

**EDUCATION, SCHOLARSHIPS, APPRENTICESHIPS AND YOUTH
ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMME IN ROMANIA**

FINANCED THROUGH THE EEA GRANTS 2014-2021

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS -2020
COOPERATION PROJECTS IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION AREA**

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

1. **FUNDING SOURCES:** the EEA Grants –Financial Mechanism (EEA) 2014-2021 and the Romanian Government.
2. **DONOR STATES:** Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway.
3. **BENEFICIARY STATE:** Romania.
4. **PROGRAMME OPERATOR:** National Agency for Community Programmes in the Field of Education and Vocational Training (Agentia Nationala pentru Programe Comunitare in Domeniul Educatiei si Formarii Profesionale, ANPCDEFP).
5. **DONOR PROGRAMME PARTNERS:** **The Norwegian Agency for International Cooperation and Quality Enhancement in Higher Education – DIKU** and **The National Agency for International Education Affairs – AIBA (Liechtenstein).**
6. **SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME:** Contributing to the reduction of economic and social disparities in the European Economic Area and strengthening the bilateral relations between the EEA states and Romania.
7. **GENERAL OBJECTIVE:** Enhancing the human capital and knowledge base in Romania.
8. **AREAS OF SUPPORT:**
 - *Cooperation and partnerships between education and the world of work*
 - *Higher education short term student learning mobility and staff mobility between donor and beneficiary countries*
 - *The enhancement of the quality and relevance of education and training*
 - *Professional development of teachers*

NB: Higher education institutions from the Donor States are strongly encouraged to involve in cooperation projects with universities from Romania
9. **PROGRAMME RESULTS FRAMEWORK** could be found [here](#).
10. **TOTAL BUDGET: 14 117 647 EUR (out of which 12 000 000 EUR from Donor States and 2 117 647 EUR from the national budget).**

PARTICULAR FEATURES OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR COOPERATION PROJECTS IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION AREA

Please read this document in connection with the [Guide for applicants 2020](#), which is an official part of this Call.

1. BUDGET ALLOCATED TO THE CALL: 572 027 EUR

The minimum allocated grant per project is 20 000 Euro and the maximum allocated grant is 200000 Euro.

2. TYPES OF PROJECTS TO BE FUNDED:

- **Strategic cooperation projects**
- **Small size cooperation projects**

The main objectives of the Cooperation Projects in The Higher Education Area are to modernise/innovate the curricula, to exchange good practices in the field of teaching methodologies and to organise short term exchanges for students and teachers.

NB: The following priorities apply:

Projects that:

- a) address the topics of social inclusion of vulnerable groups (with a focus on Roma),**
- b) address the topics of democracy and citizenship,**
- c) ensure synergies with approved projects within programmes: research, business development, innovation and SMEs, renewable energy, energy efficiency or energy security,**
- d) aim at innovating learning/teaching practices and tools in the digital era (therefore with focus on digitalisation of education),**

will be encouraged through additional priority points (maximum 10 points awarded for each priority a), b), c) and maximum 20 points in case of d) priority). The priority points will not be awarded unless the minimum score of 72 points (to be considered for funding) is achieved by the project, following the assessment of the grant awarding criteria. For more details, see [Guide for applicants 2020](#).

3. PROJECT RESULTS

The projects submitted under this Call for Proposals should contribute to the achievement of outcome no. 2 and output no. 2.1 as follows:

Programme Objective	Expected programme results	Indicators
		20 joint intellectual outputs created in cooperation projects
		5 joint articles submitted to peer review publications

Outcome 2	Strengthened institutional cooperation in the HE area, based on common needs	(disaggregated by Donor State)
Output 2.1	Cooperation projects in HE area implemented	20 joint events organised (summer schools, intensive programmes, seminars, workshops, conferences, training courses.
		500 participants (students and staff) at joined events

4. WHO CAN APPLY

For strategic cooperation projects and small size cooperation projects, applicants must be accredited higher education institutions (universities) from Romania which hold an Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE).

5. CO-FUNDING

For cooperation projects in the higher education area the grant will cover 100% of the eligible costs.

6. APPLICATION DOCUMENTS:

The application form and annexes relevant for cooperation projects in the higher education area.

Application Form		Formal eligibility checklist	Quality assessment form
Cooperation projects in the higher education area	Click here	download	download

6.1 Annexes of the applications for cooperation projects in the higher education area:

- a) Table of detailed requested budget;
- b) Timeline of activities;
- c) Declaration of honour of the legal representative of the applicant institution (this document must be printed, signed and then scanned and uploaded);
- d) In the case of a VET partner from Switzerland, a copy of the cooperation agreement with Liechtenstein must be used.
- e) Communication Plan.

If the applicant is a non-public institution, the documents mentioned in 6.2, 6.3 and 6.4 must also be attached to the application form, alongside the documents mentioned in 6.1.

6.2 Only for Romanian non-public institutions: a copy of the registration in the Register of Commerce and the Ministry of Public Finances;

6.3 Only for Romanian non-public institutions: a fiscal certificate, proving the lack of unpaid debts to the State budget;

6.4 Only for Romanian non-public institutions and if the requested grant is higher than 60.000 Euro: a copy of the most recent yearly financial statement submitted to the Ministry of Public Finances.

7. HOW TO APPLY?

The completed application, in English, must be sent online using the submission tool available at www.eea4edu.ro. The compulsory annexes will be uploaded.

8. DEADLINE

The applications for cooperation projects in the higher education area may be sent no later than 15.02.2021, 13.00 hours (Romanian time).

Any application sent after the above-mentioned date will be declared ineligible.

9. CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT

After the online submission of application, the applicant will receive an automatic submission confirmation.

10. PUBLICATION OF THE SELECTION RESULTS

Results will be published on the website www.eea4edu.ro, by 15.04.2021.

11. NB: CONCERNING DOUBLE FUNDING

According to the principles of correct and sound financial management, double funding is strictly forbidden.

Thus, costs for the same activity cannot be covered from two different funding sources, except for cases where complementarity can be clearly proven.

Funding for one and the same project cannot be granted more than once.

Also, if identical applications (in content) will be identified or if applications will contain paragraphs similar or identical to other applications (no matter if submitted under the same deadline or not, and no matter if submitted by the same candidate or different candidates, for the EEA Grants – Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 or for another programme managed by ANPCDEF), these applications will be rejected.

In the case where double funding is discovered after the respective applications have already been approved and funded, the grant beneficiaries will have to return to ANPCDEFP all the amounts already received for the implementation of the project.

12. OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

The Programme Operator reserves the right to carry out a financial analysis and institutional capacity check for Project Promoters who are NOT public institutions which either have a project approved with a grant of more than 60,000 Euro or, although not exceeding a grant of 60,000 Euro / project, exceeds EUR 100,000 / year, cumulated from several projects; if this internal risk analysis leads to the conclusion that places this promoter in a risk category, the PO may take the decision to award the contract under special conditions.

Contracts for the projects received from the candidates with whom the ANPCDEFP is in dispute for debts recovery and which have a score to high enough to be financed will be issued only under a special condition: with 0 (zero) advance/pre-financing and the return of all eligible costs after the approval of the final report.

13. OTHER INFORMATION

All the necessary details regarding eligible activities, duration of projects/activities, levels of allocated grants according to various types of activities, types of funding, evaluation criteria and reporting requirements can be found in the [Guide for applicants 2020](#). We strongly recommend careful reading of this document before submitting an application, together with the legal basis:

- [Regulation on the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism \(EEA\) 2014-2021 and Annex 3 on Information and Communication Requirements](#)
- [Memorandum of Understanding between Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and the Romanian Government concerning the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021](#)
- [Guideline for Educational Programmes – Rules for the establishment and implementation of programmes falling under programme Area 3 “Education, Scholarships, Apprenticeships and Youth Entrepreneurship”](#)
- [Government Ordinance no 34/2017 concerning the institutional framework for the coordination, implementation and management of financial support granted to Romania through the EEA and Norway Financial Mechanism 2014-2021](#)

During application, selection and implementation stages, you can contact the technical officers at the following e-mail addresses:

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