

H2020 RISE Financial issues

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2. Use of the EU contribution

3. Payment modalities

How much ?
Who ?
How ?
Principle of co-financing
Principle of no cumulative award

How to use "Category A: staff member costs" How to use "Category B: institutional costs" Transfers among participants

Distribution of payments
Pre-financing
Interim payment
Final paymlent
Keeping records





How much?

Unit costs principle: what counts is the trigering event and not the actual costs spent

Calculation : Actual duration of <u>eligible secondments</u> x unit cost (article 6)

Unit cost per category:

- Category A) Staff member costs: 2000 EUR/month
- Category B.1) Research, training, networking: 1800
 EUR/month
- Category B.2) Management, indirect costs: 700 EUR/month

Best practice: explain to your internal financial services the peculiarities of unit cost financing (NO ACTUAL COSTS)





Who?

Each beneficiary: (<u>not TC partners</u>) in its individual financial statement

=> Outgoing secondments of its own staff

<= Incoming secondments from a TC partner

Internal arrangements on the use and distribution of funding are possible ONLY for category B costs.

If different distribution of cat. B => shouldn`t be reported in the financial statements





How?

Form: Annex 4 of the GA

Where: Via the Participant Portal => no originals needed

When: Together with the submission of periodic reports to which the payment is linked





Principle of co-funding

Principle: EU contribution only covers **some costs** related to staff and institutional needs linked to eligible secondments.

Examples of costs to be co-funded:

- Secondment costs for staff member
- Costs of secondments from TC partners not eligible for funding (e.g. USA, Canada, etc.)
- In house activities disconnected from secondments
- Etc...

Best practice: ensure that all beneficiaires are aware that RISE does not cover all costs of the action and that co-funding is expected





Principle of no cumulative award

Principle: The same action cannot be funded twice

Double funding: The same costs cannot be reimbursed twice within different EU projects

Best practice: ensure participants do not cumulate EU funds for the same action or the same costs





How to use "Category A: staff member costs"

Principle: Costs for seconded staff members (cat. A) must be <u>fully used</u> to cover travel/subsistance costs (article 32.1.j)

Practical modalities:

- Distribute 2.000 EUR to staff in advance/in instalments
- Reimburse travel and subsistence costs to staff
- A mix of both

Best practice: Consortium Agreement strongly recommended



Use of the EU contribution



How to use "Category B: institutional costs"

Principle: use and distribution among participants is acceptable as long as is convenient for project implementation

Example 1: part of institutional costs reserved to organise general networking events or cover extra management costs of the coordinator

Example 2: re-distributed among secondments depending on financial needs

Best practice: Consortium Agreement strongly recommended



Use of the EU contribution



Transfers to TC partners

Principle: Beneficiaries may possibly transfer funds to TC partners

Example: partial/full transfer of institutional costs to TC partner for secondments from EU to TC

Constraint: Regardless of any transfer, each **beneficiary remains fully responsible** for its outgoing and incoming secondments from TC countries

Best practice: Consortium agreement





Distribution of payments

Principle 1: payments to the coordinator discharges the REA

Principle 2: the coordinator should distribute the payments between the beneficiaries without unjustified delay

Principle 3: how and when the interim payment is distributed remains an internal matter for the consortium

Best practice: define clear funding distribution modalities in a Consortium Agreement





Pre-financing

Scope: to provide beneficiaries with cash to start working on the project and continue until the interim payment

When: Within 30 days from entry into force or 10 days before start date

Limit: 50% of total EU contribution (5% to Guarantee Fund)

Constraint: coordinator can distribute only to beneficiaries having acceded to the GA and only when the minimum number of beneficiaires have acceded





Interim payment

When: within 90 days from submission of first periodic report documents

How much: Only based on costs reported and up to maximum 90% of total EU contribution

Constrains:

- Not released if serious underperfomance
- ❖ Payment release can be suspended if reports/information are incomplete/incorrect

Best practice: Keep in touch with your PO if issues appear





Final payment

When: within 90 days from submission last periodic report

How much: Payment/recovery of the balance between total costs and pre-financing + interim payment

Constraint: Payment release can be suspended if reports/information are incomplete/incorrect

Best practice: Keep in touch with your PO if issues appear





Keeping records if audit

Beneficiary to prove that secondments took place for specific duration reported

- Modalities depend on accounting rules and practices of the organisation (lab sheets, timesheets, travel tickets, etc...)
- Beneficiary also responsible for TC partners records

No need to keep records of actual costs incurred (but must justify that category A is <u>fully used</u> for staff member secondment)





Thank you for your attention!

