

### HOW TO APPLY?

The project application should be prepared in the standard application documents that can be downloaded from: [www.rsedp2serbia.eu](http://www.rsedp2serbia.eu) and [www.europa.rs/code/navigate.php?id=740](http://www.europa.rs/code/navigate.php?id=740)

### BUDGET FOR THE SECOND CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The total amount available for this call for proposals is €10.8 million. This amount is divided into two lots:

**Lot 1** (for smaller scale projects) Minimum €75,000: Maximum €250,000.

**Lot 2** (for larger scale projects) Minimum €250,000: Maximum €1,000,000.

### SUPPORT FOR GRANT APPLICANTS

RSEDP 2 will provide support to grant applicants in a number of ways:

- **Info days will be held** – details are available on the web site ([www.rsedp2serbia.eu](http://www.rsedp2serbia.eu)),
- **The Grant Manual and the handbook** of best practice are available on the project website, as well,
- **Technical assistance can be accessed through the Help Line at the RSEDP 2 Project office + 381 364 0591 and E-mail: [info@rsedp2serbia.eu](mailto:info@rsedp2serbia.eu)**
- Internet-based **Frequently Asked Questions** section – details can be found in the Grant Guidelines and on RSEDP 2 website ([www.rsedp2serbia.eu](http://www.rsedp2serbia.eu)).



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# GRANT SCHEME

## 2nd call for proposals



Regional Socio-Economic Development Programme 2  
Project is funded by the European Union



## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE GRANT SCHEME?

The grant scheme is a part of the Regional Socio-Economic Development Programme 2 project funded by the European Union IPA programme (Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance). The scheme has three specific objectives related to the creation and maintenance of employment:



- To create new employment opportunities and safeguard existing employment in the regions of Serbia;
- To improve the competitiveness of enterprises in Serbia's regions and
- To improve business related infrastructure in Serbia's regions.

The expected outcomes of this Call will be to provide financial support to projects which have the capacity to improve regional economic competitiveness and to contribute towards employment creation in Serbia's regions. Successful projects will be expected to focus primarily on:

- Providing facilities and services for groups of enterprises to use and to improve their efficiency and competitiveness;
- Matching the skills of the regional labour force (employed and unemployed) to employment opportunities in the region.



## WHAT PROJECTS WILL THE GRANT SCHEME SUPPORT?

Projects to be financed must be focused on employment creation. There are a wide range of initiatives that can be supported and examples of successful projects are set out in the "hand book of best practice" available on the RSEDP 2



project website. Applicants are encouraged to consider as examples of projects that would lead to employment creation:

- Industry Clusters; the development of related business enterprises where there may be a local competitive advantage in near markets or the wider European, or worldwide, market.
- Supply Chains; taking natural resources, raw materials and

- components and turning them into a more finished product that is delivered to the end customer. By undertaking specific additional activities the value of the raw material is considerably increased-e.g. in food processing.
- Training and employment; although unemployment rates are high there is at the same time evidence that many companies across key industry and service sectors in Serbia, and especially in the regions, find it increasingly difficult to attract employees with the relevant skills and or work experience.
- Physical Business Infrastructure; where they are currently economically viable RSEDP 2 Grant Scheme will support sponsoring authorities and municipalities to revisit their existing business parks to reassess what can be done to cost effectively enhance their layout, business facilities and physical presentation but only in selected functional business locations.
- Business innovation.

The aim of business innovation is to encourage positive change, to make the people and the company better. Innovation can and does lead to increased productivity and is the fundamental source of increasing wealth both in the economy and in terms of the bottom line profit and continuous expansion for individual companies. Indeed, all organisations can benefit from improved performance and



growth through addressing efficiency, productivity, quality, competitive positioning and market share.

## WHO CAN APPLY?

- The Call is open to the whole of Serbia (Kosovo according to UN resolution 1244 is not eligible under this call).
- Only partnerships of eligible applicants can apply; organisations cannot apply on their own.
- A partnership must contain at least one organisation that comes from the public sector (see Guidelines for details); the public sector organisation does not need to be the Lead Applicant.
- Private sector organisations (not individual companies) are eligible applicants.

## WHAT ARE THE MAIN CONDITIONS?

There must be a minimum of 2 partners in the partnership. The proposal must come from the following sectors:

- Agro-food,
- Manufacturing,
- Business logistics (distribution and warehousing),
- Business services and
- Tourism.

Each grant application is to be submitted by a Lead Partner (the applicant) responsible for the coordination of the partnership (partners and associates).

