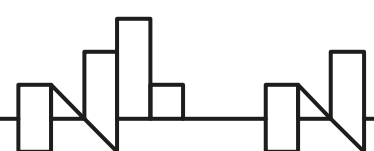
- Partnership Agreement (between PP and pps, in ENG) – DESCA model

  (template available at: https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/index.php)

  ✓ provisions on the roles and responsibilities of the parties;

  ✓ provisions on the financial arrangements between parties;

  ✓ provisions on audits on Project Partners;

  ✓ a detailed budget;

  ✓ intellectual property rights;

  ✓ provisions on dispute resolutions.

Finance and Budget
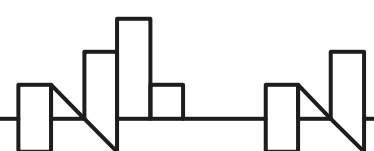
✓ Currency used for the proposal submission: EURO

✓ Contract - in RON

*the value in RON is determined by using the official EC exchange rate from the date (month) of the contract (InforEuro)
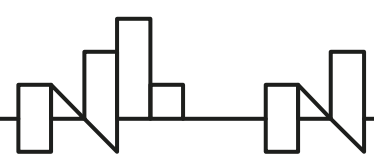
Eligible expenditures
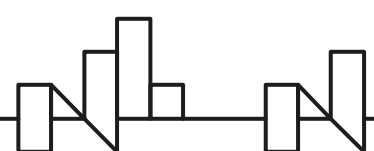
✓ Direct expenditures

✓ Indirect costs (overheads)

- Staff costs

- Travel costs

- Equipment

- Consumables and supplies

- Other costs

subcontract specific services (no more than 15% of the total project budget); applicable rules for public procurement

RO applicants: must apply a flat rate of 25% of total direct eligible costs, excluding direct eligible costs for subcontracting (could include salaries for administrative staff which are not part of staff costs)

NO partners: In case the project grant takes the form of standard scales of unit costs, the flat rate of 25% for indirect costs shall not be applied for the partner in question.
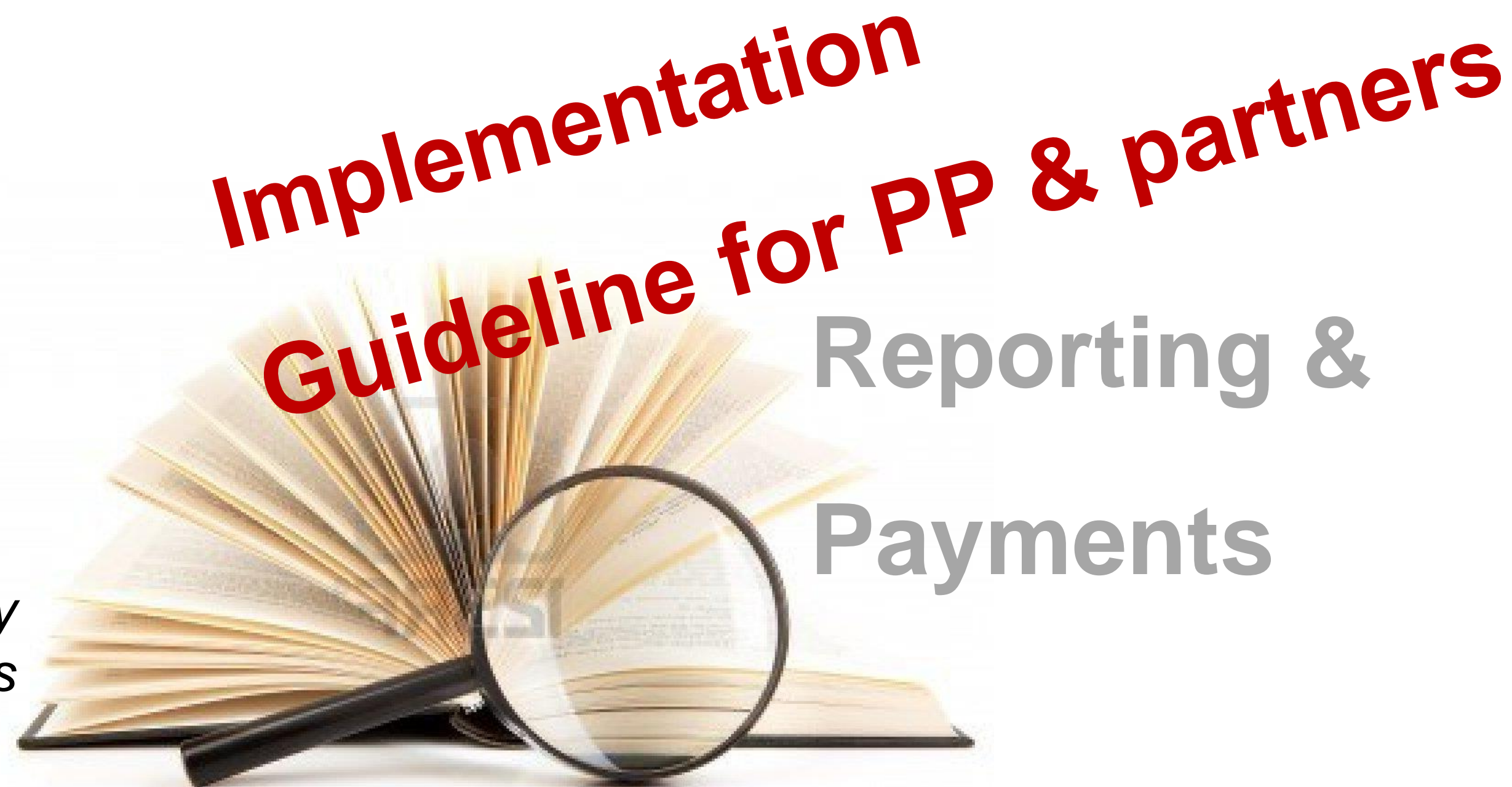
!!! Excluded costs

(see Guideline for applicants)
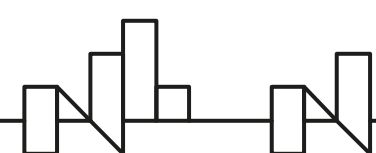
Implementation Guideline for PP & partners

Reporting & Payments

Payments

*proof of expenditures shall not be submitted by PP or pp where the total programme grant is less than 325.000 Euro!

https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/index.php (Call EEA Grants 2018)

Payments

- payments of the project grant can take the form of advance payment, interim payments and final payment;

- the purpose of the advance payment and the annual interim payments is to ensure that the PP and partner(s) have a positive cash flow during the project implementation;

- the advance payment of a percentage of the total grant amount shall be made upon signature of the contract between the PO and the PP;
    - it should cover the first year of the implementation of the project;

- the interim payments will ensure positive cash flow for all subsequent reporting periods (year);
    - it will be granted at the beginning of the subsequent reporting periods and will be calculated based on the cash balance at the end of the previous reporting period;

- payments are made by the PO to the PP within 15 days after the PO's approval of payment requests;

- the PP should ensure that all appropriate payments to the other partner(s) are made without unjustified delay and no later than 15 days after receiving of the payment from the PO.
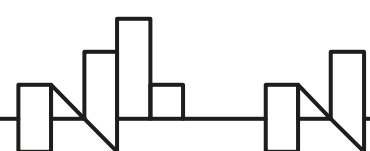
Reporting - using the forms and templates provided in the www.uefiscdi-direct.ro platform

The Project Promoter will report to the Program Operator, in RON, all the expenses incurred at its own level and by its Romanian Project Partners.

The Project Promoter will report to the Program Operator, in EURO, all the expenses incurred by the NO partners.
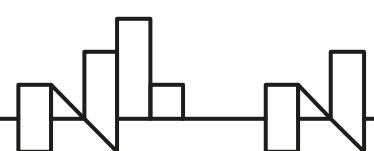
NO partners will report to Project Promoter in EURO.

Annual report

1. Technical report

2. Financial report

Final report

1. Final Technical report

2. Final Financial report

3. An audit certificate on the financial statements for each participant (as applicable)

Reporting on scientific publications (Guide for applicants)

Working together for a green, competitive and inclusive Europe

Info Days
Collaborative Research Projects

Norway grants

Thank you!

uefiscdi